**Florida A&M University**

**College of Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities**

**Strategies for Community Development. Fall 2017: SYD 4603-001 (3 credits)**

**Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 12:20 pm**

**Location:** Perry-Paige Room 410

**Instructor**: Dr. Clifton Brown

**Office:**  Perry-Paige Bldg. Rm. 414-A

**Office Hours**: 11:30 to 3 pm M-Th

**Campus Phone:** (850) 599-3995/599-3316

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# Text

**McIntyre, A. (2008) Participatory Action Research. Thousand Oaks, CA, Sage Publications. ISBN 978-1-4129-53665-1**

# Course Description

Participatory Action Research (PAR) is conducted directly with the immediately affected persons; the aim is the reconstruction of their knowledge and ability in a process of understanding and empowerment to those marginalized groups whose views are seldom sought, and whose voices are rarely heard. (Guerero 1995) suggests that there are three important activities; 1) coordinated service provision, which refers to the need to coordinate the efforts of all key persons; 2) Linking services, which refers to identifying and combining needed services from all key persons; and 3) Natural supports, which refers to combining information, from all key persons, on strategies that contribute to the success of the research, into an integrated web, while addressing areas of concern for underrepresented individuals such as minorities and those of lower socio-economic status. These groups have little opportunity to articulate, justify, and assert their interests; however, during instances of disaster it becomes important to know how those effected respond.  Our examination will look at the development, function, and structure of human groups; their interactions and the patterns and trends that influence changing behavior. Additionally, students will have practice in sharpening their scholarly abilities: writing, critical thinking and analysis.

## Learning Objectives/Outcomes

In accordance with the Sociology Program’s Academic Learning Compact (see <http://www.famu.edu/Assessment/UserFiles/File/social.doc>) the learning objectives and outcomes of this course include:

* **Communication Skills –** written and oral communication that demonstrate an understanding of sociological topics. These skills will be illustrated through class discussions and examinations. Students will be able to:
1. Apply scientific method to the study of social behavior.
2. Differentiate participative research, including its historical development, from traditional social science research.
3. Distinguish among basic theoretical approaches to the analysis of social behavior as participatory research requires a semi-democratic social context.
* **Critical Thinking Skills -** analysis and evaluation of societal issues, theoretical perspectives, and social problems. These skills will be demonstrated through readings, class discussions, class exercises, and examinations. Students will be able to:
1. Define and apply the concept of labeling to the analysis of human behavior including both its cognitive components (such as knowledge, skills, and language) and its normative components (such as values and norms, including mores, and taboos) to social research during disasters.
2. Analyze basic social interaction and social structure integrating concepts such as safety, health care, institutional influence and societal reactions to PAR
3. Locate the principal types of decisions and their influence in the course of human social development during environmental events and disasters.
4. Identify the structure and dynamics of human groups, including primary and secondary and the changes which take place at increasing times of stress.
* **Content Knowledge –**the ability to recognize and apply sociological theories, concepts and principles to the study of social phenomena. These skills will be demonstrated through class discussion, assignments, and examinations.
1. Distinguish the functions and processes of socialization and education in negative human social life situations.
2. Explain the functions and techniques of social control, including formal and informal, and analyze the causes and consequences of deviant behavior as well as society’s attempts to cope with it during stressful times.
3. Compare the sociological approaches to inequalities of class, race, ethnicity and gender and appreciate the functions of diversity in modern society.
4. Grasp the significance of major social trends leading to urbanization, modernization, secularization, collective behavior and social movements.

**Methods of Evaluation:** Grading of students will be conducted in a fair and impartial manner. The best way to achieve your desired grade on this course is to attend class and participate in class discussions. Ultimately, you are in control of the grade you receive in this course!

