Students,

Thank you for a wonderfully engaging start to our Introduction to Sociology course.

Recall, today, we:

1. Explained what sociology is.

2. Discussed what makes sociology unique as a discipline, noting that it is the systematic study of the relationship between the individual and society and of the consequences of difference.

3. Stated how social relationships influence people’s attitudes and behaviors (life experiences).

4. Initiated our sociological imagination, which we will come to know & understand through C. Wright Mills’ definition as “…an awareness of the relationship between an individual and the wider society, and...the ability to view our society as an outside, rather than relying only on our individual perspective, which is shaped by our cultural biases.”

5. Discussed how sociology is related to other social sciences because sociologists seek to understand ways in which people interact and shape society.

6. Talked about and identified common ethical dilemmas that sociologists may confront in their research:

7. Explained some of the ways that globalization has affected how sociologists: thinking through how social problems in their relative states can overwhelm the world.

8. Learned that there are three major theoretical perspectives in sociology that this course will focus on: functionalist approach (viewing society as a vast network of interdependent & connected parts), conflict perspective (looking at how the status quo is established & who benefits or suffers from the existing system - i.e. distribution of power & allocation of resources), and the interactionist perspective (generalizes about the everyday forms of social interaction to understand society as a whole).

We will review Chapter One’s content in great detail on Thursday; See you on Thursday at 2:50/2:55 pm in MS 214.

Please be mindful of our Attendance/Lateness and Active Participation agreements.

Come prepared to keep the conversation going!

+ Baseemah
COURSE PARTICIPATION

Attendance at all scheduled class meetings is expected. Active learning is the foundation for this class. As an active learner, you are required to participate in the following ways in all classes:

- Respond to instructor questions.
- Generate questions for instructor or peer responses.
- Participate in discussions.
- Give presentations.
- Respond to the presentations of others.
- Give reflective feedback to peers and instructor.
- Participate in cooperative learning groups.
- Be present when you are scheduled to present a lesson or presentation.
- Be present for scheduled tests, midterms and final examinations.

While it is recognized that life events may take precedence over the class schedule, it should be noted that absence will limit your participation and thus affect your grade.

The responsibility for making up missed work, securing class notes and receiving handouts rests with the student. Please identify a "buddy" in the class and exchange phone numbers/e-mail addresses with this person. If you anticipate an absence, please arrange for this person to give you assignments, notes and handouts prior to the next scheduled class.

Absences do not exempt the student from the responsibility of securing or making up the work missed during such absence.

Please notify me when you do not plan to attend class. Thank you.