

SOC 776

Writing Sociology

B. Nadya Jaworsky

Room 3.59

Consultation Hours:

**Tuesdays: 14.00-15.00 or by
appointment**

Who are you?

- Where are you from (born & living now)?
- What was the last movie you saw?
- Why are you taking this class?
- What is your favorite kind of music?
- What is the last thing you wrote that was longer than one page?
- What is your favorite kind of food?

Class Participation

- **Attendance:** All students are required to attend every seminar meeting.
- **Discussion:** Active participation in classroom discussion is an important part of your grade. You are required to read the assigned literature before the seminar meeting to facilitate discussion.
- **Peer Review**

Writing Assignments

- “Welcome Essay” (*500-700 words*)
- Social issue opinion essay (*1,000-1,200 words*)
- Book or article review (*600-800 words*)
- Final research essay (*4,000-5,000 words*)

Evaluation/Grading Scheme

- **Language:** The quality of your use of English is not part of the grade!
- **30%** - Essay assignments (welcome essay = 3%, social issue essay = 12%, book review = 15%)
- **35%** - Class participation (each class = 2%; PR1 and PR 2 = 3% each; PR3 = 5%)
- **10%** - Final Essay draft and presentation
- **25%** - Final Essay

- **Evaluation is assessed as follows:**

90-100 = A

80-89 = B

70-79 = C

66-69 = D

60-65 = E

0-59 = F

Freewriting

- *What challenges do you face in writing?*
- *What are your writing strengths?*
- *What are your writing weaknesses?*
- *Where do you expect your writing to be at the end of this course?*

WHAT IS PLAGIARISM?

Deliberate Plagiarism

- Rewriting from books or articles
- copying & pasting from web pages and online sources to create a patchwork writing
- buying, downloading, or borrowing a paper



Accidental Plagiarism

- not knowing when & how to cite
- not knowing how to paraphrase or summarize
- not knowing what “common knowledge” is
- recycling an old paper



I WILL NOT PLAGIARIZE ANOTHER'S WORK
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I WILL NOT PLAGIARIZE



Computer Assisted Plagiarism

“The professor will never know that I have used seven other internet sites”

SYLLABUS

- Week 1 - Introduction to course
 - Week 2 - What is sociology and what can we do with it?
 - Week 3 - How do we write a great expository or opinion essay?
 - Week 4 - What is bad writing and how can we recognize it?
 - Week 5 - How do we help one another constructively?
 - Week 6 - NO CLASS (Reading Week)
 - Week 7 - How do we review a book or an article?
 - Week 8 - How do we begin sociological research?
 - Week 9 – How do we conduct research and engage the literature?
 - Week 10 - How do we finish sociological research & begin writing?
 - Week 11 – How do we get published?
 - Week 12 – How do we finish writing a research essay or thesis?
 - Week 13 – How do we speak about our work to others?
- Presentation/Peer Review of First Drafts

**Are you old enough to remember
who this is?**



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=otCpCn0l4Wo>

Topic of your welcome essay:

What should sociology speak about?



***Due February 28 by
12:00 pm in the
Homework Vault***



**This assignment will NOT be
graded and it doesn't have to
be very long (500-700 words).**

Do you have writer's block?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rcKtcXbjwD4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q49vxUL4tuM>

See the handout under Week One in the Interactive Syllabus:

“Overcoming Writer’s Block.”