# **Course Component**

The course grade will be based on a combination of quizzes, exams, and assignments. The components of the course include:

* 1 In-class Quiz - worth 10 points
* 2 outside Assignments – worth 10 points each
* 1Essays – worth 25 points each
* Final Paper – worth 35 points
* Class Participation – worth 10 points

**Grading Scale**

Grades will be based on the maximum number of points available to earn. Please note that the total number of points available to earn during the semester is subject to change depending on the number of quizzes and assignments we are able to complete. Therefore, the grading scale listed below is an approximation and a final grading score will be posted on Blackboard at the end of the semester. Please use the scale listed below only as a guide. A final point total will not occur until after the final.

A= 100 to 90 points

B = 89 to 80 points

C = 79 to 70points

D = 69 to 60 points

F= 59 points and below

Grades will be maintained through your name and student identification number. Your student identification number (not your social security number) is a 9-digit number assigned by the University. Your student identification number can be found on the left-hand corner of your unofficial transcript, which can be accessed via the “Our FAMU” website. The number begins with a 100 or a 300. You should locate and write it down and/or memorize it. You **will** need to know your student identification number and you **must** include it all work submitted.

## **Grading**

Grades will be maintained through your name and student identification number. Your student identification number (not your social security number) is a 9-digit number assigned by the University. The number begins with a 100 or a 300. You should locate and write it down and/or memorize it. You **will** need to know your student identification number and you **must** include it all work submitted.

## A note about grading: Please keep the following general grading criteria in mind when completing your work. A grade of “A” is given for outstanding work. In other words, the student has gone well beyond the minimum requirements of the assignment, and submitted work that is of excellent quality. The grade of “B” is given for work that is above average and strong in all or most of the minimum criteria for the assignment. A grade of “C” is given for work that is average and the student has met the basic minimum requirements for the assignment. A grade of “D” is given for work that is below average and the student has almost met the minimum requirements. A grade of “F” is assigned for poor and incomplete work for which the student has not met the minimum requirements. Grades are not negotiable. Grades are **earned** on the basis of performance, not **given** on the basis of need or effort.

**Blackboard**

All students are required to access the blackboard web page for this course. The blackboard web page facilitates communication between and among us. In addition, course materials (i.e. syllabus, assignments), grades, announcements, and class cancellations can be posted on the site. You should log into the blackboard site regularly (daily) to check for updates, announcements, new assignments, and other pertinent information.

###### In-Class Exams

Please adhere to the following guidelines for in-class exams.

* Arrive on time.
	+ If you arrive after another student has finished his /her exam and left the room you, **WILL NOT** be permitted to take the exam.
* Arrive prepared.
	+ In class exams are given in multiple-choice format. Bring one or two #2 pencils so that you can fill in the answer sheet.
	+ Leave cell phones, I pods, and other noise generating devices **AT HOME. In other words, DO NOT bring these items to class. Any student bringing these items to class on exam days will be asked to leave and will receive an F on their exam. Furthermore, any students found with one or more of these prohibited devices in their possession, and/or on their person will receive an F on their exam/course.**
* Know your 9-digit FAMU student identification number.
	+ Students who fail to record their 9-digit FAMU student identification number on their exam will be penalized 10% of the available points. Your social security number is **not acceptable.**
* Once the exam has been distributed, keep your eyes on your own exam, and do not talk to your classmates **(not even to ask for a pencil)** during the exam.
* Please read and follow all oral and written directions.
* You are not permitted to leave the room and return during the exam.

