

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Spring 2021
Sociology 325-202: The Sociology of Social Change



Instructor: Antonio Paniagua Guzmán
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Class Time and Location: Online (Canvas)
Office Hours: W 10am–noon and by appointment (Collaborate Ultra)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

How does our society change over time? Why does it change and how does that change affect our lives? What are the forces that propel these changes? How do these changes play out on the individual, national, and international levels? Using a sociological perspective, we will analyze how we got to where we are now and where we may be heading.

This course is divided into four units. In the first one, we will look at how to identify the roots, causes, and primary forms of social change. Also, we will examine the role of personal experience in the process of social change. In the second unit, we will examine how technology, science, innovation, and social movements have determined the course of modern societies and will explore their multiple implications in diverse aspects of social life. In the third unit, we will look at the role of the State, the economy, and armed conflicts in social change. Finally, in the last unit we will analyze agency as a driver of social change, as well as the relevance of individuals as agents of social change.

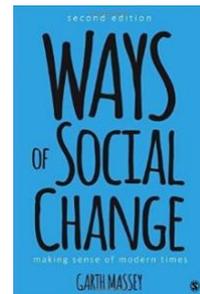
COURSE OBJECTIVES

Over the course, you will:

- analyze different forms of social change from diverse sociological perspectives
- examine how society has changed over time, as well as the causes of such changes, potential consequences, and future patterns of societal change
- analyze social change from a multidisciplinary approach; this includes the study of the economic, political, and historical phenomena at individual, national, and international levels
- identify future patterns of social change and how they could potentially modify our current society

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- **Ways of Social Change: Making Sense of Modern Times**, 2nd ed.; Massey, G.; SAGE Publications, INC.; ISBN: 978-1-5063-0662-9 www.uwm.ecampus.com
- **Additional readings** available on Canvas
- **Netflix** account (or access to the platform)



COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Grading

	<u>Percentage of final grade</u>
Quizzes Eleven (11)	30%
Discussion Posts and Replies Twelve (12)	30%
Response Essay 1	10%
Response Essay 2	10%
Final Essay	20%
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	100%

Grading scale (by percent):

A: 93-100	B+: 87-89	C+: 77-79	D+: 67-69	F: 59 or below
A-: 90-92	B: 83-86	C: 73-76	D: 63-66	
	B-: 80-82	C-: 70-72	D-: 60-62	

COURSE STRUCTURE

This course consists of fifteen (15) modules—one per week from January 25 to May 16 (excluding Spring Break). In most modules, you will read either one **chapter of the textbook or an article** and then take a **quiz** that will assess your understanding of the reading assigned. Note that quizzes 1 and 2 are based on the course syllabus and a video tutorial I have created to help you cite in APA style correctly. Additionally, in most modules you will **write a discussion post** answering some questions about the reading assigned (instructions and questions for every post are available on Canvas). Finally, throughout the course you will write **two (2) response essays** based on two documentaries, as well as a **final essay** (handouts with guidelines and further instructions are available on Canvas).

 **Important:** Although there is no synchronous live component, this is not a u-pace course. This means that the deadline for completing the assignments for every module is by 11:59PM of the day in which that module ends (on Sundays). Also, all assignments for this course must be submitted through Canvas; assignment submitted via email will not be graded.

Quizzes (30% of final grade)

Throughout the course, you will take **eleven (11) quizzes** that will assess your understanding of the readings assigned. Quizzes consist of ten (10) multiple-choice questions related to the chapter assigned. You will have **20 minutes** to complete each quiz. You will have up to **two attempts** to complete each quiz and the one that registers the highest grade is the one that is going to be reflected in their gradebook. You **will not be able to take quizzes after the deadline of each module**. Also, questions in the quizzes are exclusively based on the textbook, so it is critical that you read the whole chapter and study your notes before taking the quiz. Finally, quizzes are **NOT cumulative**, so each one only focuses exclusively on the chapter assigned for that module.

