

Course Code: SOC 101 (IAI S7 900)**Course Title:** Introduction to Sociology**Department:** Arts, Media, and Social Sciences**Effective Date:** Summer 2026**PCS Code:** 1.1 - Baccalaureate/Transfer**CIP Code:** 45.1101**Repeatability:** 0

Credit Hours

Catalog Notation: 3-0-3**Credit Hour Distribution:**

Lecture: 3

Lab: 0

Clinical: 0

Total: 3

General Course Information

Catalog Description

Principles and concepts of general sociology: general education course in the social sciences; introductory course for the prospective sociology major. Application of scientific methods in study of social phenomena.

General Course Objectives

To provide the student with a systematic overview of contemporary sociological theory, a brief introduction to social scientific research methods, and a survey of current sociological knowledge.

Minimum Placement Levels

English	Reading	Math
Placement out of ENG 099	None	None

Prerequisites

None

Methods of Evaluation

Methods of evaluation will include 2-4 exams, 6-8 quizzes, 1-3 short response papers (two pages each in length), and 5-7 applied exercises (one to two pages each.)

Instructional Materials and Additional Supplies

A Sociological Worldview, by E. Reynolds. ISBN 9781793534491

A Sociology Reader, by E. Reynolds. ISBN 9798823336932

Course Content

General Learning Outcomes (GLOs)

- Critical Thinking and Information Literacy: Students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate perspectives, evidence, and implications, and to locate, assess, and use information effectively.

Course Segments and Student Learning Outcomes

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Theoretical Orientation and Sociological Imagination	1. Describe the social and historical forces that led to the development of sociology. 2. Describe key ideas of six early and important theorists (Comte, Marx, Durkheim, Weber, DuBois, and Adams). 3. Explain the sociological imagination and its significance to understanding human social behavior. 4. Describe the focus of four major sociological theoretical perspectives (functionalist, conflict, interactionist, feminist) and define their key assumptions and concepts. Explain how the functionalist, conflict, interactionist, and feminist perspectives would examine particular social phenomena/human behavior.	6	0	0
Sociology as a Science and the Research Process	1. Define science and explain how sociology is a science. 2. Define research, describe major research methods, and list the steps in the research process. 3. Differentiate between quantitative and qualitative research.	2	0	0
Culture and Society	1. Define culture and explain its impact on human behavior. 2. Define and provide examples of cultural universals and particulars. 3. Define material and nonmaterial culture and list, define, and illustrate key types of nonmaterial culture (values, beliefs, norms, symbols, and social structure). 4. Define and explain cultural diversity, ethnocentrism, cultural relativism, and culture shock. 5. Explain how sociologists use interactionism, functionalism, conflict theory, and the feminist perspective to analyze culture.	6	0	0
Socialization and Deviance	1. Define socialization, resocialization, and internalization. 2. Explain how socialization is an interactive process that prepares people to live with others in a society. 3. Describe key socialization processes (role-taking/significant symbols, looking glass self, cognitive development) by which children acquire a sense of self. 4. Define and explain how primary and secondary agents of socialization shape behavior, thinking, and social identities. 5. Define deviance and explain how almost any behavior or appearance can be defined as deviant or not, depending on context. 6. Explain the mechanisms groups use to elicit conformity and punish deviance. 7. Explain how labeling theory, stigma, differential association, and structural strain theory are used to explain deviant behavior and define who is deviant and how.	5	0	0

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Social Structure, Social Groups, and Social Interaction	1. Define social structure, including social institutions, social groups, social status, status set, and social role. 2. Describe the three levels of social structure (macro, meso, micro) used by sociologists to examine human behavior. 3. Explain how social institutions are structured to function in a way that meets human needs. 4. Describe key features of primary groups and secondary groups and discuss how group size can affect social dynamics. 5. Define and provide examples of role expectations, role performance, role conflict, and role strain. 6. Compare social structure and human agency and explain how social structures constrain human behavior and how human agency can change social structures. 7. Define formal organizations, types of formal organizations (normative, coercive, utilitarian), and bureaucracies; and list the characteristics of a bureaucracy. 8. Define rationalization and McDonaldization and explain how each shapes the social structures of organizations. 9. Explain how sociologists use interactionism, functionalism, conflict theory, and the feminist perspective to analyze social structure and interaction. 10. Define and explain the definition of the situation and the ways humans socially construct reality and meaning. 11. Explain the dramaturgical model and use it to analyze human behavior and the presentation of self. 12. Describe ethnomethodology as an observational, investigative method of studying how people construct social order. 13. Explain how reference groups and in-groups and out-groups help construct our sense of self and the way we see what is going on in the world.	8	0	0
Social Stratification and Social Inequalities of Class	1. Define social stratification, caste and class systems, and social mobility and explain how they contribute to rankings of social worth and social rewards. 2. Explain how sociologists use interactionism, functionalism, conflict theory, and the feminist perspective to analyze social class and inequality. 3. Define and provide examples of the sociological concepts of oppression and privilege with reference to social class. 4. Describe several ways structural processes produce social inequality. 5. Describe how income, wealth, and other valued resources are distributed unequally across the countries of the world.	3	0	0
Social Stratification and Social Inequalities of Race and Ethnicity	1. Define race and ethnicity. Explain how sociologists define race as a social construction with real consequences. 2. Explain the processes by which ethnicity assumes social and personal significance. 3. Explain how a person's race and ethnicity is a product of chance, choice, and context. 4. Define racism and explain how it uses flawed logic to explain and justify differences and inequalities. 5. Define prejudice and discrimination and explain their consequences. 6. Define and provide examples of the sociological concepts of oppression and privilege with reference to race. 7. Use the concepts of assimilation, integration, and pluralism to explain the process by which racial and ethnic distinctions disappear, blend, or coexist. 8. Explain how sociologists use interactionism, functionalism, conflict theory, and the feminist perspective to analyze race.	3	0	0

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Social Stratification and Social Inequalities of Sex and Gender	1. Define sex as an anatomical distinction and gender as a social construction. 2. Define and discuss gender stratification, gender inequality, sexism, misogyny, sexuality, and sexual orientation. 3. Explain socialization into gender. 4. Explain how a person's gender determines their life chances. 5. Define social oppression and social privilege and provide examples of each with reference to gender. 6. Explain how sociologists use interactionism, functionalism, conflict theory, and the feminist perspective to analyze gender.	3	0	0
Social Institutions	1. List six key social institutions (economy, politics, family, education, religion, and health care), review their structures and functions, and discuss the relationships between them. 2. Use world systems theory, modernization theory, and dependency theory to describe how sociologists explain the global-scale economy and why some countries are rich and others poor. 3. Use types of authority, the power elite model, and the pluralist model to explain how political power is developed and used. 4. Explain how sociologists use interactionism, functionalism, conflict theory, and the feminist perspective to analyze changing family forms. 5. Explain how sociologists use interactionism, functionalism, conflict theory, and the feminist perspective to analyze the six major social institutions.	6	0	0
Social Change and Social Issues	1. Describe important ways society has changed over time and factors that trigger social change. 2. Describe six types of societies and how their signature technology affects the amount of surplus wealth the society is able to create. 3. Describe four types of social movements. 4. Explain the demographic transition and how it can be used to explain an aging society. 5. Define ageism and how it is connected to some features of the anti-aging industry. 6. Explain how sociologists use interactionism, functionalism, conflict theory, and the feminist perspective to analyze social change and social issues.	3	0	0

Total Contact Hours

Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
45	0	0