

SOCI 1301.2A1 SOCI 1301.2C1 SOCI 1301.924

Spring 2024 Regular Semester

Introduction to Sociology (SOCI 1301) Online



INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Jana Tiefenwerth, M.S.

Email: JTiefenwerth@lit.edu (Usually responds within the hour.)

Department Phone: 409.880.8191

Office Location: Online Virtual Office Only

Virtual Office Hours: Phone Conferences Weekdays 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. by Appointment

CREDIT

3 Semester Credit Hours (3 hours lecture, 0 hours lab)

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

100% Online

PREREQUISITE/CO-REQUISITE:

Check with your advisor.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The scientific study of human society, including ways in which groups, social institutions, and individuals affect each other. Causes of social stability and social change are explored through the application of various theoretical perspectives, key concepts, and related research methods of sociology. Analysis of social issues in their institutional context may include topics such as social stratification, gender, race/ethnicity, and deviance. *This course is time-bound, structured, and completed totally online.*

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Compare and contrast the basic theoretical perspectives of sociology.
2. Identify the various methodological approaches to the collection and analysis of data in sociology.
3. Describe key concepts in sociology.
4. Describe the empirical findings of various subfields of sociology.
5. Explain the complex links between individual experiences and broader institutional forces.

Required Free Textbook

<https://openstax.org/books/introduction-sociology-3e/pages/1-introduction>

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are expected to participate in the course at a minimum three times a week by completing weekly assignments and reading/viewing all posted resources and textbook reading assignments by the listed due dates. Due dates are within the Course Schedule.

DROP POLICY

If you wish to drop a course, you are responsible for initiating and completing the drop process by the specified drop date as listed on the [Academic Calendar](#). If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an “F” in the course.

STUDENT EXPECTED TIME REQUIREMENT

For every hour in class (or unit of credit), students should expect to spend at least two to three hours per week studying and completing assignments. For a 3-credit-hour class, students should prepare to allocate approximately six to nine hours per week outside of class in a 16-week session OR approximately twelve to eighteen hours in an 8-week session. Online/Hybrid students should expect to spend at least as much time in this course as in the traditional, face-to-face class.

COURSE CALENDAR/SCHEDULE

SOCI 1301.2A1 or SOCI 1301.2C1 or SOCI 1301.924

Spring 2024 Regular Semester- 100% Online

Course Starts 1/16/24 Course Ends 5/2/24

DB=Discussion Board Q=Quiz

IMPORTANT: READ ALL ASSIGNED TEXTBOOK CHAPTERS LISTED IN EACH UNIT AND VIEW ALL POSTED RESOURCES IN EACH UNIT. For your convenience, there is a to-do list within each unit.

When one-unit closes, the next two units open. Since you should work ahead, no late work will be accepted. Plenty of time is allocated for each assignment. Students should not wait until the due date to attempt to complete assignments since something may happen to prevent timely submissions.

Due Dates are listed below:

Jan. 16, 2024 – Read ALL posted instructions on day one. This is **critical** for your success. Begin Unit 1.

Jan. 21st – Unit 1 What's Due? : **Q1 & Meet & Greet** on discussion board.

Jan. 28th – Unit 2 What's Due? : **Q2; DB1: What is Sociology? and two replies.**

Feb 4th – Unit 3 What's Due? : **Q3; DB2: Sociological Imagination/Ethics/Culture and two replies.**

Feb 11th – Unit 4 What's Due? : **Q4**

Feb. 18th – Unit 5 What's Due? : **Q5** [Begin planning your Sociology Project.]

Feb. 25th – Unit 6 What's Due? : **Q6**

March 3rd – Unit 7 What's Due? : **Q7; DB3: Social Interaction/Groups/Crime and two replies.**

March 10th – Unit 8 What's Due? : **Q8**

SPRING BREAK

March 24 – Unit 9 What's Due? : **Q9** [Continue working on your Sociology Project.]

March 31 – Unit 10 What's Due? : **Q10**

April 7 – Unit 11 What's Due? : **Q11; DB4: Race/Gender & Sexuality/Aging and two replies.**

April 14 – Unit 12 What's Due? : **Q12**

April 21 – Unit 13 What's Due? : **Q13; & SOCIOLOGY PROJECT** and two replies.

April 28th – Unit 14 What's Due? : **Q14**

May 2nd – What's Due? : **Comprehensive Final Exam**

Grades due to registrar by May 9th, noon.

Last day to drop with penalty is 4/2/24.

COURSE EVALUATION

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

- i. **[14 Quizzes]** (100 points each); There will be 20 MC/TF questions on each timed exam worth 5 points each. Some exam questions relate to the textbook reading, and relate to the posted resources (videos, files, etc.). Quizzes are open-book and do not have a time limit.
- ii. **[4 Discussion Board Mini-Papers]** (100 points each); All discussion board mini papers (your original discussion that addresses the topics which includes two substantive replies to other students' posts), are worth 100 points each. Each reply (2 required) to other

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students is worth ten points each. The point of the discussion board is to continue ongoing discussion of the topics.

- iii. **[Sociology Project]** 100 points. There are two parts for the project: Part 1 includes 3 hours of community service, and Part 2 includes a PowerPoint presentation about that experience. Slides 3- 6 will require academic writing aspects that answer specific questions.
- iv. **[FINAL COMPREHENSIVE EXAM]** is worth 100 points. It will consist of 50 MC/TF questions. Many questions on the final exam will be similar to those seen on the unit quizzes. There will be a two-hour time limit.

