

# Introduction to Sociology

## Course Description:

Introduction to Sociology includes the study of the major theories and concepts of sociology. Analyses of culture and social structure, socialization and the principles of individual and group interactions, deviance, and social inequalities are addressed. Topics *discussed are poverty and social stratification, race, gender and sexualities. Social forces and social movements on population and environment are examined. As a corollary, students will interpret sociological concepts throughout the Southeast Asia region with particular emphasis on Cambodia.*

## Text and References:

- Anderson, Margaret, Kim A. Logio and Howard Taylor. 2015. Understanding Society: An Introductory Reader. 5th edition. Belmont, CA: Thompson Wadsworth. Student edition ISBN: [978-11305-09370-6](#)
- Chandler, David. 2002. "S21, The Wheel of History and the Pathology of Terror in Democratic Kampuchea." Pp. 16-37 in *Cambodia Emerges from the Past: Eight Essays* edited by Judy Ledgerwood. DeKalb, IL: Southeast Asia Publications.
- Ebihara, May M., Carol A. Mortland and Judy Ledgerwood, editors. 1994. "Introduction" Pp. 1-26 in *Cambodian Culture Since 1975: Homeland and Exile*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press. ISBN: 0-8014-8173-2.
- Ledgerwood, Judy. 1994. "Gender Symbolism and Culture Change: Viewing the Virtuous Woman in the Khmer Story Mea Yoeng." Pp. 119-128 in *Cambodian Culture Since 1975: Homeland and Exile*, edited by M. M. Ebihara, C. A. Mortland and J. Ledgerwood. Ithaca: Cornell University Press. ISBN: 0-8014-8173-2.
- Levine, Peg. 2010. "Chapter1. The Khmer Rouge Weddings; Forced or Not?" Pp. 16-35 in *Love and Dread in Cambodia: Weddings, Births and Ritual Harm Under the Khmer Rouge*. Singapore: National University of Singapore.
- Movie: Red Wedding. 2012. Producer Rithy Panh. YouTube Trailer (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z792RyxezVE>).
- National Cambodian Heritage Museum and Killing Fields Memorial. (<https://www.cambodianmuseum.org/>).
- Steensen, Nikolai Jul. 2014. "Norwegian People's Aid, A Study of the Mine Division from 1992-2002." Master Thesis, Department of Archeology, Conservation and History, University of Oslo. Retrieved March 23, 2017. (<https://www.duo.uio.no/bitstream/handle/10852/42488/steensen-NPA-Master.pdf?sequence=1>).
- Video: Hill, Ethan. 2016. "Cambodian Culture." Audio Podcast. Retrieved March 24, 2017. (<https://youtube.com/watch?v=KNTRaY4nD20>)
- Video: "S-21: The Khmer Rouge Killing Machine" by Houy Hin. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tpaDOKI4VzQ>).
- Website: Norwegian People's Aid Dog Training Center in Cambodia. ([www.npaid.org/News/News-archive/2016/New-NPA-Dog-Training-Centre-opens-in-Cambodia](http://www.npaid.org/News/News-archive/2016/New-NPA-Dog-Training-Centre-opens-in-Cambodia))
- Website: Killing Field Museum ([www.killingfieldsmuseum.com/khmer-culture.html](http://www.killingfieldsmuseum.com/khmer-culture.html)).
- Website: Norwegian People's Aid in Cambodia ([www.npaid.org/our-work/Countries-we-work-in/Asia/Cambodia/Humanitarian-Disarmament-in-Cambodia](http://www.npaid.org/our-work/Countries-we-work-in/Asia/Cambodia/Humanitarian-Disarmament-in-Cambodia)).

