



**FLORIDA
ATLANTIC
UNIVERSITY**

COURSE CHANGE REQUEST Undergraduate Programs

Department Sociology
College Arts and Letters

UUPC Approval 12/4/23
UFS Approval _____
SCNS Submittal _____
Confirmed _____
Banner Posted _____
Catalog _____

Current Course Prefix and Number SYP 3420

Current Course Title
Sociology of Consumption

Syllabus must be attached for ANY changes to current course details. See Template. Please consult and list departments that may be affected by the changes; attach documentation.

Change title to:

Change prefix

From: _____ **To:** _____

Change course number

From: _____ **To:** _____

Change credits*

From: _____ **To:** _____

Change grading

From: _____ **To:** _____

Change WAC/Gordon Rule status**

Add Remove

Change General Education Requirements***

Add Remove

*See Definition of a Credit Hour.

**WAC/Gordon Rule criteria must be indicated in syllabus and approval attached to this form. See WAC Guidelines.

***GE criteria must be indicated in syllabus and approval attached to this form. See Intellectual Foundations Guidelines.

Change description to:

This course introduces students to the sociological study of life in consumer society from the perspective of both labor and leisure. Students will examine the making and consumption of diverse products and services, including clothes, toys, food and dining, music, tourism, and weddings, as well as issues related to spectator sports, celebrities, and influencer cultures.

Change prerequisites/minimum grades to:

Change corequisites to:

Change registration controls to:

Please list existing and new pre/corequisites, specify AND or OR and include minimum passing grade (default is D-).

Effective Term/Year for Changes: Summer 2024

Terminate course? Effective Term/Year for Termination:

Faculty Contact/Email/Phone Robert Caputi/rcaputi@fau.edu/561-297-3270

Approved by

Department Chair Ann Branaman

College Curriculum Chair [Signature]

College Dean [Signature]

UUPC Chair Korey Sorge

Undergraduate Studies Dean Dan Macroff

UFS President _____

Provost _____

Date

11/6/23

11/13/23

11/14/23

12/4/23

12/4/23

Email this form and syllabus to mjenning@fau.edu seven business days before the UUPC meeting.

Instructional method: This class meets in person but the lectures will be recorded, so the class can be completed online.

Prerequisites: None.

Major/minor: This course can be counted towards the sociology major or minor.

Meets: Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:45am to 12:55pm in Davie West 107.

Professor Robert Caputi

Email: rcaputi@fau.edu

Office Hours: Mondays, 2:00 pm – 3:30pm by appointment.

Office: Davie West 409

Course overview

This course introduces students to the sociological study of life in consumer society from the perspective of both labor and leisure. Students will examine the making and consumption of diverse products and services, including clothes, toys, food and dining, music, tourism, and weddings, as well as issues related to spectator sports, celebrities, and influencer cultures.

Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course:

1. Students will have learned how modern consumer society has developed and how it is still changing.
2. Students will be able to discuss what roles consumption plays in society beyond fulfilling our basic needs.
3. Students will understand how sociologists demystify everyday behaviors as they analyze consumption sociologically.
4. Students will be able to describe how taste publics are formed around social class, gender, race/ ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, etc.
5. Students will be able to analyze the social and political implications of life in consumerist society.

Evaluation of Students:

1. Two Exams: Midterm and final = 20% each. Students will be responsible for all assigned reading whether or not it is discussed in class, and for all additional material presented in lectures whether or not it appears in the readings.

2. Two short writing assignments (10% each, 20% total). Due dates and further instructions will be announced.
3. Final 6-8-page paper, due the last day of class OR in-class presentation (25%). More information on these assignments will be passed out in class.
4. Class participation or homework papers for those that do not attend. (15%)

Late Work will be penalized five points per day

Required Text:

In this course, you will need the following book:

Introducing Sociology Using the Stuff of Everyday Life, First Edition, by Josee Johnston, Kate Cairns, and Shyon Baumann. Publisher: Routledge. ISBN – 978-1138023383

This is the only book you need to buy. Additional readings will be places on Canvas.

