

California State University, Sacramento

2021 Summer Program

SOC 111 Introduction to Sociology

Course Outline

Course Code: SOC 111

Class Hours: ONLINE

Instructor: D. Bruce Carter, Ph.D.

Home Institution: Syracuse University

Office Hours: TBA and by appointment

Email: dbcarter@syr.edu

Credit: 3

Required Textbook

Newman, D. M. (2018). **Exploring the Architecture of Everyday Life, Brief Edition.** (6th Edition). Thousand Oaks, CA USA: Sage Publication. (eText ISBN: 9781544325774, 1544325770) **(Available as a Kindle E-Book)**

Course Description

This course will introduce you to the discipline of sociology. Sociology, and this class, how society functions and is organized and how society impacts and influences individual motivation, understanding, action, and well-being. Students are introduced to research methods and key issues including class, race, gender, sexuality, religion, globalization, education, health care, crime, the media, and the environment. Basic sociological ideas regarding social relations, social interaction, social structure, and social change are examined. The knowledge gained in this course will aid you in future studies within a variety of fields and careers, and it will encourage the development of critical thinking about important and timely issues.

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Identify how the sociological perspective illuminates understanding.
2. Discuss specific areas of study and methods used within sociology.
3. Critically examine theoretical perspectives and be able to apply them to current issues.
4. Appreciate how political, economic, and cultural forces constitute social life;
5. Understand the ways in which social institutions are interdependent and organize the components of social structure; and evaluate ideas and debates using the sociological perspective

GRADING SYSTEM:

A 4.0
A- 3.7
B+ 3.3
B 3.0
B- 2.7
C+ 2.3
C 2.0
C- 1.7
D+ 1.3
D 1.0
D- 0.7
F 0.0

1. **Quizzes**- I will administer a quiz at the end of each unit. These quizzes will be a way to check your learning of the material in the text and lecture. Each quiz will cover the material covered in class and in readings that week. Each quiz is worth 20% of your grade in the course. Exams will be administered online.
2. **Video Response**- Each week you will be shown a video as one of your lectures. The video will present information that is part of what is being discussed in class that week. The Videos are labelled "Video 1," "Video 2," etc. in the schedule. Your task is to write a one page typed, double-spaced response to the video. You may express agreement or disagreement with one or more of the points the speaker made in the video. OR you can relate the material in the video to something that is happening currently in the world or in your society today. OR you can present your own ideas about the topic discussed in the video. You may watch the video any time during the week the topic is discussed but you must send your response during that week (that is, by the Saturday EDST at the end of the week) to me attached to an email message. My email address is dbcarter@syr.edu . I will grade your response on a 0 (no response) to 10 (excellent response) scale.
3. **Attendance**- This course is online so there is no in-person attendance.

CLASS POLICIES

Academic Honesty: The University and the faculty are committed to academic integrity in all its practices. Activities that violate academic integrity undermine the quality and diminish the value of educational achievement and are treated seriously. Cheating on papers, tests or other academic

works is a violation of College rules. No student shall engage in behavior that, in the judgment of the instructor of the class, may be construed as cheating. This may include, but is not limited to, plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty such as acquisition without permission of tests or other academic materials and/or distribution of these materials and other academic work. Students who aid and abet as well as those who attempt such behavior will be treated similarly.

Attendance Policy: Because this course is online, there is no attendance policy. However, you are expected to listen to the online lectures, participate in the online discussions, and complete all assignments.

Missed/Late Assignments: Assignments are due on the date listed. Without prior approval from the instructor, no late assignments will be accepted.

Time Zone: The official time zone for this course is **EASTERN DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME** (New York, NY time). Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) is 4 hours ahead of EDST; China Standard Time is 12 hours ahead of EDST. So 09:00 EDST is 21:00 China Standard Time the same day; 21:00 EDST is 09:00 the following day (Thursday night in New York is Friday morning in Taipei and Beijing). So, if an assignment is due by 10 PM (22:00) EDST then it is due by 10:00 in Beijing/Taipei.

Reading Assignments & Lecture Schedule* (NOTE: Each chapter or topic may have more than 2 lectures associated with it) View ALL lectures in order

Course Schedule

Unit 1: The Individual, Self & Society (Chapters 1-3)

- 1 Course Overview; What is Sociology?
- 2 Taking a new look at a familiar world (Chapter 1)
- 4 Seeing & thinking sociologically (Chapter 2)
- 5 Groups & Society
- 6 Building Reality- The Social Construction of Knowledge
- 7 Sociological Research Methods
- 8 Unit 1 Quiz

Unit 2: Identity and Social Relationships (Chapters 4-6)

- 9 Building Order- Culture and History (Chapter 4)
- 10 Building Identity- Socialization (Chapter 5)
- 11 The processes of socialization
- 12 Changing Self Presentations (Chapter 6)
- 13 Video 2: Race, identity, and the US Education system- Separate but Unequal
- 14 Unit 2 Quiz

Unit 3: Construction of Difference and Deviance (Chapter 7-10)

- 15 Building Social Relationships: Intimacy & Families (Chapter 7)
- 16 Divorce & other changes to the Family
- 17 Constructing difference: Social deviance (Chapter 8)
- 18 Structure of Society- Organizations, social institutions, & Globalization (Chapter 9)
- 19 Stratification, social class and inequality (Chapter 10)
- 20 Class and inequality: Why do they persist
- 21 Video 3: Policing the Police
- 22 Unit 3 Quiz

Unit 4: Inequality and inequity (Chapters 11-14)

- 23 The Architecture of inequality- Race & ethnicity (Chapter 11)
- 24 Architecture of inequality- Sex & gender (Chapter 12)
- 25 Demographic dynamics: Population trends (Chapter 13)
- 26 Demographic dynamics: Population changes (Chapter 13)
- 27 Architects of Change: Reconstructing Society (Chapter 14)
- 28 Designing and implementing change (Chapter 14)
- 29 Video 4: White Like Me
- 30 Unit 4 Quiz