Tentative Schedule of Class Activities

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Week | Chapter(s) | Topic |  | Assignment |
| One | 1  | Chapter 1: Introduction to PAR Due: Wednesday, August 30st (In Class) |  | Reading/class discussion |
| Two | 1 | Chapter 1: Continues Due: Wednesday September 6th |  | Reading/class discussion |
| Three | 2 | Chapter 2: General Characteristics of PAR Due: Wednesday, September 13th |  | Reading/class discussion |
| Four | 2 | Chapter 2: Continues Due: Wednesday September 20th |  | Reading and in class quiz |
| Five | 3 | Chapter 3: An Overview of PAR Theory Due: Wednesday September 27th |  | Reading/class discussion |
| Six | 4 | Chapter 3: PAR theory continues; Due: Wednesday October 4th |  | 1st outside assignment |
| Seven | 5 | Chapter 5: PAR; community research Due: Wednesday October 11th |  | Reading/class discussion |
| Eight | 6 | Chapter 5: PAR; continues. Due: Wednesday October 18th |  | Essay #1 |
| Nine | 8  | Chapter 6: PAR and the use of politics Due: Wednesday October 25th |  | Reading/class discussion |
| Ten | 9  | Chapter 7: PAR and Community Events. Due: Wednesday November 1st |  | 2nd outside assignment |
| Eleven | 10 | Chapter 8: Difference between an event and disaster Due: Wednesday November 8th |  | Reading/class discussion |
| Twelve | 12 | Chapter 9: PAR and disaster preparedness Due: Wednesday November 15th |  | Reading/class discussion |
| Thirteen | 13 | Chapter 9: Continues Due: Wednesday November 29th |  | Reading/class discussion |
| Fourteen | 14 | Chapter 10: The Future of PAR Due: Wednesday December 6th |  | Reading/class discussion |
| Fifteen |  | End of Semester |  | Final Paper |

Class Attendance

**Excerpt from FAMU Catalog:** “Students are expected to make the most of the educational opportunities available by regularly attending classes and laboratory periods. Therefore, the university reserves the right to deal with individual cases of non-attendance.

Students are responsible for all assignments, quizzes, and examinations at the time they are due and may not use their absence from class as a plea for extensions of time to complete assignments or for permission to take make-up examinations or quizzes.

Absence from class for cause: (a) participation in recognized university activities, (b) personal illness properly certified, or (c) emergencies caused by circumstances over which the student has no immediate control will be excused by the dean or director of the unit in which the student is enrolled.

Specifically, the class attendance regulations will apply to all students as follows: A student will be permitted one unexcused absence per credit hour of the course he or she is attending. A student exceeding the number of unexcused absences may be dropped from the course and assigned the grade of “F.” Students may be readmitted to the class with the dean’s and the instructor’s permission.” [[1]](#footnote-3)

**Addendum:** Students who exceed the allowable number of unexcused absences may be assigned the grade of “F” or have their final grade lowered one letter grade.

Should you miss class for any reason it is your responsibility to contact your classmates to obtain the notes, assignments, etc. presented in your absence. Please share your contact information (phone number, email address) with selected classmates and call them to inquire about information, notes, and assignments if you choose to miss class.

Emailing a Professor

Email is a wonderful tool of technology when used appropriately. It can be convenient and it facilitates communication between you and your professor; you do not have to wait for office hours to ask a question or clarify the instructions on an assignment. When sending email you should take into account your intended recipient. An email to a peer is likely to be different in form and content from an email sent to a professor.

Please allow the following email etiquette tips to guide you when composing your message.

* If you have not done so already, you should set up a “professional” email account in which the address derives from some combination of your first and/or last name. An email from a name not recognized is more likely to be deleted than opened and read by a professor, business colleague or potential employer.
* Begin your email with the intended recipient’s name
* Your message should be polite, brief and concise
* Close your email with your name (first and last name especially if it is not in your email address) and the name of the class you are enrolled in.
* For additional tips on email professors see: <http://mleddy.blogspot.com/2005/01/how-to-e-mail-professor.html>.

FAMU’s Nondiscrimination Policy

Florida A&M University and its Board of Trustees (University) encourage the application and enrollment of all qualified students and are committed to the following non-discrimination policy: “It is the policy of Florida A&M University to assure that each member of the University community be permitted to work or attend classes in an environment free from any form of discrimination including race, religion, color, age, disability, sex, marital status, national origin, veteran status and sexual harassment as prohibited by state and federal statutes. This shall include applicants for admission to the University and employment.”

