

STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

SOCI341

Course Summary

Course : SOCI341 **Title :** Social Analysis of Digital Communities
Length of Course : 8 **Faculty :**
Prerequisites : N/A **Credit Hours :** 3

Description

Course Description:

Social life online is complex, offering opportunity and positive community in some contexts while reinforcing disparities and structural inequalities in other contexts. As consumers of online experiences or participants in generating online content and discussion, everyday people play a significant role in shaping social movements through presence and participation in digital communities. In this project-based course, students will examine a specific social issue by analyzing specific communities (social media groups, influencer blogs, news outlets) to assess the social impact of digital community content on digital audiences.

Course Scope:

Objectives

1. Identify the ways in which people participate in online social life as observers and participants
 2. Describe social science research examining online social life
 3. Examine the voices represented in digital content with respect to diversity and inclusivity
 4. Identify digital communities and content where social issues are discussed
 5. Analyze a social issue represented online using a sociological framework
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Outline

Week 1: Digital Sociology & Digital Communities

Course objectives

1, 2, 3

Course materials

Syllabus

Week 1 Learning Materials

Week 1 Readings & Resources

Assessments

Week 1 Discussion

Week 2: History of the Internet and Digital Communications

Course objectives

1, 2, 3

Course materials

Week 2 Learning Materials

Week 2 Readings & Resources

Assessments

Week 2 Discussion

Week 3: Applying Sociological Theory

Course objectives

1, 2, 5

Course materials

Week 3 Learning Materials

Week 3 Readings & Resources

Assignments

Assignment 1: Digital Society in Sociological Perspective

Week 4: Social Media

Course objectives

1, 2, 3

Course materials

Week 4 Learning Materials

Week 4 Readings & Resources

Assessments

Week 4 Discussion

Week 5: Social Issues and the Digital Divide

Course objectives

1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Course materials

Week 5 Learning Materials

Week 5 Readings & Resources

Assessments

Assignment 2: Social Issues in Digital Society

Week 6: Subculture in Digital Society, Science and Digital Society

Course objectives

1, 2, 3, 4

Course materials

Week 6 Learning Materials

Week 6 Readings & Resources

Assessments

Week 6 Discussion

Week 7: Ethics and Analysis in Digital Communities

Course objectives

1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Course materials

Week 7 Learning Materials

Week 7 Readings & Resources

Assessments

Assignment 3: Sociological Analysis of Digital Content

Week 8: Future of Digital Communities

Course objectives

1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Course materials

Week 8 Learning Materials

Week 8 Readings & Resources

Assessments

Week 8 Discussion

Evaluation

Discussions:

Participation in classroom dialogue on threaded Discussions is required some weeks of class. Initial Discussion posts are due Thursdays, peer responses are due Sundays. Instructions and specific grading rubrics are found under the Discussions tab in our classroom.

Assignments:

This course includes Assignments. Instructions and specific grading rubrics are found under the Assignments tab in our classroom.

Extra credit:

Extra credit is not offered in this course.

Grading:

Name	Grade %
Discussions	40.00%
Week 1 Discussion	8.00%
Week 2 Discussion	8.00%
Week 4 Discussion	8.00%
Week 6 Discussion	8.00%
Week 8 Discussion	8.00%
Assignments	60.00%
Assignment 1	20.00%
Assignment 2	20.00%
Assignment 3	20.00%

Materials

Book Title: Digital Sociologies - eBook available in the APUS Online Library

Author: Daniels, et. al.

Publication Info: Policy Press Lib

ISBN: 9781447329008

Book Title: Digital Societies - e-book available in the
APUS Online Library
Author: Daniels, Gregory, & Cottam
Publication Info: Policy Press
ISBN: 9781447329015

Book Title: Various resources from the APUS Library & the Open Web are used. Please visit
<http://apus.libguides.com/er.php> to locate the course eReserve.

Author:

Publication Info:

ISBN: ERESERVE NOTE

Course Guidelines

Citation and Reference Style

- Students will follow APA format as the sole citation and reference style used in written assignments submitted.
- Please note that no formal citation style is graded on Forums in the School of Arts & Humanities

Tutoring

- [Tutor.com](#) offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com also has a SkillCenter Resource Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these resources does not count against tutoring hours and is also available 24/7. Please visit the APUS Library and search for 'Tutor' to create an account.

Late Assignments

University Late Policy

All dates and times posted are for U.S. Eastern Standard time. It is your responsibility to know how that translates to your time zone and to submit assignments and tests per these posted deadlines.

You are expected to submit assignments by the due dates listed in the classroom. Late assignments may not be accepted after the course end date. Submitting an assignment late may result in a penalty of up to 10% of the grade per day late, not to exceed a maximum of 50% (5 days late). The amount of the penalty is at the faculty member's discretion.*

*Programs with specialty accreditation and students with DSA accommodations may have different late policies applied.

Turn It In

Assignments are automatically submitted to Turnitin.com within the course. Turnitin.com will analyze an assignment submission and report a similarity score. Your assignment submission is automatically processed through the assignments area of the course when you submit your work.

Communications

Student Communication

To reach the instructor, please communicate through the MyClassroom email function accessible from the Classlist of the Course Tools menu, where the instructor and students email addresses are listed, or via the Office 365 tool on the Course homepage.

- In emails to instructors, it's important to note the specific course in which you are enrolled. The name of the course is at the top center of all pages.
- Students and instructors communicate in Discussion posts and other learning activities.
- All interactions should follow APUS guidelines, as noted in the [Student Handbook](#), and maintain a professional, courteous tone.
- Students should review writing for spelling and grammar.
- [Tips on Using the Office 365 Email Tool](#)

Instructor Communication

The instructor will post announcements on communications preferences involving email and Instant Messaging and any changes in the class schedule or activities.

- Instructors will periodically post information on the expectations of students and will provide feedback on assignments, Discussion posts, quizzes, and exams.

- Instructors will generally respond to student communications within 48 hours, except in unusual circumstances (e.g., illness).
 - The APUS standard for grading of all assessments (assignments, Discussions, quizzes, exams) is five days or fewer from the due date.
 - Final course grades are submitted by faculty no later than seven days after the end date of the course or the end of the extension period.
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University Policies

Consult the [Student Handbook](#) for processes and policies at APUS. Notable policies:

- [Drop/Withdrawal Policy](#)
- [Extension Requests](#)
- [Academic Probation](#)
- [Appeals](#)
- [Academic Dishonesty / Plagiarism](#)
- [Disability Accommodations](#)
- [Student Deadlines](#)
- [Video Conference Policy](#)

Mission

The [mission of American Public University System](#) is to provide high quality higher education with emphasis on educating the nation's military and public service communities by offering respected, relevant, accessible, affordable, and student-focused online programs that prepare students for service and leadership in a diverse, global society.

Minimum Technology Requirements

- Please consult the catalog for the minimum hardware and software required for [undergraduate](#) and [graduate](#) courses.
- Although students are encouraged to use the [Pulse mobile app](#) with any course, please note that not all course work can be completed via a mobile device.

Disclaimers

- Please note that course content – and, thus, the syllabus – may change between when a student registers for a course and when the course starts.
- Course content may vary from the syllabus' schedule to meet the needs of a particular group.