

Introduction to Sociology (SOCI 1301 3E1)

CREDIT

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

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Face to Face

PREREQUISITE/CO-REQUISITE:

None

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.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

1. Explain what sociology is, how it developed, and how it differs from other social sciences.
2. Compare and contrast sociological perspectives as they relate to our social world.
3. Identify various research methods and explain why sociological research is important in our everyday lives.
4. Describe key concepts in sociology and early contributors to the field.
5. Explain how using our sociological imagination helps us to understand society.

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: **Dennis White**

Email: **dwhite@lit.edu**

Office Phone: **409-247-5277**

Office Location: Technology Center Building Room 214

Office Hours: **By Appointment**

MONDAY: 8:00 am – 12:00 pm; 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm

TUESDAY: 10:00 am – 10:30 am

WEDNESDAY: 9:00 am – 11:00 am

THURSDAY: 10:00 am – 10:30 am

FRIDAY: 9:00 am – 10:00 am

RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS

- Textbook: SOCI - Introduction to Sociology by Benokraitis, N. V., 6th edition, Cengage, 2019 ISBN number is 978-1-337-40521-8

Approved: August 2024



**LAMAR INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY**

- Note: Bring Pens/Pencils and writing and Note Taking Materials to Each Class. Study All Handouts supplied in the course. Make Use of Study Guides
- Access to media/video files Blackboard, Computer Access, etc. for submitting all assignments
- Access to PowerPoint – Chapter Power Points via Blackboard
- Internet access and appropriate computer for Course EXAMS 1 and 2 and Final Exam.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Participation is assessed through exercises completed in class. Activities may consist of class assignments, group activities and individual analysis of information from various sources including the text. However, six unexcused absences will result in a 50% grade reduction in the Participation/Attendance Grade

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.

COURSE CALENDAR

Below schedule subject to change.

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS (Due on this Date)	ASSIGNMENTS (Due on this Date)
Week 1	Course introduction and policies Thinking Like a Sociologist	Orientation <i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 1 September 20, 2024	September 20, 2024
Week 2	Examining Our Social World	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 1/2 September 20, 2024	September 20, 2024
Week 3	Culture	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 3 September 20, 2024	September 20, 2024
Week 4	Socialization	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 4 September 20, 2024	September 20, 2024
Week 5	Social Interaction in Everyday Life	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 5 October 18, 2024	October 18, 2024
Week 6	Groups, Organizations, and Institutions	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 6 October 18, 2024	October 18, 2024
Week 7	Deviance, Crime and Social Control	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 7 October 18, 2024	October 18, 2024
Week 8	Social Stratification in the United States	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 8 October 18, 2024	October 18, 2024
Week 9	Gender and Sexuality	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 9 November 15, 2024	November 15, 2024
Week 10	Race and Ethnicity	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 10 November 15, 2024	November 15, 2024
Week 11	The Economy and Politics	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 11 November 15, 2024	November 15, 2024
Week 12	Families and Aging	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 12 November 15, 2024	November 15, 2024
Week 13	Education and Religion	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 13 December 3, 2024	December 3, 2024
Week 14	Health and Medicine COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT DUE	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 14 December 3, 2024	December 3, 2024

Week 15	Population, Urbanization, and the Environment	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 15 December 3, 2024	December 3, 2024
Week 16	Social Change, Collective Behavior, Social Movements, and Technology	<i>Textbook:</i> Chapter 16 December 3, 2024	December 3, 2024
Final Exam			December 10, 2024

COURSE EVALUATION

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

- Papers/Exams - 53 %
 - Research Document, Critical Thinking Analysis, Exams 1, 2, Final
- Common Assignment – Community Service Project – 20%
- Assignments/Discussions – 27 %

GRADE SCALE

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

LIT does not use +/- grading scales

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.

AI STATEMENT

Lamar Institute of Technology (LIT) recognizes the recent advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI), such as ChatGPT, have changed the landscape of many career disciplines and will impact many students in and out of the classroom. To prepare students for their selected careers, LIT desires to guide students in the ethical use of these technologies and incorporate AI into the classroom instruction and assignments appropriately. Appropriate use of these technologies is at the discretion of the instructor. Students are reminded that all submitted work must be their own original work unless otherwise specified. Students should contact their instructor with any questions as to the acceptable use of AI/ChatGPT in their courses.

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

- EXAMS – Tests will cover various theoretical perspectives, key concepts, and related research methods of sociology. Exams will be administered on BLACKBOARD. There will be two exams and the Final Exam.
- ASSIGNMENTS – All Assignments must be submitted on BLACKBOARD.
- RESEARCH PAPER – Each student will conduct research on a specified topic relative to sociology. The student will work to produce a research paper and presentation using the research model and methods discussed in class. ALL written work must be submitted on BLACKBOARD.
- Critical Thinking Assignment – Students will utilize their critical thinking skills to discuss issues currently trending in the field of Sociology and complete one (1) typed document that must be submitted on BLACKBOARD.
- Community Service Project – Students will complete 10 hours of volunteer service working with social and civic organizations in a local community. (Alternative Project). The student must provide official confirmation from the social or civic organization at which volunteer service was conducted, to include the date(s), hours of service, and the type of service provided.
- Participation/Attendance – Participation is assessed through exercises completed in class. Activities may consist of class assignments, group activities and individual analysis of information from various sources including the text. However, six unexcused absences will result in a 50% grade reduction in the Participation/Attendance Grade.
- Students should log in to BLACKBOARD a minimum of three times a week to view announcements, to view exam dates for availability and due dates for exam completion, check e-mail, etc.
- The Course Calendar is subject to change without prior notice.