 **Important:** Since there are **ONLY** two attempts to complete the quiz, it is important that you are well-prepared to take it. To do so, you should:

- ✓ take the quiz the same day you finish reading the chapter
- ✓ highlight the most relevant concepts, facts, and arguments in the chapter
- ✓ take notes while reading and study them before the quiz
- ✓ take the quiz in a silent place where you can focus without distractions

Discussion Points and Replies (30% of final grade)

In each module (except the three in which you will write response or final essays) you will write an **entry that answers a set of questions** regarding the reading assigned and its connection with current social problems/movements—you will complete **twelve (12)** in total throughout the semester. Additionally, you will **reply to at least two classmates' posts** in which you will respectfully explain your position regarding their arguments. Those replies must be clear on why you agree or disagree with your classmates. Therefore, a **300-word discussion post (minimum)** along with **two (2) 100-word (minimum) replies** must be posted on Canvas by 11:59PM of the last day of the module.

 **Important:** If the post does not meet the minimum length requirements and/or does not address the questions guiding the discussion, it will not be graded, and an “F” will be awarded automatically. Also, note that the two replies are worth 50% of each assignment, so it is important that you submit a post along with the replies to avoid getting points deducted.

Response Essays (20% of final grade; 10% each)

Throughout the semester, you will watch **two (2) documentaries** related to the topics discussed in the textbook, additional readings, and/or discussion posts. For each documentary, you will write a **1000-word essay** in response to a set of questions (handouts with guidelines and further instructions are available on Canvas). Those documentaries are available either on Netflix or Canvas. **Deadlines: Response Essay 1 (2/28 by 11:59pm); Response Essay 2 (4/11 by 11:59pm).**

 **Important:** Watching those documentaries is critical for the course as they complement our readings and discussions. Essays that do not follow the format and/or content guidelines will not be graded. See all the supplementary documents located under the section: “Course Documents.”

Final Essay (20% of final grade)

You will write a **2000-word essay** in response to a set of questions. In this essay you will connect most of the theoretical principles and examples discussed throughout the semester with a contemporary social problem/movement (handouts with guidelines and further instructions will be available on Canvas around mid-February). **Deadline: 5/16 by 11:59pm.**

 **Important:** Both in response and final essays you will have to support your arguments with ideas and examples from the readings assigned (chapters and articles). So, it is critical that you take notes on your readings and know how to cite those ideas/examples using the APA citation style correctly (see the APA Video Tutorial for more information).

WORKLOAD

As the UW System assumes “that study leading to one semester credit represents an investment of time by the average student of not fewer than 48 hours” (UWS ACPS 4), so a 3-credit course such as this one will require a minimum of 144 (3 x 48) hours. Therefore, to successfully meet the requirements for this course, the students will spend:

Writing assignments and discussion posts	30 hours
Reading/watching course materials	80 hours
Preparing for taking the 10 quizzes	34 hours
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Total time spent on this class (3 credits x 48 hours)	144 hours

Note: These are averages and may vary depending on the topic/assignment of each module.

COURSE POLICIES

Late Work

Late assignments are **NOT accepted**. Every quiz, discussion post/reply, and response/final essays must be submitted by 11:59PM of the last day of the module (Sundays). Assignment deadlines will only be extended in cases of personal/family emergency or documentable course conflict. This could include a medical emergency or conflicts for students in the U.S. Military or UWM Athletics. In any of those cases, in order to get an extension, you **must provide documentation and communicate with me via email.**

 **Important:** While late assignments are not accepted, you can always do work in advance—all modules are already published in case you wish to take quizzes, write essays, or publish discussion posts in advance.

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct is defined by the University as “an act in which a student seeks to claim credit for the work or efforts of another without authorization or citation, uses unauthorized materials or fabricated data in any academic exercise, forges or falsifies academic documents or records, intentionally impedes or damages the academic work of others, engages in conduct aimed at making false representation of a student's academic performance, or assists other students in any of these acts.”

Remember that by becoming a UWM student you have agreed abide by the University’s code of conduct, including its provisions on academic misconduct (which includes plagiarism).

