Chapter 1: Understand Sociology

- C. Wrights Mills sociological imagination
  - Ability to see the relationship between events in your life and events in your society
  - Ex. Why do some people in the US not have paid jobs?
    - Indivual vs. society

- Sociology: scientific study of social behavior and human groups
  - Social relationship
  - Relationship influence behavior
  - Societies develop and change

- Structuration: two-way process by which we shape out social world and by which we are shaped by society
  - Relationship between you and society and society vs. you
    - Society affects you
    - You affect society

- Levels of analysis
  - MACRO
    - Study large social structures without referring to the interaction of individuals involved
    - Studying something big and keeping it big
    - Ex. Economy, education system, health care system
  - Micro
    - Study interactions between individual
    - Ex. How individual greet one another in different cultures

- Skills
  - What can sociology teach you
    - Critical thinking
    - Data analysis
    - Sensitivity to diversity
    - Subfields (family sociology, medical sociology, criminology, etc.)

- European origins of sociology
  - Comte
    - Founder of sociology
    - Social statics = stability and order
    - Social dynamics = social change
  - Martineau
    - Feminist theory