

Shanghai University of Finance & Economics

2020 Summer Program

SOC 111 Introduction to Sociology

Course Outline

Term: June 1 - June 26, 2020

Class Hours: 10:00-11:50 (Monday through Friday)

Course Code: SOC 111

Instructor: Dr. Sampson Lee Blair

Home Institution: The State University of New York

Office Hours: Monday and Tuesday (8:30-10:00), and by appointment

Email: slblair@buffalo.edu

Credit: 4

Class Hours: This course will have 52 class hours, including 32 lecture hours, professor 8 office hours, 8-hour TA discussion sessions, 4-hour review sessions.

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the nature and characteristics of human societies and social life. We will examine basic sociological concepts, principles, research methods, and theory. Topics in this course include, but are not limited to, the following: origins of sociology, sociological theory and methods, social institutions, inequality, sexism, racism, family, stratification, and population studies. Given that this is an introductory course to the science of sociology, no previous knowledge of sociology on the part of the student is assumed. The material presented in this course is meant to provide an overview of the field of sociology, as well as an understanding of the sociological perspective of society.



Course Objectives:

A student who satisfactorily completes this course should:

- 1. Demonstrate knowledge of the major theoretical paradigms in sociology
- 2. Comprehend the basic concepts used by sociologists
- 3. Demonstrate the ability to interpret and critique empirical research
- 4. Understand basic social processes
- 5. Understand how social institutions function

Required Textbooks:

Henslin, James M. Essentials of Sociology: A Down-to-Earth Approach (13th edition). 2019. Pearson

Grading & Evaluation:

SUFE awards grades of A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, D, and F. Most colleges and universities do not award transfer credit for grades of D or F. Grading will be based on the following:

30% Midterm exam (each)

30% Final exam

10% Classroom engagement (attendance, attention, participation in discussions)

Students are expected:

- Attend all classes and be responsible for all material covered in class and otherwise assigned.
- Any unexcused absence may impact a student's grade.
- Complete the day's required reading and assignments before class.
- Review the previous day's notes before class; make notes about questions you have about the previous class or the day's reading
- Refrain from texting, phoning or engaging in computer activities unrelated to the course during class (不要用手机)
- Participate in class discussions

Course Schedule

The planned schedule sketched out below may be modified to suit the interests or abilities of the enrolled students or to take advantage of special opportunities or events that may arise during the term.

WEEK ONE (June 1 – June 5):

Mon: The Sociological Perspective Read Chapter 1

Tues: Research Methods Read Chapter 1

Wed: Culture Read Chapter 2



Thurs: Culture/Video Read Chapter 2

Fri: Society and Social Groups Read Chapters 4 and 5

WEEK TWO (June 8 – June 12):

Mon: First Midterm Exam

Tues: Socialization Read Chapter 3

Wed: Socialization/Video Read Chapter 3

Thurs: Deviance Read Chapter 6

Fri: Deviance/Video Read Chapter 6

WEEK THREE (June 15 – June 19):

Mon: Social Stratification Read Chapters 7 and 8

Tues: Race and Ethnicity Read Chapter 9

Wed: Second Midterm Exam
Thurs: Gender Read Chapter 10

Fri: Gender/Video Read Chapter 10

WEEK FOUR (June 22 – June 26):

Mon: Economy and Politics Read Chapter 11

Tues: Family Read Chapter 12

Wed: Education Read Chapter 13

Thurs: Demography Read Chapter 14

Fri: Final Exam