### Course Objectives:

This course is designed to provide opportunity for the student:

1. review the basic sociological theories by which sociologists analyze society;
2. appraise the research methods utilized to conduct social research, collection of data, and the American Sociological Association (ASA) ethics and academy;
3. analyze the concepts of culture and social systems;
4. recognize the socialization process and systems that transmit to the individual norms, attitudes, and values of culture;
5. identify concepts of groups, organizations, and the impact on the individual;
6. describe theory and concepts of deviant behavior in American society;
7. examine the impact of social inequalities, social stratification, race, gender and sexuality on the individual in American society;
8. examine social institutions and assess the impact they have on groups within American society;
9. discuss social forces that are transforming American society.
10. demonstrate knowledge of Southeast Asia and Cambodia.

### Course Outcomes:

This course is designed to provide opportunities for the student to:

1. use Sociological Theory in critical thinking;
2. interpret the world using a Sociological Perspective.

Week 1

Sociological Perspective

US: "Sociological Imagination" by C. Wright Mills

"Invitation to Sociology: A Humanistic Perspective" by Peter Berger

Website: Dead Sociologists Society

<http://media.pfeiffer.edu/lridener/DSS/DEADSOC.HTML>

Week 2

Sociological Theory and Research

US: "The Myth of the Missing Black Father" by Roberta L. Coles and Charles Green

"The Many Faces of Gender Inequality" by Amartya Sen

Week 3

Culture

US: "Why Migration Matters" by Khalid Koser

"Code of the Street" by Elijah Anderson

BlkBd: "The Rape Culture" by Dianne F. Herman

Cambodia:

Ebihara, May M., Carol A. Mortland and Judy Ledgerwood, editors. 1994. "Introduction" Pp. 1-26 in *Cambodian Culture Since 1975: Homeland and Exile*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press. ISBN: 0-8014-8173-2.

Video: Hill, Ethan. 2016. "Cambodian Culture." Audio Podcast. Retrieved March 24, 2017.

(<https://youtube.com/watch?v=KNTRaY4nD20>)

Website: Killing Field Museum

([www.killingfieldmuseum.com/khmer-culture.html](http://www.killingfieldmuseum.com/khmer-culture.html))

Week 4

Socialization

US: "Barbie versus Sea Monsters – Children Constructing Gender" by Michael Messner

"Examining Media Contestation of Masculinity and Head Trauma in the National Football League" by Eric Anderson and Edward M. Kian

BlkBd: "Socialization and the Power of Advertising" by Jean Kilbourne

Week 5

Society and Social Interaction

US: "Presentation of Self in Everyday Life" by Irving Goffmann  
"Anybody's Son Will Do" by Qwynne Dyer

Cambodia:

Ledgerwood, Judy. 1994. "Gender Symbolism and Culture Change: Viewing the Virtuous Woman in the Khmer Story Mea Yoeng." Pp. 119-128 in *Cambodian Culture Since 1975: Homeland and Exile*, edited by M. M. Ebihara, C. A. Mortland and J. Ledgerwood. Ithaca: Cornell University Press. ISBN: 0-8014-8173-2.

Week 6

Groups/Organizations

US: "Global Strategies for Workers: How Class Analysis Clarifies Us and Them and What We Need To Do." by Katie Quan  
"Racism in Toyland" by Christine Williams  
"Working on People" by Robin Keidner

Week 7

Deviance

US: "The Rich Get Richer and the Poor Get Prison" by Jeffrey H. Reiman  
"The Medicalization of Deviance" by Peter Conrad and Joseph W. Schneider

Website: <http://www.ojp.gov/bjs/>

Cambodia:

National Cambodian Heritage Museum and Killing Fields Memorial (<https://www.cambodianmuseum.org/>).

