

# **SOCIOLOGY 101**

## **Introduction to Sociology**

### **Winter Session**

### **Online Course**

**Instructor: Daniel Brewster**

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**Class Format:** This is a web-based course delivered through eCampus. Course materials, assignments, quizzes, examinations, and grades will be administered and posted through eCampus. The course is divided into three sections. I reserve the right to make changes to the syllabus and will notify students with as much warning as possible. It is imperative that you check your email daily.

#### **Course Description:**

The purpose of this course is for you as a student to become acquainted with the sociological paradigm. To achieve this feat, it is essential to focus on some of the more basic concepts and definitions, the major theoretical perspectives, research processes, and some of the more controversially audacious sociological topics.

In addition, I want to inform you that sociology is an academic discipline devoted to studying and exploring the interactions between people.

As can be expected, not all these interactions are “pleasant.” My course will frequently deal with sensitive and controversial issues. Some of the material covered in this course is blatantly distasteful. Students who are easily offended should reconsider their position in this course.

**This course satisfies GEF Objective 4: Society and Connections**

## **Expected Learning Outcomes:**

- I. Describe how sociology, as a social science, contributes to our understanding of society
- II. Describe how sociology differs from and is like other social sciences and give examples
- III. Compare the basic theoretical orientations in sociology and apply them to explaining a social pattern
- IV. Define, give examples, and demonstrate the relevance of basic sociological concepts and their interconnectedness: Culture, Socialization, Social Structure, Deviance, Social Institutions, Stratification (Race, Class, and Gender), and Social Change
- V. Describe how society shapes the development of individuals and how individuals shape society
- VI. Apply sociological concepts to their own lives

## **Required Text:**

**Chambliss, W. J. & Eglitis, D. S. Discover Sociology: 5E. Los Angeles, C.A. Sage Publications. VANTAGE code + Looseleaf: ISBN: 9781071846469. You can also get an electronic option at the bookstore.**

**You will need to be able to access Netflix.**

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## **Course Requirements:**

**Readings:** As stated in the course description, the purpose of this course is to expose students to the fundamental concepts of sociology. To attain this goal, reading is vitally important. Students are expected to complete required readings prior to the class for which they have been assigned. The reading for this class is intense so anyone who, for whatever reason, is unable to complete an average of 25-40 pages a week should immediately resign from this course.

**Activities:** There will be four required assignments. These assignments will be in response to course material, recent lectures and/or current events. The activities will be posted on eCampus.

**Quizzes:** There will be two quizzes. The quizzes will cover the four chapters not included on examinations. The quizzes will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions. The quizzes will be worth 50 points. Questions will be delivered one-at-a-time, will be randomized, will not allow backtracking, and there will be a time limit.

**Quiz #1: Chapters 1 and 2**

**Quiz #2: Chapters 6 and 12**

**Examinations:** There will be two examinations in this course. These exams will come from course readings and lectures. The examinations will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions. The exams will be worth 100 points. Questions will be delivered one-at-a-time, will be randomized, will not allow backtracking, and there will be a time limit.

**Examination #1—Chapters 3, 4, and 5**

**Examination #2—Chapters 7/8, 9, and 10**

**Make-Up Quiz/Exam Policy:** There will be very few opportunities for make-up quizzes/examinations. Decisions are made on All University sanctioned absences will be allowed but under the following circumstances, it is your responsibility to notify me in person of your absence prior to the actual absence.

### **Composition of grades**

**Examinations—200 points (100 points per exam)**

**Quizzes—100 points (50 points per quiz)**

**Activities—100 points (25 points per activity)**

### **Grade Scale**

**A—360-400 points**

**B—320-359 points**

**C—280-319 points**

**D—240-279 points**

**F—239 points and below**

**\*In my course, there will be at least one opportunity for extra credit, which is a collective opportunity. I would never offer extra credit opportunities on an individual basis so please do not ask.**

**\*\*Please, be diligent about checking your grades and progress via eCampus grades. If there are any discrepancies, please let me know ASAP.**

### **Academic Integrity Statement:**

The integrity of the classes offered by any academic institution solidifies the foundation of its mission and cannot be sacrificed to expediency, ignorance, or blatant fraud. Therefore, instructors will enforce rigorous standards of academic integrity in all aspects and assignments of their courses. For the detailed policy of West Virginia University, regarding the definitions of acts considered to fall under academic dishonesty and possible ensuing sanctions, please see the West Virginia University Academic Standards Policy (<http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/coursecreditstermsclassification>).

Should you have any questions about possible improper research citations or references, or any other activity that may be interpreted as an attempt at academic dishonesty, please see your instructor before the assignment is due to discuss the matter.

**Inclusivity Statement:**

The West Virginia University community is committed to creating and fostering a positive learning and working environment based on open communication, mutual respect, and inclusion. If you are a person with a disability and anticipate needing any type of accommodation in order to participate in this class, please advise me, and make appropriate arrangements with the Office of Accessibility Services (<https://accessibilityservices.wvu.edu/>).

**Mental Health Statement:**

Mental health concerns or stressful events can adversely affect your academic performance and social relationships. WVU offers services to assist you with addressing these and other concerns that you may be experiencing. You can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus at the Carruth Center for Psychological and Psychiatric Services (CCPPS) website: <https://carruth.wvu.edu/>

If you need crisis services, call the CCPPS main number 24/7: (304) 293-4431.

Crisis services are also available through text: Text WVU to 741741 for support 24/7 from a trained Crisis Counselor.

You can also contact the National Suicide and Crisis Hotline by dialing 988.

**Week One: Monday, December 23–Sunday, December 29****I. Readings and Lectures:**

- a. Chapter One: Discover Sociology
- b. Chapter Two: Discover Sociological Research
- c. Chapter Three: Culture
- d. Chapter Four: Socialization and Social Interaction

**II. Activity:**

- a. Activity #1 (Chapter 3): Due Sunday, December 29 by 8:00 p.m.

**III. Assessment:**

- a. Quiz #1 (Chapters 1 and 2): Opens Monday, December 23 at 12:00 p.m. and closes on Saturday, December 28 at 8:00 p.m.

## **Week Two: Monday, December 30 –Saturday, January 4**

- I. Readings and Lectures:**
  - a. Chapter Five: Groups, Organizations, and Bureaucracies
  - b. Chapter Six: Deviance and Social Control
  - c. Chapter Eighteen: Social Movements and Social Culture
- II. Activity:**
  - a. Activity #2 (Chapter 4): Due Monday, December 30 by 8:00 p.m.
  - b. Activity #3 (Chapter 6): Due Saturday, January 4 by 8:00 p.m.
- III. Assessment:**
  - a. Examination #1 (Chapters 3, 4, and 5): Opens Sunday, December 29 at 12:00 p.m. and closes on Thursday, January 2 at 8:00 p.m.
  - b. Quiz #2 (Chapters 6 and 18): Opens Sunday, December 29 at 12:00 p.m. and closes on Saturday, January 4 at 8:00 p.m.

## **Week Three: Sunday, January 5 – Thursday, January 9**

- I. Readings and Lectures:**
  - a. Chapter Seven/Eight: Social Class, Poverty, and Inequality
  - b. Chapter Nine: Race and Ethnicity
  - c. Chapter Ten: Gender and Sexuality
- II. Activity:**
  - a. Activity #4 (Chapters 7/8): Due Tuesday, January 7 by 8:00 p.m.
- III. Assessment:**
  - a. Examination #2 (Chapters 7/8, 9, 10): Opens Sunday, January 5 at 12:00 p.m. and closes on Thursday, January 4 at 8:00 p.m.