

“My Sociological Life” Application and Analysis Paper

ASSIGNMENT DIRECTIONS:

For this paper assignment you will be demonstrating your understanding of terms, concepts, theories, data, and topics/themes presented throughout the semester from the class lectures and the textbook. You will accomplish this by analyzing, applying, and synthesizing (Bloom’s Taxonomy) the information covered throughout the course to YOUR life from a sociological perspective. *You do not need to include the term “Bloom’s Taxonomy” in your paper, rather this is the model you will use.* Your grade will be based on your use of Bloom’s Taxonomy, ability to thoroughly describe, explain, and predict the examples you present, incorporation of the three main social theories (functionalism, conflict, and symbolic interactionism), and adherence to all paper instructions. Please remember to underline or bold all applications (terms, concepts, data, and theories).

The specific requirements and paper content objectives for the assignment are listed below. *Please note that this is NOT a life story about you, but rather a chance to apply, analyze, and synthesize various topics we have discussed throughout the course to your life- a socioautobiography.*

PAPER CONTENT:

- 1) **Introduction Paragraph:** This will include basic demographic information about you; a “lead in” for the reader about the paper assignment and what you will be discussing. The last sentence in your introduction paragraph should specifically state the FIVE theme-focused paragraphs that will be discussed in the next five sections of the paper, for example: socialization, culture, marriage/family, education, and religion. The five themes should be bold or underlined.
- 2) **FIVE Topic/Themed-Focused Paragraphs:** You may want to start by going through the main chapter topics in the table of contents/lecture notes titles as these are the main themes you can choose from: culture, socialization, social structure/interaction, social groups, deviance, social class, race and ethnicity, gender, age, politics/economy, marriage and family, education, and religion. You will want to pick the top 5 topics that are most relevant to you.

An example for one body paragraph could be socialization. Within the paragraph you should include relevant terms, concepts, theories, and data from that lecture and the textbook (at least 5) (i.e. significant others, gender socialization, peer groups, agents of socialization, social learning theory), and incorporate the 3 main social theories when possible) that apply to YOUR life. Underline or bold all terms or theories. The three main social theories must be used at least once throughout the whole paper (these count as separate points in the grading rubric). Describe, explain, and predict the cause and effect relationships of the situations/ideas you include. How do these past events affect your future? Make sure that you are demonstrating your skills of analysis, application, and synthesis for each topic- some theories and concepts may be interwoven in other sections, but make sure you are utilizing specific terms that were discussed from that section first.

- 3) **Conclusion Paragraph:** Sum up your paper with the themes you chose to analyze; show your knowledge of the materials through synthesis/connection and the cause and effect relationships of a few major events and themes you described throughout the paper; how does all of this affect you now and your future; what are your future plans?

PAPER STRUCTURE AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONS:

- ✓ You must use **ESSAY** format, using ASA (preferred) or APA style; please see the [OWL Purdue](#) website for more information.
- ✓ Typed, double spaced, 12 point, Times New Roman Font.
- ✓ You must have your own creative title (not the assignment title).
- ✓ **Underline or Bold all important terms, concepts, titles of theories, and data. DO NOT underline entire sentences.**
- ✓ Please proofread your paper for spelling and grammar mistakes (you will be deducted points).
- ✓ DO NOT use contractions (spell out “cannot”- do not use “can’t”). Capitalize “I”.
- ✓ You must save your paper as a word document or PDF when uploading to the TURNITIN link.
- ✓ Please use the ASA template provided in the online course for a title page and correct ASA format throughout the paper. Alternatively, you may use APA style (few differences).
- ✓ A references page is required (please use ASA/APA formatting). This should be the last page of the paper (do NOT save the paper and the references page as separate documents). You will need to cite the lecture and text, as well as any outside resources you use. Papers will be considered plagiarized if a references page is not included.
- ✓ There is no required minimum or maximum page length for this assignment as I want you to focus on the content and completely addressing the application/analysis (generally papers are 4-8 pages).
- ✓ Please review the grading rubric for this assignment BEFORE you begin the paper; once you complete the assignment, use the rubric to grade yourself!

HOW TO TURN IN YOUR PAPER:

You are required to upload your paper to the Turnitin link located in our Canvas course site (you do not need to go to the external turnitin site). Please see the class site (turn in under the “assignments” menu item) for more information on this; also discussed in class. See class for due dates. Complete all submission steps and make sure you receive a confirmation.

This paper is worth 100 points. No late papers will be accepted!

If you have any questions please contact me as soon as possible...I will be happy to help!