According to the University’s code of conduct, **plagiarism** includes: (1) directly quoting the words of others without using quotation marks or indented format to identify them; (2) using sources of information (published or unpublished) without identifying them; and/or (3)

paraphrasing materials or ideas of others without identifying the sources. For more information, follow the following links:

- [Academic Misconduct](#)
- [Conduct Procedures](#)

 **Important:** In any case of plagiarism, disrespect to classmates or the instructor, or any other academic misconduct, I will award an “F” for the assignment (and usually for the course) and pursue disciplinary action according to the Dean of Students’ procedures.

CANVAS

By now, many courses at the University use Canvas so most of you are familiar with this platform. However, for those who have never used it, there are many resources provided by the University that can make the transition from D2L to Canvas smoothly. Below, some of those resources:

- [Canvas Made Easy for Students](#)
- [Canvas Transition Website](#)
- [FAQs](#)

It is critical that you are proficient in Canvas within the first week of the course as all quizzes, discussion posts/replies, and response essays must be submitted through Canvas—assignment submitted via email or physically will not be graded. Please let me know if you have any question about Canvas—I will help you and/or provide you with additional resources.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Module	Topic	Readings/Audiovisual Materials	Assignments Due
1 (1/25-1/31)	Syllabus & Introduction	Course syllabus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Post 1 • Quiz 1
Unit 1: What is social change? Why do we have to study it?			
2 (2/1-2/7)	How to cite in APA? Personal Experience and Social Change	APA Video Tutorial: How to cite in APA? (available on Canvas) Massey (2016), Ch. 1: (pp.1-36)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Post 2 • Quiz 2 • Quiz 3

3 (2/8-2/14)	Recognizing Social Change	Massey (2016), Ch. 2: (pp.39-74)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Post 3 • Quiz 4
4 (2/15-2/21)	Understanding and Explaining Social Change	Massey (2016), Ch.3: (pp.77-101)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Post 4 • Quiz 5
5 (2/22-2/28)	Response Essay 1	Documentary: “Cuba and the Cameraman” (Netflix)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response Essay 1 (due 2/28 by 11:59PM)
Unit 2: How do innovation, sociopolitical movements and international conflicts propel social change?			
6 (3/1-3/7)	Technology, Science, and Innovation	Massey (2016), Ch.4: (pp.104-147)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Post 5 • Quiz 6
7 (3/8-3/14)	Communication and Social Change	Wessels (2014), Ch. 9: (pp.146-166)—available on Canvas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Post 6
8 (3/15-3/21)	Social Movements: Social Change Through Contention	Massey (2016), Ch. 5: (pp.150-183)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Post 7 • Quiz 7
Spring Recess (3/21 – 3/28)			
9 (3/29-4/4)	War, Revolution, and Social Change	Massey (2016), Ch. 6: (pp.187-227)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Post 8 • Quiz 8
10 (4/5-4/11)	Response Essay 2	“#chicagogirl” (Canvas)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response Essay 2 (due 4/11 by 11:59PM)
Unit 3: What is the role of the State, global economy, and markets in social change?			
11 (4/12-4/18)	Corporations in the Modern Era	Massey (2016), Ch. 7: (pp.230-272)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Post 9 • Quiz 9
12 (4/19-4/25)	Creative Industries and the Gig Economy	Wessels (2014) Ch. 8—available on Canvas Thompson (2016)—available on Canvas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Post 10
13 (4/26-5/2)	The State and Social Change	Massey (2016), Ch. 8: (pp.275-317)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Post 11 • Quiz 10

Unit 4: How to be an agent of social change? Influencing the world positively			
14 (5/3-5/9)	Making Social Change: Actively Engaging a Desire for Social Change	Massey (2016), Ch. 9: (p.320-338)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Post 12 • Quiz 11
15 (5/10-5/16)			Final Essay (due 5/16 by 11:59PM)

Note: this course schedule is subject to change. If so, students will be notified in advance about any changes.

