

Course Organization

I plan to use a variety of teaching methods in this course. These include, but are not limited to, lecture, class discussion, small group activities, and videos. My ability to make the class period interesting and the material relevant to your lives is largely based upon your level of preparation and the degree to which you are willing to participate in class. Therefore, I expect students to come to each class having **carefully read and thought** about the material assigned for that day and ready to participate.

I have found over the years that students can be hesitant to ask questions or to request that I repeat material. My goal, however, is to be as clear as possible so each of you has the opportunity to learn the course material. Therefore, one of **your responsibilities** as a student in this class is to ask questions and to let me know if we are going too fast.

Assignments

WEEKLY QUIZZES: Class attendance and participation are extremely important. Absences not only cause you to miss the material presented and discussed in class, but also cause the entire class to miss out on your contribution. In addition, students tend to do better in my courses if they attend regularly. In order to encourage regular attendance and class participation, small "pop" quizzes will be given at the **beginning** of one class period every week. The exact day of the quiz will not be announced ahead of time, but will instead be a "surprise" every week. A total of twelve quizzes will be given and each student's two lowest scores will be dropped for a total of ten quiz grades. [There are actually fourteen calendar weeks during the semester. We end up with a total of 12 quizzes because there will not be a quiz this week (Jan. 11th or 13th) and we will skip one other week during the semester.] Since two quizzes will be dropped, **quizzes will not be distributed to students who arrive after the quiz has been collected and no make-ups will be given**, no matter why the quiz was missed. In addition, **quizzes will not be counted for students who leave anytime after taking the quiz**. The quizzes will be simple questions based on the readings **due that day**. (See the course schedule below for the reading assignments.) If a student has carefully read and thought about the assignments for that day, s/he will have no difficulty answering the questions.