

Introductory Sociology (SOCI 1301) Online



Credit: 3 semester credit hours (3 hours lecture)

Prerequisite/Co-requisite: Complete the Online Orientation and answer yes to 7+ questions on the Online Learner Self-Assessment:
<http://www.lit.edu/depts/DistanceEd/OnlineOrientation/OOStep2.aspx>.

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.

Required Textbook and Materials

1. Sociology: A Down to Earth Approach (Core Concepts) by James M. Henslin, 6th edition, Allyn & Bacon Publisher, 2015
 - a. ISBN number is 978-0-205-99984-2
2. A package of #882 Scantrons and #2 pencils.
3. Access to media/video files via YouTube, Netflix, Hulu, etc.

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.

Core Objectives

1. Critical Thinking: To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
2. Communication: To include the effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
3. Empirical & Quantitative (optional): To include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.
4. Social Responsibility: To include the intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

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Course Syllabus

Course Outline

- I. Welcome to Sociology
 - a. Overview of Materials
 - b. Definitions and objectives
 - c. Discussion of Term Projects
 - i. Participant Observation or Community Resource Interview
 1. Participant Observation (one of 6 research methods in sociology); sociologist is both a participant and observer in the study
 2. Community Resource Review, another research method, in which the sociologist interviews a respondent about an unusual or deviant lifestyle
 - ii. Community Service Project. Student volunteers in community service organization (16 hrs.); or student may work in special events for community-based group, such as “walk-a-thons,” races, food, clothing, toys for needy in area
- II. Learning the Basics in Sociology
 - a. The Sociological Perspective or Imagination
 - i. The Sociological Perspective – how it affects students’ view of world
 - ii. Origins of Sociology – where discipline started; classical sociologists
 1. Culture – Material and Nonmaterial
 2. Socialization – The process of learning to be human
 3. Social Structure and Social Interactions – Groups in Society
 4. Societies to Social Networks – Organization & Communication
- III. Social Groups and Social Problems in Society
 - a. Deviance and Social Control
 - i. Location of Sex Offenders by Internet Search
 - b. Social Stratification – Rankings of Property, Power and Prestige
 - c. Sex and Gender – Inequality and Bias Regarding Males and Females (Sexism)
 - d. Race and Ethnicity – Recognizing Racism in Society
 - e. Marriage and Family – A Powerful Social Institution
- IV. A Summary of Sociology – Its Core Concepts
 - a. Core Concepts include the following:
 - i. The Sociological Perspective or Imagination – a new view of the world
 - ii. Culture – material and nonmaterial elements of society
 - iii. Socialization – the process of learning to become human
 - iv. Social Structure and Social Interaction – getting along in diverse groups
 - v. Societies to Social Networks – most primitive to most advanced societies
 - vi. Deviance and Social Control – how to control non-conformity
 - vii. Social Stratification – layers of people divided by property, prestige, power
 - viii. Sex and Gender – sexist attitudes pervading society
 - ix. Race and Ethnicity – prejudice and discrimination in diverse society
 - x. Marriage and Family – defining the modern family

Grade Scale

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

Course Evaluation

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

1. Tests	50%
2. Research Paper	15%
3. Critical Thinking Analysis	15%
4. Common Assignment	15%
5. Participation/Attendance	5%

Course Policies

1. You must log onto Blackboard and access this course a minimum of three times per week.
2. Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated.
3. If you wish to drop a course, the student is responsible for initiating and dropping the course. If you stop logging-in to the course and do not complete the course drop process, then you will receive an “F” grade for the course
4. Internet Usage – Students are expected to use proper net etiquette while participating in course emails, assignment submissions, and online discussions.
5. No late work. In the case of a documentable emergency beyond the student’s control, make-up work may be accepted solely at the instructor’s discretion.
6. Additional class policies as defined by the individual course instructor.

Technical Requirements (for courses using Blackboard)

The latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, software, Java, etc. can be found online at: https://help.blackboard.com/en-us/Learn/9.1_2014_04/Student/015_Browser_Support/015_Browser_Support_Policy A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of the online technology and resources.

Disabilities Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. Among other things, these statutes require that all students with documented

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disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodations for their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409) 880-1737 or visit the online resource:

<http://www.lit.edu/depts/stuserv/special/defaults.aspx>

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 or obtained in print upon request at the Student Services Office.