UNIVERSITY AND SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT POLICIES

The Secretary of the University maintains a web page that contains university policies that affect the instructor and the students in this course, as well as essential information specific to conduct of the course. The link to that page is: <https://uwm.edu/secu/wp-content/uploads/sites/122/2016/12/Syllabus-Links.pdf>

Students with Disabilities. In the pursuit of equal access and in compliance with state and federal laws, the University is required to provide accommodations to students with documented disabilities. To learn more, please visit: <http://uwm.edu/arc/>

Religious Observances. Policies regarding accommodations for absences due to religious observance are found at the following: <http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S1.5.htm>

Students called to active Military Duty. Students called to active military duty. Accommodations for absences due to call-up of reserves to active military duty should be noted.

Students: <http://uwm.edu/active-duty-military/>

Employees: <https://www.wisconsin.edu/ohrwd/download/policies/ops/bn9.pdf>

Incompletes. A notation of "incomplete" may be given in lieu of a final grade to a student who has carried a subject successfully until the end of a semester but who, because of illness or other unusual and substantiated cause beyond the student's control, has been unable to take or complete the final examination or to complete some limited amount of term work.

<https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/other/SAAP%201-13.%20Incomplete%20Grades.pdf>

Discriminatory Conduct. Discriminatory conduct will not be tolerated by the University. It poisons the work and learning environment of the University and threatens the careers, educational experience and well-being of students, faculty and staff. Policies regarding discriminatory conduct can be found at: <https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/other/SAAP%205-1.%20Discriminatory%20Conduct%20Policy.pdf>

Title IX/Sexual Violence. Title IX is a federal law that prohibits sex discrimination in education program or activities, and UWM policy prohibits such conduct (see Discriminatory Conduct, above). This includes sexual violence, which may include sexual harassment, sexual assault, relationship violence, and/or stalking in all educational programs and education-related areas. UWM strongly encourages its students to report any instance of sex discrimination to UWM's Title IX Coordinator (titleix@uwm.edu). Whether or not a student wishes to report an incident of sexual violence, the Title IX Coordinator can connect students to resources at UWM and/or in the community including, but not limited to, victim advocacy, medical and counseling services, and/or law enforcement. For more information, please visit: <https://uwm.edu/sexual-assault/>

Academic misconduct. Cheating on exams or plagiarism are violations of the academic honor code and carry severe sanctions, including failing a course or even suspension or dismissal from the University. <http://uwm.edu/academicaffairs/facultystaff/policies/academic-misconduct/>

Complaint procedures. Students may direct complaints to the head of the academic unit or department in which the complaint occurs. If the complaint allegedly violates a specific university policy, it may be directed to the head of the department or academic unit in which the complaint occurred or to the appropriate university office responsible for enforcing the policy. <https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/other/SAAP%205-1.%20Discriminatory%20Conduct%20Policy.pdf>

Grade appeal procedures. A student may appeal a grade on the grounds that it is based on a capricious or arbitrary decision of the course instructor. Such an appeal shall follow the established procedures adopted by the department, college, or school in which the course resides or in the case of graduate students, the Graduate School. These procedures are available in writing from the respective department chairperson or the Academic Dean of the College/School.

<https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/other/SAAP%201-10.%20Grade%20Appeals%20by%20Students.pdf>

LGBT+ resources. Faculty and staff can find resources to support inclusivity of students who identify as LGBT+ in the learning environment. <https://uwm.edu/lgbtrc/>

Smoke and Tobacco-Free campus. UWM prohibits smoking and the use of tobacco on all campus property. <https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/other/SAAP%2010-8.%20Smoke%20and%20Tobacco-Free%20Campus%20Policy.pdf>

Final Examinations. Information about the final exam requirement, the final exam date requirement, and make-up examinations. <https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/other/SAAP%201-9.%20Final%20Examinations.pdf>

Book Royalties. In accord with department policy, the royalties from the sale of UWM sociology faculty-authored books to students in their classes are donated to a UWM Foundation/Sociology Account to support future awards and activities of UWM sociology students.

Updated 08/2020