

## Introduction to Sociology SSS100.1947

Professor Lynne Turner

### Final Assignment

*The final assignment is due by email to the professor at [lturner@gradcenter.cuny.edu](mailto:lturner@gradcenter.cuny.edu) by Friday, June 5 by 11:59pm. It is worth 30% of the course grade.*

**For your final assignment you may choose to either write a 500 word Op-Ed or create a 4-6 page E-Zine. See further information about the two options below:**

1. **Write an Op-Ed or opinion piece of approximately 500 words** that 1) discusses the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in relation to one of the social problems covered in the course and 2) proposes at least two measures you believe that policymakers should consider to advance greater equity and justice following the pandemic. Review other newspaper opinion pieces or blog posts related to your topic to help guide you in your thinking and writing about the issues. Incorporate a quote from one of the course readings into your discussion to reinforce your argument.

Review the University of Victoria online academic community short guide “Op-Eds: What are they? What do they look like? What is their purpose?” -

<https://onlineacademiccommunity.uvic.ca/writingresources/wp-content/uploads/sites/3360/2018/04/Introduction-to-Op-Ed-Assignments.pdf>.

“An “op-ed,” is a piece of public speech signed by its author, who is typically a contributor to a newspaper. It refers to the page in the newspaper “opposite the editorial page,” which consists of unsigned opinions by newspaper staff. Effective examples of these forms of public speech respond to an event or issue and connect it to broader social, political, and economic problems (usually the ones that have been studied in the given course). An op-ed should offer a clearly outlined and organized argument that reflects a thorough and thoughtful engagement with the issue at hand. For this type of course assignment, the writer must be, or become, well-informed on the issue through a thorough engagement with media coverage. Extensive citations and expansive research are not necessary, but it is necessary to cite the media sources used to develop the op-ed’s argument. The point of this style of writing is to communicate an opinion about a current event to a broad audience. Successful “op-ed” writing is brief, succinct, and direct.”

**OR**

2. **Create an E-Zine of 4-6 pages** designed to 1) raise awareness among community members or workers about one of the social problems covered in the course and to 2) provide ideas about how they can work together to address those issues during COVID-19. Identify a social movement organization already organizing around the issues you are raising. Take a look at the organization’s website, social media posts and other communications. Create your Zine as if it were an outreach and organizing tool for that

organization. Also incorporate a quote from one of the course readings in a substantive way into the content of your Zine.

“According to the Barnard University Zine Library’s website, a zine is short for fanzine or magazine, is a do your own subculture self-publication, usually made on paper and reproduced with a photocopier or printer. Zines are also deeply intertwined with less empowered communities as they share knowledge and experiences not widely disseminated.” Zines can have varied formats and are often a combination of text, graphics, sometimes cartoons and other communication methods.

You may create your Zine as a fully digital E-Zine or you can create it with hardcopy materials that you take photos of and send along.

Further information about Zines and how to create them can be found at these links below

- <https://www.thrillist.com/entertainment/nation/how-to-make-a-zine-quarantine>
- <https://www.mentalfloss.com/article/88911/brief-history-zines>
- <https://libraryguides.nau.edu/c.php?g=589262&p=6214937> (So you have a Zine Assignment, Now What)
- <https://libraryguides.nau.edu/c.php?g=589262&p=5543497> (Zines and Zine-making - hard copy)
- <https://issuu.com/poczineproject>

***Let me know which course topic you will cover and which type of final assignment you choose by Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup>.***

#### **Additional Information:**

**Utilize the LaGuardia Writing Center** - The Writing Center is open for business online. For each time you work with the Writing Center on something for this class, I will ***give you three points towards your final grade***. To receive credit, have the writing center submit a report to me on your behalf. See below in this syllabus for more information. More information about the writing center can be found at <http://www.laguardia.edu/Writing-Center/Home>

**Academic Integrity:** Do Not Plagiarize! I will know that you have done it. LaGuardia’s Academic Integrity Policy is found at [https://library.laguardia.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/academicintegritypolicy\\_LibraryVersion.pdf](https://library.laguardia.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/academicintegritypolicy_LibraryVersion.pdf). Plagiarism is turning in work that is not your own, whether in part or full. Students that submit plagiarized work or commit other acts of academic dishonesty will receive a failing grade and may face more serious penalties. LaGuardia’s Library Media Resources Center provides helpful online guides to what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it. Please look them over.

A review to what constitutes plagiarism and what to cite can be found here

- <https://guides.laguardia.edu/c.php?g=143229&p=936407>

Watch this useful video on how to paraphrase and avoid plagiarism

- <https://guides.laguardia.edu/plagiarism/avoidplagiarism>