



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 14th 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 & 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

Spring 2018

Instructor: Tracy Vargas

Class Meetings: M, W & F; 11-11:50 AM.
Room B120

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. Three (3) unexcused absence will be permitted during the semester, equaling one full week of class. Recurring absences, tardiness, or leaving class early will be detrimental to your final grade. If you miss a class, I highly recommend you keep in contact with a reliable classmate who can provide you with class notes. Please note that your attendance is minimum participation. To achieve full credit for participation, you will be expected to actively engage in classroom discussion and activities. Your score will be evaluated by me and updated throughout the semester, viewable to you via the Schoology course page.

Chapter Assignments (10%)

Each chapter we will cover in this course has an accompanying Chapter Assignment. You must complete a total of seven (7) Chapter Assignments out of the possible eleven (11) provided to you during the semester. In other words, you are permitted to skip any four (4) Chapter Assignments of your choosing. Late assignments will be docked two points per day and not accepted beyond one week, unless otherwise approved by me. Each assignment will be graded according to its attached rubric.

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 will include 36 questions in the format of true/false, multiple choice, matching, short answer, and an essay question.

Annotated Bibliography (10%)

Once you have received approval of your Research Paper topic, you will review the academic literature. You will then select two (2) of these academic sources and write an annotated bibliography citation for each. I will provide you with detailed instructions and resources to assist your with writing your Annotated Bibliography in American Psychological Association (APA) format. Your annotations will be evaluated by me according to a rubric. Please note that academic sources include books, peer reviewed journal articles, and published reports. Journalistic sources such as online or printed newspaper articles, magazines articles, or websites are **NOT** academic sources.

Research Paper and Presentation (30%)

You will complete a 10-12-page research paper as your course final. You will use the sociological tools you have learned throughout the semester to write a paper informing on a sociological topic of your choosing. Your paper will critically engage with relevant scholarly literature (at least 5 academic sources) and other pertinent information (reliable non-academic sources). You are also required to present a short (5-7 minute) presentation on your topic that overviews the research you conducted, major findings, and the theoretical lens you are using to critically analyze your topic. I will provide you with detailed handouts, guidelines, and a rubric for your final mid-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 an automatic zero (0) on the assignment/exam, failure of the entire course, and/or being reported to the college. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with Penn Highland's Academic Integrity Policy, which I have provided to you in 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 note taking. If I observe your device(s) becoming a distraction (incessant texting) or if you use them for inappropriate activities (social media, shopping, other coursework, etc.) you will receive a verbal warning. If the behavior continues, you will then be asked to leave class and marked as absent for the day. Please note that you do not have permission to record my lectures in any form without my prior consent.

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. 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
- Behavioral 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 related to possible learning disabilities

Readings, Assignments, and Exams Timeline

Week 1

W. 1/17

F. 1/19

Week 2

M. 1/22: Reading Due → Chapter 1 - Sociology: Perspective, Theory, and Method
Chapter 1 Assignment Due

W. 1/24

F. 1/26

Week 3

M. 1/29: Reading Due → Chapter 2 - Culture
Chapter 2 Assignment due

W. 1/31

F. 2/2

Week 4

M. 2/5: Reading Due → Chapter 3 - Socialization: From Infancy to Old Age
Chapter 3 Assignment due

W. 2/7

F. 2/9

Week 5

M. 2/12: Reading Due → Chapter 4 - Social Interaction in Everyday Life
Chapter 4 Assignment due

W. 2/14

F. 2/16

Week 6

M. 2/19: No Class (President's Day holiday)

W. 2/21: Proposed Research Paper Topic due

F. 2/23: **EXAM 1 today**

Week 7

M. 2/26: Reading Due → Chapter 5 - Groups and Organizations
Chapter 5 Assignment due

W. 2/28

F. 3/2

Week 8

M. 3/5: Reading Due → Chapter 6 - Sexuality and Society
Chapter 6 Assignment due

W. 3/7

F. 3/9: Research Presentation by Librarian Alexander Kirby

Week 9

M. 3/12

W. 3/14

F. 3/16

Week 10

M. 3/19: Reading Due → Chapter 7 - Deviance
Chapter 7 Assignment due

W. 3/21

F. 3/23

Week 11

M. 3/26: **EXAM 2**

W. 3/28: No Class (Spring Break)

F. 3/30: No Class (Spring Break)

Week 12

M. 4/2: Reading Due → Chapter 8 - Social Stratification
Chapter 8 Assignment due

W. 4/4

F. 4/6: Annotated Bibliography due

Week 13

M. 4/9: Reading Due → Chapter 10 - Gender Stratification
Chapter 10 Assignment due

W. 4/11

F. 4/13

Week 14

M. 4/16: Reading Due: Chapter 11 - Race and Ethnicity
Chapter 11 Assignment due

W. 4/18

F. 4/20

Week 15

M. 4/23: Reading Due →Chapter 13 - Family and Religion
Chapter 13 Assignment due

W. 4/25

F. 4/27

Week 16

M. 4/30

W. 5/2: **EXAM 3**

F. 5/4

Week 17

M. 5/7: Classroom Presentations today!!!

RESEARCH PAPER DUE - Submit in class or via Schoology

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, electronically, and/or via handout.