

SOC101: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

Course Overview: This course is an introduction to the study of social groups and social relationships. The course analyzes basic sociological concepts to acquaint the student with the fundamental laws governing human relationships. Problems of social structure, social processes, and social motivations will be considered. 13 credits

Grading:

Discussions, journals & Written assignments	45%
Essay exams (2)	30%
Final project	25%

Attendance:

Attendance is recorded for each discussion or assignment that is submitted. Students are encouraged to log on about 4 times per week and dedicate about 6 hours each week to their coursework.

Assignments:

Final project: The project worked on in weeks 9-15 will include:

- 5-6 minute virtual presentation shared with the instructor and peers
- 1-2 page summary and bibliography of at least five credible sources

Discussions: A discussion question is posted almost every week. Students are expected to be an active participant in class discussions by adding substantive content to the discussions and replying to posts by others.

Journals: Students should post a weekly journal entry to respond to a posted question from the readings. Journal entries are only read by the instructor.

Observation report: Students will choose a location to observe and analyze human interaction from a sociological perspective. Students will submit a 2 page paper to summarize the observation.

Essay exams: Students will submit a 2 page paper to answer the posted question.



15 week course
Not self-paced;
assignments
Have weekly
deadlines.



Students can access
their course any time,
from any location.
A laptop or desktop is
recommended.



Students will set up a
university email & use
this while in the
course.
Orientation will be
required prior to the
start of the course.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Topic and Key Question	Assignments
1	Chapter 1: Sociology and the sociological perspective How can the sociological imagination make us look at the world in new ways?	Discussion and/or journal
2	Chapter 2: Culture and Society How does culture shape human relationships?	Discussion and/or journal
3	Chapter 3: Socialization and social interaction How do your interactions with other people shape who you become	Discussion and/or journal
4	Chapter 4: Groups and organizations How do groups shape what we think and do?	Discussion and/or journal
5	Chapter 5: Deviance, crime and social control Why do we follow rules? Why we break them?	Discussion and/or journal Observation report (2pgs)
6	Chapter 6: Social stratification: why are some rich and others poor?	Discussion and/or journal
7	Chapter 7: Race and Ethnicity How do race and ethnicity shape a person's changes in life?	Discussion and/or journal Essay exam (2pgs)
8	Chapter 8: Gender and gender inequality What does it mean to be male or female?	Discussion and/or journal Submit project topic
9	Chapter 9: Aging and the elderly How well is our society dealing with growing old?	Discussion and/or journal Research for project
10	Chapter 10: Politics and the economy Does our government and economic system foster the society we want?	Discussion and/or journal Research for project
11	Chapter 11: The family How does the role of families change over time? How do families stay the same?	Discussion and/or journal Research for project
12	Chapter 12: Education and religion How well do schools and churches serve our society?	Discussion and/or journal Tech sample virtual presentation
13	Chapter 13: Health and medicine When is health a social problem?	Discussion and/or journal Virtual presentation due
14	Chapter 14: Social change Population, urbanization and social movements: what power do we have to shape social change?	Journal Project bibliography & reflection due
15	Chapter 15: Understanding and changing the social world How can sociology help you be a better social actor?	Journal Essay exam

This is a sample course schedule and the actual course layout could change each term.