



## **SOC100: Introduction to Sociology**

### **MASTER COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Credits:** Lecture: 3, Lab: 0

**Pre-requisite(s):** None

**Co-requisite(s):** None

**Course Description:** This is an introductory course that will familiarize the student with the basic principles and theories associated with sociology. This course will prepare students to look critically at a variety of social issues. Critical thinking is emphasized as students are provided thought provoking opportunities in challenging them to examine their diverse world.

**Course Methodology** The objective of this course is for the student to be able to understand and apply basic theories and perspectives of an entry level course. This course is designed to enable students to do so through classroom lectures, critical thinking exercises that require application, an entry-level research paper, utilization of study guides, videos, worldwide web assignments, outside reading and writing assignments. Ample opportunity will be given for students to focus on areas of individual interest.

**Required Text, including ISBN:**

Macionis, John (2017). *Society: The Basics 14<sup>th</sup> ed.* Pearson Education ISBN: 9780134206325

**Required Course Material:** None

**Supplementary Materials:** Instructor handouts

**Course Topics:**

- Identifying and defining basic sociological concepts and theories
- Analyzing contributions and theoretical perspectives of the founders of sociology
- Exploring sociological perspectives and theories as they relate to societal norms and various social issues

## **Expected Learning Outcomes:**

After successfully completing this course, students should be able to

- 1.** Demonstrate the ability to identify and define basic sociological concepts and theories, as evidenced by
  - a)** Given scenarios on an exam and through class participation, the student will be able to relate aspects of sociological theories, concepts and contributions to the field at a success rate of 70% or better
  - b)** Submitting completed chapter assignments as directed by instructor at a success rate of 70% or better.

To satisfy this learning outcome, students will be able to:

- Apply sociological concepts to human development.
- Define culture.
- Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of cultural patterns
- List the five major components of culture.
- Present ideas about the impact of technology upon the development of society.
- Describe the importance of social experience as the foundation of socialization.
- Explain the role of verbal language in socialization.
- Interpret the differences between normative, coercive and utilitarian organizations.
- Explain the effects of class and diversity on deviance in society.
- Define social stratification.
- Describe the dimensions of social inequality in the United States.
- Discuss the implications of global economic development upon the changing culture.
- Describe the negative features of gender and its role in socialization in America.
- Explain the functions of the family as a societal institution.
- Discuss the three major functions of religion in the operation of society.
- Discuss sexual attitudes in United States
- Explore sexual issues and controversies such as teen pregnancy, pornography
- Explain three causes of social change.

- 2.** Demonstrate the ability to identify sociological perspectives and theories as they relate to societal norms and various social issues, as evidenced by
  - a)** Submitting annotated bibliographies from periodicals specified and following measurable objectives approved by the instructor at a success rate of 70% or better
  - b)** Submitting a 10-12 page final paper, following the APA format, on a specific social problem with a theory based analysis of the etiology, prevalence and incidence of the problem at a success rate of 70% or better.

To satisfy this learning outcome, students will be able to:

- Describe four major visions of society: Lenski, Marx, Weber, and Durkheim.
- Analyze social interactions and institutions from the structural-functional or consensus theory.

- Analyze social interactions and institutions from the social conflict perspective or consensus theory
- Analyze social interactions and institutions from the systems theory.
- Analyze social interactions and institutions from the symbolic-interactionist perspective or consensus theory
- Discuss research approaches in sociology

**Student Evaluation:**

Each student’s final grade will be some combination of exams, homework and project deliverables. Assignments will be expected when due. If a student misses an exam, the grade will be zero unless the absence was a result of extenuating circumstances that are verifiable by the instructor, in which case a make-up examination will be scheduled. There will be no make-ups given for the final exam. The student’s final grade will be determined by the following:

3 exams (100 pts. each includes final exam)	40%
Chapter Assignments	10%
Annotated Bibliography	10%
Final Paper (includes class presentation)	30%
<u>Attendance &amp; Participation</u>	<u>10%</u>
Total Points	100%

The student’s final grade will be determined using the following grading policy:

- 90%-100% = “A,”
- 80%-89% = “B,”
- 70%-79% = “C,”
- 60%-69% = “D,”
- and below 60% = “F.”

Faculty across sections will be expected to follow the established syllabus learning outcomes, instructional objectives, and all other essential elements, including common course assessments.

**Course Outline:**

All learning outcomes will be covered. However, your instructor may deviate from timeline suggested. Advance notice will be provided by your instructor if changes are made to this schedule.

Week#	Topic	Readings
1	Course Organization Perspectives, Theories & Methods	Ch. 1
2	Culture	Ch. 2

3	Socialization	Ch. 3
4	Exam – Chapters 1, 2, 3	
5	Social Interactions	Ch. 4
6	Groups & Organizations	Ch. 5
7	Sexuality & Society	Ch. 6
8	Deviance	Ch. 7
9	Exam – Chapters 4, 5, 6, 7	
10	Social Stratification	Ch. 8
11	Gender Stratification	Ch. 10
12	Race & Ethnicity	Ch. 11
13	Family & Religion	Ch. 13
14	Class Presentations	
15	Final Exam – Chapters 8, 10, 11, 13	

## **Syllabus Addendum**

### **Soc 100: Introduction to Sociology**

### **Fall 2017**

Instructor: Tracy Vargas

Class Meetings: Mondays 12-3:30 PM

Email: TVargas@pennhighlands.edu

Office Hours: By appointment only

#### **Attendance and Participation (10%)**

Your attendance will be logged by circulating a sign-in sheet at the beginning of each class. Recurring tardiness or leaving class early will be detrimental to your final grade. **One (1)** unexcused absence will be permitted during the semester, equaling one full week of class. If you miss a class, I highly suggest that you keep in contact with a reliable classmate who can provide you with course notes. Attendance is minimum participation. To achieve full credit for participation, you will be expected to actively engage in classroom discussion and activities. Your performance will be evaluated at the end of the semester at my discretion.

