Taking a large lecture

✓ Why a large lecture?
  • Efficiency

✓ Challenges of taking a large class
  • Little accountability (attendance, reading, testing)
  • Little sense of belonging

✓ Strategies
  • Personal responsibility
  • Study groups
  • Interaction with professor
Syllabus, textbook & web page

  • Not the reader—you probably have the wrong book

✔ Class web page: www.public.iastate.edu/~f2004.soc.134

✔ Syllabus available on web page in PDF format

✔ Also on web site
  • PowerPoint slides
  • Assignments, deadlines, announcements
  • Additional reading

✔ Course theme: People are both cause and consequence of society (p. 2)
Lecture

✓ Schedule of assignments (pp. 6-7)
  • Read assignment before lecture; lectures build on readings
  • Tests cover both lecture and textbook

✓ Possible lecture topics
  • How is income distributed in the U.S and are the rich really getting richer?
  • Why do whites have a higher average income than blacks?
  • Why do men have a higher average income than women?
  • How many sexes are there and why do we believe there are two?
  • Who are Generation X and Generation Y?
  • How do people learn to become marihuana users?
  • How do roadside monuments tell U.S. history?
  • Is McDonald’s the model for organizations of the future?
  • With whom do Americans have sex and how often do they have it?
  • How is Billy Graham able to convert so many people?
  • How do men and women plan for their engagement proposals?
Troubled young people

✓ The cheater
✓ The discourteous student
  • The kissers
✓ “I forgot about the exam”
  • Acceptable excuses: funeral, illness (with doctor’s note), family emergency
  • Unacceptable excuses: work, social events, sleeping in
  • Excuses must be submitted using form on web site
  • Scheduled make-up exams are the following day
  • All subsequent tests use essay format
✓ Miscellaneous troubled young people
Grading

✓ Three tests—50 multiple choice questions each
  - First two tests on Sept. 27, Nov. 1
  - Final exam TBA.
  - Questions are over lecture and text

✓ Final grading scale
  - A (130-150), A- (125-129), B+ (120-124), B (110-119), B- (105-109),
    C+ (100-104), C (95-99), C- (90-94), D+ (85-89), D (80-84), D- (75-79), F (below 75)
  - Students who pass (score above 75), can raise one grade (e.g., B+ to A-) by completing an extra credit project
Extra credit

✔ Three extra credit options
  • Volunteer project: 16 hours, 3-page paper
  • Photo essay: 1-2 page introduction, 10-20 photos
  • Research paper: 5-7 page paper
  • All three projects have two deadlines: Oct. 6, Nov. 19

✔ There are no other ways to earn points
Sociology Central

Carly Jacobs
Maggie Kasperbauer
Bethany Larsen

Go to Soc Central for:
Scheduling make ups
Class standing info
Tutoring over material
Reviewing lectures
Reviewing tests

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Contacting the professor

404 East Hall
Office Hours:
  WF 2-3 p.m.
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Leave message by
e-mail, not voice mail

David Schweingruber
Pronounced: Schwine groo ber
Goes by “Dave” or
“Professor Schweingruber”