

**SOC b2500**  
**Sociological Writing**  
**(“Making Sociology Speak”)**

**B. Nadya Jaworsky**

Office 3.66

Consultation Hours:

**Wednesdays: 13.00-14.00 or by  
appointment**

# Who are you?

- Where are you from (born & living now)?
- What was the last movie you saw?
- What is your favorite kind of music?
- What is the last thing you wrote that was longer than one page and what was it about?
- What is your favorite kind of food?

# Class Participation

- **Attendance:** All students are required to attend every seminar meeting.
- **Discussion:** Active participation in classroom discussion is an important part of your grade. You are required to read the assigned literature before the seminar meeting to facilitate discussion.
- **Peer Review**

# Peer Review

- March 18
- April 8
- May 13

# Writing Assignments

- Formal writing assignments:
  - Response to academic article (300-400 words)
  - Social issue opinion essay (*1000 words*)
  - Final research essay (*3000-4000 words; 10-13 pp. double-spaced, Times New Roman*)



# Evaluation/Grading Scheme

- **Language:** The quality of your use of English is not part of the grade!
- 10 points - Response/discussion paper
- 15 points - Social Issue Essay
- 30 points - Class participation (each class = 2 points; peer review = 8 pts. total)
- 10 points - Final essay draft and presentation
- 35 points - Final essay

- **Evaluation is assessed as follows:**

90-100 = A

80-89 = B

70-79 = C

66-69 = D

60-65 = E

0-59 = F

# WHAT IS PLAGIARISM?

## Deliberate Plagiarism

- Rewriting from books or articles
- copying & pasting from web pages and online sources to create a patchwork writing
- buying, downloading, or borrowing a paper



## Accidental Plagiarism

- not knowing when & how to cite
- not knowing how to paraphrase or summarize
- not knowing what “common knowledge” is
- recycling an old paper



I WILL NOT PLAGIARIZE ANOTHER'S WORK  
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I WILL NOT PLAGIARIZE



## Computer Assisted Plagiarism

“The professor will never know that I have used seven other internet sites”



# *Freewriting*

- *What challenges do you face in writing?*
- *What are your writing strengths?*
- *What are your writing weaknesses?*
- *Where do you expect your writing to be at the end of this course?*

- Week 1 – Introduction to the course
- Week 2 – What is bad writing and how can we recognize it?
- Week 3 – How can we engage sources effectively?
- Week 4 – How do we write analytical response/discussion papers?
- Week 5 – Peer Review #1: How do we help one another constructively?
- Week 6 – How do we write an expository or opinion essay?
- Week 7 – Reading Week (NO CLASS)
- Week 8 – Peer Review #2: Social Issue Essay
- Week 9 – How do we get started on a research essay?
- Week 10 – How do I structure a literature review? (NO CLASS)
- Week 11 – How do we finish sociological research and begin writing?
- Week 12 – How do we finish writing a research essay or thesis?
- Week 13 – Peer Review #3 and Presentation of Essay First Drafts

**Are you old enough to remember  
who this is?**



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=otCpCn0l4Wo>

# Do you have writer's block?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rcKtcXbjwD4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q49vxUL4tuM>

See the handout under Week One in the Interactive Syllabus:

“Overcoming Writer’s Block.”