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| These grades will be combined and are weighted as listed below: |
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1. **Fourteen Quizzes** [100 points each] Counts **28%** of the final course grade.

Each quiz counts 2% of the final course grade.

2. **Comprehensive Final Exam** [100 points] Counts **12%** of final course grade.

NOTE: The quizzes/exams combined count **40%** of your final grade.

3. **Four Discussions** [100 points each] Counts **40%** of the final course grade.

Each discussion and required replies count 10% of your final grade.

4. **SOCIOLOGY PROJECT** [100 points] Counts **20%** of the final course grade.

There are two parts to this Sociology Project, 3 hours of community service and a PowerPoint Presentation that will include online research and academic writing.

These 4 types of learning opportunities combined = **100%** of the Final Course Grade.

GRADE SCALE

- 90-100 A
- 80-89 B
- 70-79 C
- 60-69 D
- 0-59 F

LIT does not use +/- grading scales

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Students found to be committing academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, or collusion) may receive disciplinary action. Students need to familiarize themselves with the institution's

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Academic Dishonesty Policy available in the Student Catalog & Handbook at <http://catalog.lit.edu/content.php?catoid=3&navoid=80#academic-dishonesty>.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

The latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, etc. can be online at <https://lit.edu/online-learning/online-learning-minimum-computer-requirements>. A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of online technology and resources.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. LIT provides reasonable accommodations as defined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, to students with a diagnosed disability. The Special Populations Office is located in the Eagles' Nest Room 129 and helps foster a supportive and inclusive educational environment by maintaining partnerships with faculty and staff, as well as promoting awareness among all members of the Lamar Institute of Technology community. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409)-951-5708 or email specialpopulations@lit.edu. You may also visit the online resource at [Special Populations - Lamar Institute of Technology \(lit.edu\)](#).

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT

It is the responsibility of all registered Lamar Institute of Technology students to access, read, understand, and abide by all published policies, regulations, and procedures listed in the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook*. The *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* may be accessed at www.lit.edu. Please note that the online version of the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* supersedes all other versions of the same document.

STARFISH

LIT utilizes an early alert system called Starfish. Throughout the semester, you may receive emails from Starfish regarding your course grades, attendance, or academic performance. Faculty members record student attendance, raise flags and kudos to express concern or give praise, and you can make an appointment with faculty and staff all through the Starfish home page. You can also login to Blackboard or MyLIT and click on the Starfish link to view academic alerts and detailed information. It is the responsibility of the student to pay attention to these emails and information in Starfish and consider taking the recommended actions. Starfish is used to help you be a successful student at LIT.

ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES/INFORMATION

Course Requirements: • This course is 100% online. No quiz or exam will be proctored. • Students are required to have the necessary computer equipment, software, Internet access,

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and supplies to complete all assignments. • It is the student's responsibility to make sure that assignments are submitted properly by the listed due date, Central Standard Time. • Read the Syllabus carefully. • Review all instructions carefully. • Students are expected to log on daily to check for any posted announcements and check for e-mails, and twice weekly to submit assignments and continue discussions on the discussion board in the assigned weeks. If you are not receiving posted announcements in your LIT email, please contact the instructor. • Students need Microsoft PowerPoint software.

Grading Procedure:

How quickly are assignments graded in this class?

Usually, assignments are graded within three class days. Sometimes it takes longer.

LIT now recognizes "D" as a passing grade.

Grades of INCOMPLETE are rarely allowed and only under the most unusual circumstances. Incomplete grades will involve alternate research papers in APA format within a strict time frame and alternate timed exams that may be proctored.

Additional Instructions:

Students must plan their sociology project early in the semester and complete it well before the due date. The project [PowerPoint, Paper, and two replies to other students' PowerPoints must be submitted in the unit where it is due.

DISCUSSIONS: Students may work ahead on discussions to have them ready to copy and paste onto the discussion board during the week due.

Each Discussion and your two replies Count 10% of your overall grade.

Topics for discussions are listed on the Discussion Board. Each discussion will address three topics. **These topics DO NOT need to be tied together.** They are separate topics that will be discussed in one paper.

Additionally, only **one reference list should be provided at the bottom of the post.** Students should reference the textbook and posted resources within their discussions. When referencing the textbook, after the referenced sentence put (SOC2e, Section #.#). When referencing the posted resources, put (Name of Resource, Unit #). Include a reference list at the bottom of the discussion. The Free Textbook in the **Reference List at the bottom of your discussion** can simply be listed as: OpenStax, Intro to SOC, 3rd edition. NOTE: This is not perfect APA formatting, but the instructor is more concerned that you give credit to your sources.

If at any time during the semester a student finds that course content is not visible on the student's end, please contact the instructor immediately through e-mail. Sometimes a link may be broken, or a module may have been closed inadvertently, so please feel free to contact the instructor if a problem such as this arises.

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Students should read ALL posted instructions before emailing the instructor with a question about instructions for assignments.

If a student should stop participating in this online course, or does not ever participate in the course, he or she may receive a failing grade on his or her transcript. **It is the student's responsibility to contact the GEDS department to officially drop the course by the final drop date listed in the Academic Calendar.**

No extra credit will be offered. This is the recommended policy at LIT.

NO LATE WORK will be accepted. Students are allowed to work ahead with ample time provided. Students should not wait until the last minute to attempt to complete assignments since something may happen to prevent timely submissions.

Students must alert the professor to any discrepancy in their list of grades prior to the final exam.

This document is subject to change at the instructor's discretion.