#### **Chapter Assignments (10%)**

Each Monday I will distribute a set of Chapter Assignment questions that will be due the following Monday when we cover that chapter. (See the last section titled "Readings, Exams, and Research Paper Timeline" for due dates.) You must complete a total of **seven (7)** Chapter Assignments out of the eleven (11) I will provide during this course. In other words, you are permitted to skip any four (4) Chapter Assignments of your choosing. Late assignments will be docked a full letter grade and not excepted beyond one week, unless otherwise approved by me. Each assignment will be graded according to its own rubric, which you will be provided.

#### **Exams (40%)**

You will be given **three (3)** exams on the course material during this semester. These exams are NOT cumulative. The information you will be tested on will be drawn directly from the course textbook and lectures. Each exam's format will include multiple choice, true/false, matching, short answers, and essay questions.

#### **Annotated Bibliography (10%)**

There are **two (2)** annotated bibliographies due during this course. Once you have received approval of your Research Paper topic, you will select at least 10, but no greater than 20, academic (books & articles) and journalistic (newspapers, magazines & websites) sources to inform your Research Paper. I will provide you with detailed instructions and resources to assist your with writing your Annotated Bibliography in American Psychological Association (APA) format.

#### **Research Paper and Presentation (30%)**

You will complete a 10-12-page research paper due at end of this semester (by 12/16 via email or Schoology). This paper will explore a sociological topic of your choosing and engage with the scholarly literature cited in your bibliography. You are also expected to present a short (5-10 minute) presentation on your topic of interest on the last day of class (12/11). More details on the requirements associated

with selecting a topic, completing your annotated bibliography in APA style, presenting, and submitting your final Research Paper will be provided throughout the semester.

### **Plagiarism and Cheating**

Plagiarism of another's work or cheating on assignments/exams is completely unacceptable. The consequences for such acts will be determined by me on a case-by-case basis, but may result in a **zero (0)** on the assignment/exam, **failure of the entire course**, and/or being **reported** to Penn Highlands and Conemaugh School of Nursing. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with the Academic Integrity Policy, which I have provided to you with this syllabus and electronically via the SOC 100 Schoology course page.

### **Technology**

My classroom policy on technology (laptops, tablets/iPads, cell phones, etc.) is to use electronic devices responsibly and for academic purposes, such as viewing slides or notetaking. If I observe your device(s) becoming a classroom distraction (incessant texting) or if you use them for inappropriate activities (social media, shopping, other coursework, etc.) you will be warned once. If the behavior continues, you will be asked to leave class and marked as absent for the day. You do not have permission to record my lectures in any form without my prior consent.

### **Supplemental Materials**

Throughout the semester I will be utilizing supplemental reading materials and videos to engage with during class. These materials will be distributed/viewed in class and, whenever possible, also made available electronically via the SOC 100 Schoology course page.

### **PAWS Early Alert System**

PAWS (Positive Actions with Students) is a system that enables instructors to identify students who may be struggling with concerns that would prevent them from completing their chosen degree, diploma or certificate. Therefore, I will use the PAWS Early Alert System to communicate to service staff and academic advisors any specific concerns I may have about your performance and/or well-being. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Academic concerns regarding attendance, poor academic performance, or Academic Integrity Policy violations
- Behavior concerns
- Financial concerns
- Counseling concerns such as difficulty managing stress, struggling with substance abuse, signs of depression, or physical/mental abuse
- Learning concerns and struggles potentially related to learning disabilities

## Readings, Exams, and Research Paper Timeline

Each must be completed by the corresponding date.

**8/28**

**9/4 LABOR DAY – NO CLASS**

**9/11** Readings Due: Chapter 1 - Sociology: Perspective, Theory, and Method **AND** Chapter 2 - Culture  
**Chapter 1 & 2 Assignments due today**

**9/18** Reading Due: Chapter 3 - Socialization: From Infancy to Old Age  
**Chapter 3 Assignment due today**

**9/25** Reading Due: Chapter 4 - Social Interaction in Everyday Life  
**Chapter 4 Assignment due today**

AND

**\*\*Proposed Research Paper Topic due today\*\***

**10/2 \*\*EXAM 1\*\***

**10/9** Reading Due: Chapter 5 - Groups and Organizations  
**Chapter 5 Assignment due today**

**10/16** Reading Due: Chapter 6 - Sexuality and Society  
**Chapter 6 Assignment due today**

**10/23** Reading Due: Chapter 7 – Deviance  
**Chapter 7 Assignment due today**

**10/30 \*\*EXAM 2\*\***

**11/6** Reading Due: Chapter 8 - Social Stratification  
**Chapter 8 Assignment due today**

AND

**\*\*Annotated Bibliography 1 due today\*\***

**11/13** Reading Due: Chapter 10 - Gender Stratification  
**Chapter 10 Assignment due today**

**11/20** Reading Due: Chapter 11 - Race and Ethnicity  
**Chapter 11 Assignment due today**

**11/27** Reading Due: Chapter 13 - Family and Religion  
**Chapter 13 Assignment due today**

AND

**\*\*Annotated Bibliography 2 due today\*\***

**12/4 \*\*EXAM 3\*\***

**12/11 Classroom Presentations today!!!**

**12/16 (Saturday) RESEARCH PAPER DUE - Submit to instructor via Schoology and/or email by 11:59 PM**

Note: I reserve the right to alter this Syllabus Addendum as I see fit at any point during the semester, in which case you will be notified verbally and/or via handout.