

SOCIOLOGY COURSE ASSIGNMENTS (~ 40% of total grade)

1. News Analysis (biweekly) & weekly Discussion

- Every week, meet with your discussion group
- *Every other* week, choose your own news article (related to this course) – from “mainstream”, or from “alternative”, or from foreign 🌐, publications [see a) below].
- Analyze your own article before class (**see analysis form on reverse**), then discuss your findings with the group, and submit to instructor.

a) Publication Types

If you choose from a “mainstream”/ chain publication, next time use “alternative”/ independent), or foreign 🌐 (*if* related to U.S. society), and *vice versa*. Switch publication type every time (so you’ve done ½ of each type by term’s end).

	Examples of “ <u>alternative</u> ”	and “ <u>mainstream</u> ” U.S. news....	and <u>foreign news</u>
[magazines]:	<i>The Nation</i> <i>In These Times</i> <i>Mother Jones</i> <i>The Progressive</i>	<i>Time</i> <i>Newsweek</i> <i>U.S. News & World Report</i> <i>The Weekly Standard</i>	<i>Der Spiegel</i> <i>The Economist</i> <i>Le Monde diplomatique</i> <i>New Internationalist</i>
[newspapers]:	<i>Willamette Week</i> <i>Portland Alliance</i> <i>The Peaceworker</i> <i>Portland Tribune</i>	<i>USA Today</i> <i>The Oregonian</i> <i>The New York Times</i> <i>Washington Post</i>	[try www.world-newspapers.com] <i>The Guardian (UK)</i> <i>Middle East Times</i> <i>Globe & Mail</i> <i>The Prague Post</i>

b) Where to get news publications (for FREE):

campus (library, student center, academic departments)...other libraries...bookstore...bus coffee shop...home...church...friends...internet [*must also be available in print!*]

c) Only use news articles dated within the last 3 years (of length ≤ 2 pages !!)

d) After analysis, **staple article** (neatly clipped/ photocopied/ printed) to your form (*see reverse side*), discuss with group, and submit to instructor.

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

- How do news media reflect society? How does sociology make sense of the news?
- What is “news”? (uses *sources* to tell Who, What, When, Where, Why)
- What is “alternative”? (think: “independent”) What is “mainstream”? (think: “chain”)
- What is a “source”? (where, or from whom, author says they got their information)
- What is an “attribution”? (each time* source gives info: *says, according to, reports, claims, notes...*)
 - * Counting # of.....**Government:** ____ (“public...” K-12 schools, *city, county, state, federal...*, *police, military...*)
 -**Business:** ____ (*for-profit* product / service)
 - ...**Citizen / Independent:** ____ (*nonprofit* / charity, religious, “Joe/Jane Citizen”)
 -**Academic:** ____ (college or university faculty/staff ONLY)

2. Service-Learning Project (details coming soon !) 🌐 fyi: www.pcc.edu/servicelearning

3. Group Presentation (more details during 2nd ½ of term)


For our final class, you and your discussion group will prepare a *brief* oral presentation, drawing from material beyond 🌐 our syllabus.

***News Article Analysis Form**

Name _____

{ * = see GUIDING QUESTIONS, reverse side }

Discussed in _____ Group

PUBLICATION TYPE: alternative / mainstream / foreign (*circle one*)

REFERENCE (*Author. Date. Publication. "Title". Page # / URL*):

SUMMARY (*in space provided*): _____

*SOURCES (*by name*): _____

*ATTRIBUTIONS (*by number*)..... **Government:** _____ (anonymous: _____)

..... **Business:** _____

..... **Citizen / Independent:** _____

..... **Academic:** _____

EVALUATION (*How does article relate specifically to course? What are 2-3 particular ways it connects with completed class / readings?*): _____