ADA Compliance

To comply with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), please advise me of accommodations required to ensure participation in this course.  This should be done early in the semester (within the first two weeks of class). Documentation of disability is required and should be submitted to the Learning Development and Evaluation Center (LDEC).  For additional information please contact the LDEC at (850) 599-3180.

Incomplete Grades

An incomplete or grade of “I” is given only in **extreme** circumstances. A student must meet the following criteria to even be considered for a grade of “I”: 1) documented illness, hospitalization, or other circumstance that prevents the student from completing his or her work by the end of the semester; 2) a passing grade in the course at the time the “I” is requested; 3) and approval from the instructor and department chairperson. Please see the FloridaA&M University catalog for additional information. I will not violate this policy. Please do not ask me to.

Seeking assistance

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have difficulty with assignments, quizzes, or understanding the concepts and theories associated with this course. **Should you have questions about the course content, design, and/or recommendations for improvement of the course to ensure the best learning environment possible please stop by to talk with me.**

While I am generally available before and after class unforeseen circumstances and responsibilities (i.e. meetings) may sometimes result in my absence. In those instances, I will do my best to inform you. Please be mindful that in the last weeks of the semester available time decreases. Seek help early and often and you will avoid the crowds.

**Academic Honesty Violations** include, but are not limited to, committing the following:

1. Giving or taking information or material wrongfully to aid yourself or another student in academic work;
2. Plagiarism to include copying work created or published by others, paraphrasing, or using ideas from a source without proper attribution;
3. Looking at or copying another student’s work, or allowing another student to look at or copy your work;
4. Talking or otherwise communicating with another student during quizzes, tests or writing assignments, unless instructed to do so;
5. Removing test materials or attempting to remove them from an examination room or office or elsewhere [to include copiers and printers], stealing, buying, selling, or referring to a copy of an examination before it is administered;
6. Having others edit or rewrite your assignments, except with instructor approval;
7. Using work from other classes without prior approval from the proper instructor;
8. Using copyrighted stories, pictures, graphics, logos and other content without proper permission, including from the Internet, even if these works have been modified by the student;
9. Using electronic devices for plagiarism, cheating, deception or collusion (a secret agreement between two or more persons for a deceitful purpose);
10. Falsifying records or giving misleading information, oral or written;
11. Assisting in any academic honesty violation;
12. Receiving any materials or information from a fellow student or another unauthorized source during examinations;
13. Obtaining, distributing, or referring to a copy of an examination, which the instructor or Department has not authorized to be made available;
14. Any act which impedes the ability of other students to have fair access to materials assigned or suggested by the instructor, i.e. removing or destroying library or other source materials;
15. Tampering with another student’s work;
16. Altering grades or any other records related to the academic performance of students;
17. Submitting false records or information in order to gain admission to the University;
18. Falsifying or inventing information, data, or citations; and/or
19. Any other form of academic cheating, plagiarism, or dishonesty.

Violations of the Academic Honesty Policy can be resolved informally or formally.

*Informal Resolution Process:*

An informal resolution should be made within five (5) business days from written notice to the student; however, students shall be allowed to complete the course and associated assignments, pending the outcome of the informal resolution process.

Procedure:

* 1. The instructor will notify the student(s) of the violation(s) of academic honesty no later than 5 business days after becoming aware of the suspected violation.
	2. The instructor and the student will meet at a convenient time for both parties but no later than 5 business days after notification or drop/add deadline for the next regular semester. The instructor will provide to the student information regarding the alleged violation. The student will be given an opportunity to respond to the allegations within a reasonable time, not to exceed 10 business days from receipt of the allegation. The faculty member must propose a resolution if he/she does not accept the student’s response. The student may either accept the proposed resolution or appeal to the next step. If the student rejects the resolution, the instructor will complete the “Academic Honesty Referral Form” and forward it and all associated documentation, to the dean/director of the college/school/institute.
	3. If a mutual agreement has been met, that agreement is final and binding and may not be appealed.