Grading Scale

93-100	A	80-82	B-	67-69	D+
90-92	A-	77-79	C+	63-66	D
87-89	B+	73-76	C	60-62	D-
83-86	B	70-72	C-	0-59	F

Schedule

Readings should be finished by the date listed

Week 1: 6/27 and 6/29

6/27: No readings, Introduction to the course

6/29: Chapter 1: A Day in the Life of Your Jeans: Using Our Stuff to Discover Sociology

Week 2: 7/6 (no class 7/4)

7/6: Chapter 2: You are What You Eat: Culture, Norms, Values

Week 3: 7/11 and 7/13

7/11: Chapter 3: Fast Food Blues: Work in a Global Economy

7/13: Chapter 4: Coffee, Status, Distinction, and Good Taste (First short paper due)

Week 4: 7/18 and 7/20

7/18: Midterm

Chapter 5: Shopping Lessons: Consuming Social Order

7/20: Chapter 6: Get in the Game: Race, Merit, and Group Boundaries

Week 5: 7/25 and 7/27

7/25: Chapter 7: Barbies and Monster Trucks: Socialization and ‘Doing Gender’

7/27: Chapter 8: Dreaming of a White Wedding: Marriage, Family, and Heteronormativity
(Second short paper due)

Week 6: 8/1 and 8/3

8/1: Chapter 9: I <3 My Phone: Technology and Social Networks

8/3: Chapter 10: Branding Your Unique Identity™: Consumer Culture and the Social Self

Final exam on 8/3

***This syllabus is subject to change, depending on how the class progresses, to best meet the needs of the students and the professor. ***

University policies & advice

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all of their scheduled University classes and to satisfy all academic objectives as outlined by the instructor. The effect of absences upon grades is determined by the instructor, and the University reserves the right to deal at any time with individual cases of non-attendance. Students are responsible for arranging to make up work missed because of legitimate class absence, such as illness, family emergencies, military obligation, court-imposed legal obligations or participation in University-approved activities. Examples of University-approved reasons for absences include participating on an athletic or scholastic team, musical and theatrical performances and debate activities. It is the student's responsibility to give the instructor notice prior to any anticipated absences and within a reasonable amount of time after an unanticipated absence, ordinarily by the next scheduled class meeting. Instructors must allow each student who is absent for a University-approved reason the opportunity to make up work missed without any reduction in the student's final course grade as a direct result of such absence.

Code of Academic Integrity & Honor Code: The honor code states: "Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the University mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the University community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty." For more information, see University Regulation 4.001:

http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001_Honor_Code.pdf.

Accommodations for students with disabilities: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and follow all SAS procedures. SAS has offices across three of FAU's campuses – in Boca Raton, Davie, and Jupiter – however disability services are available for students on all campuses. For more information, please visit the SAS website at www.fau.edu/sas.

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center: Life as a university student can be challenging physically, mentally and emotionally. Students who find stress negatively affecting their ability to achieve academic or personal goals may wish to consider utilizing FAU's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center. CAPS provides FAU students a range of services – individual counseling, support meetings, and psychiatric services, to name a few – offered to help improve and maintain emotional well-being. For more information, go to <http://www.fau.edu/counseling/>
For more information on the Davie campus, go to:
<http://www.fau.edu/student/broward/counselingbroward/>

Religious Accommodations for Students and Faculty: In accordance with regulations of the Florida Board of Governors and Florida law, students have the right to reasonable accommodations from the University in order to observe religious practices and beliefs with regard to admissions, registration, class attendance, and the scheduling of examinations, and work assignments. The details of this policy, as it pertains to FAU, may be found in the University Catalog and University Regulation 2.007, Religious Observances.

Writing Center: For assistance in writing on the Davie campus, visit the Center for Excellence in Writing: General classroom South, Room 215. You may also schedule an online appointment via Skype. For more information, see www.fau.edu/UCFW

Student Resources website: <http://www.fau.edu/studentresources/>