Week 8

Social Stratification

US: "America Without A Middle Class" by Elizabeth Warren  
"Aspects of Class in the United States: An Introduction" by John Bellamy Foster  
"The State of Poverty in America" by Peter Edelman

Weeks 9 & 10

Race and Ethnicity

US: "The Souls of Black Folk" by W. E. B. DuBois

"Color-Blind Privilege: The Social and Political Functions of Erasing the Color Line In Post Race America" by Charles Gallagher

"Toward A Framework for Understanding Forces That Contribute to or Reinforce Racial Inequality" by William Julius Wilson

"Subordinating Myth: Latino / a Immigration, Crime and Exclusion" by Jamie Longazel

"Muslims in America" by Jen'nan Ghazal Read

BlkBd: "White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack" by Peggy McIntosh

Week 11

Gender and Sexuality

US: "What It Means to Be Gendered Me: Life on the Boundaries of a Dichotomous System" by Betsy Lucal

"Strategic Ambiguity: Protecting Emphasized Femininity and Hegemonic Masculinity in the Hook Up Culture" by Danielle M Currier

"'Dude, You're A Fag': Adolescent Masculinity and the Fag Discourse" by C. J. Pascoe

Week 12

Social Institutions: Political & Economic Systems

US: "The Power Elite" by C. Wright Mills

"The Rise of the New Global Elite" by Chrystia Freeland

"Cultures of the Tea Party" by Andrew J. Perrin, Steven J. Tepper, Neal Caren and Sally Morris

"Children of the Great Recession: A Tour of the Generational Landscape, from Struggles to Success, Coast to Coast" by Ronald Brownstein

"Harder Times: Undocumented Workers and the U.S. Informal Economy" by Richard Vogel

Cambodia:

Video: "S-21: The Khmer Rouge Killing Machine" by Houy Hin.  
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tpaDOKI4VzQ>)

Chandler, David. 2002. "S21, The Wheel of History and the Pathology of Terror in Democratic Kampuchea." Pp. 16-37 in *Cambodia Emerges from the Past: Eight Essays* edited by Judy Ledgerwood. DeKalb, IL: Southeast Asia Publications.

Week 13

Social Institutions: Education & Family

US: "From the Achievement Gap to the Education Debt: Understanding Achievement in U.S. Schools " by Gloria Ladson-Billings

"A School in A Garden" by Mitchell Stevens

BlkBd: "Examining the Black Family in the Age of Mass Incarceration" by Ta-Hehisi Coates

Cambodia:

Movie: Red Wedding. 2012. Producer Rithy Panh. YouTube Trailer (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z792RyxzeVE>).

Levine, Peg. 2010. "Chapter1. The Khmer Rouge Weddings; Forced or Not?" Pp. 16-35 in *Love and Dread in Cambodia: Weddings, Births and Ritual Harm Under the Khmer Rouge*. Singapore: National University of Singapore.

Week 14

Social Institutions: Religion and Health Care

US: "The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism" by Max Weber

"Beyond the Affordable Care Act: Achieving Real Improvements in Americans' Health" by David R. Williams, Mark B. McClellan and Alice Rivlin

Environment

US: "Poisoning the Planet: The Struggle for Environmental Justice"  
by David Naguib Pellow and Robert J. Brulle

"Climate Denial and Construction of Innocence: Reproducing  
Transnational Privilege in the Face of Climate Change" by  
Karl Marie Norgaard

Cambodia:

Website: Norwegian People's Aid Dog Training Center in  
Cambodia. ([www.npaid.org/News/News-archive/2016/New-NPA-Dog-Training-Centre-opens-in-Cambodia](http://www.npaid.org/News/News-archive/2016/New-NPA-Dog-Training-Centre-opens-in-Cambodia))

Website: Norwegian People's Aid in Cambodia  
([www.npaid.org/our-work/Countries-we-work-in/Asia/Cambodia/Humanitarian-Disarmament-in-Cambodia](http://www.npaid.org/our-work/Countries-we-work-in/Asia/Cambodia/Humanitarian-Disarmament-in-Cambodia)).

Steensen, Nikolai Jul. 2014. "Norwegian People's Aid, A Study of  
the Mine Division from 1992-2002." Master Thesis,  
Department of Archeology, Conservation and History,  
University of Oslo. Retrieved March 23, 2017.

(<https://www.duo.uio.no/bitstream/handle/10852/42488/steensen-NPA-Master.pdf?sequence=1>).