*Formal Resolution*

The formal resolution process provides the student with an opportunity to have a hearing before a committee of faculty, students, and administrators within the college, school, or institute. This procedure follows the precepts of due process outlined in Regulation 2.013 Due Process, Other Rights, and Responsibilities. Documentation of an academic honesty violation will appear on the student’s official academic record.

1. Appeal to College/School Committee
	1. Within 10 business days of concluding the informal process, the student may initiate the formal resolution process by filing an appeal with the dean/director of the college/school/institute, who shall appoint a committee to hear the student’s appeal.
2. Appeal to Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

The student may appeal the decision of the College/School/Institute Committee to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. The appeal will be referred to the Academic Honesty Council, which is an advisory body to the Provost.

Please see the University website and student handbook, for full explanation and additional details of the Academic Honesty policy.

**Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice**

**Standardized Class Policies**

**Attendance Policy**

Class attendance is mandatory. Except for emergency situations, students should email or call the course professor prior to an expected absence. In the case of an emergency, the email should arrive as soon as possible thereafter. Excused absences require stamped verification from the Chair’s Office. The student must submit to the professor an original copy of the Chair’s letter in order to have an absence excused. All students must adhere to FAMU’s attendance and exam policies which can be found in the FAMU catalog.

**Make up / Missed Work Policy**

Missed assignments and make-up work must be completed and submitted within three days of the original due date. An original copy of the Chair’s letter excusing the absence is to be submitted with the work. If the student has to wait on the Chair’s excuse, the assignment must still be submitted within the three-day time frame with a note attached that the Chair’s letter will follow. Submit the Chair’s letter as soon as you receive it.

**Lateness Policy**

Everyone must be in class on time. Each professor has the right to set time limits on lateness, which can range from 5 to 15 minutes. Lateness could result in not being admitted into the class.

**Exam Policy**

Come prepared with a No. 2 pencil and blank paper, as required. No cell phones, computers, I-Pods, or electronic devices of any sort, are to be used or seen on display during an exam. Students seen using any such device will receive a zero on the exam. Preferably, all electronics should be kept in a safe place at home, purse or backpack, on exam day. If you are 15 to 20 minutes late for an exam you must provide a valid excuse for the lateness and schedule a make-up exam.

**Video/Audio Taping**

Video and/or audio taping of any classroom activities are prohibited without the express written permission of the instructor.

**Cell Phone Policy**

Your cell phone should be turned off or placed on vibrate or mute during every class period. Cell phones are not to be used during class, even for texting. In case of an emergency and where you must take a call or respond to a text, you are to quietly leave the classroom for a limited time and provide a verbal excuse to the professor at the end of the class period.

**Food Policy**

No food is allowed in the classrooms. Drinks, if the lids are sealable, will be allowed if and only if, what comes into the classroom, leaves the classroom or is disposed of into a trashcan. If you spill liquids, clean them up promptly. Please respect your colleagues and FAMU and help us keep a clean and healthy environment.

**Please Remember!**

If you only do the minimum, you hinder yourself by how little you accomplish.

If you are unkempt, unprepared, exhausted and late, you will not compete well.

If it always the fault of others that you are not successful, self-reliance will never come.

If 90% is good enough for you, please understand that it is not good enough for others.

If there are no consequences for inadequacy, there are few rewards for being better.

**All academic honesty violations will result in a grade of F for the course.**

***Note and Disclaimer: This syllabus may be revised, in terms of course content, policies, grading, and other pertinent areas as I deem necessary. Any changes will be announced in advance and may be postedon the course Blackboard page. The syllabus does not cover all eventualities. I am the final arbiter regarding the policies stated.***

1. Source: Florida A&M University General Course Catalog 2006-2008 page 39. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)