



Sociology
SOC 131 |
Southwestern College Professional Studies

COURSE SYLLABUS

I. Course Catalog Description

This course will not only explore the major perspectives, principles, theories, and methods that govern the study of people and social structures, but it will also help learners identify ways that sociology can improve their lives and the lives of those around them. Learners will trace sociology's historical roots, scientific basis, and major perspectives, as well as how sociology is changing due to rapid globalization and modern technological advances. Learners will also identify and apply contemporary and historical theories of how people relate and interrelate, engage in conflict, and form larger structures, such as institutions, societies, and punishment systems; explore how populations shift and how groups form, act, grow, and shrink; and learn about the roles of culture, gender, sexuality, age, class, and other factors that make a person an individual and part of a larger group. Learners will then apply their understanding of these factors to one's role in larger society.

II. Required and Supplementary Instructional Materials

All course materials, including the e-textbook, are included in the Blackboard course. For students who wish to purchase a print copy of the textbook, the following citation is provided:

Ferrante, J. (2016). *Seeing sociology: an introduction* (3rd ed.). Cengage Learning.

Print ISBN: 9781305094369.

This ebook is included in the course fees for this class. No additional book purchase is necessary.

III. Learning Outcomes

Learning outcomes describe the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes that learners gain as the result of a particular learning experience. Southwestern College Professional Studies has learning outcomes specific to each program of study that are in line with the institutional outcomes of critical thinking, ethical reasoning, leadership, communication, and career preparation. Course outcomes support program outcomes and are listed below.

Upon successfully completing this course, the learner will be able to:

1. Compare sociology to other social sciences such as philosophy, political science, and psychology in explaining human behavior including the application of the scientific method.
2. Compare and contrast the contributions of notable social scientists in the context of the main events in the history of sociology.
3. Describe how cultures and perspectives affect how individuals and groups interact and interrelate.
4. Analyze how various social groups are relevant in social structures such as politics, work, and family.
5. Evaluate the potential and real impact of criminal justice and social stratification on and within social groups.
6. Explain how sociology can help improve people's lives.
7. Forecast how population growth, technology, and globalization will continue to shift and affect society.
8. Identify social problems in real-world contemporary issues and propose approaches to creative problem solving.

At the end of the course, learners may vary in their ability to achieve these outcomes. You are more likely to achieve these outcomes only if you attend class and/or online activities as required by the syllabus,

complete the requirements for all assignments to the best of your ability, participate actively in class activities and group work as directed, and study diligently for exams.

IV. Course Policies

Students are expected to read and abide by the course policies located in the instructor-specific syllabus in the blackboard course.

V. Course Requirements:

Requirements	Number of Assignments	Points Possible	Percent of Grade
Discussions	7	210	21%
Case Studies/Essay	4	200	20%
Quizzes	2	100	10%
Research Paper	5	300	30%
Final Exam	1	190	19%
Total Points		1,000	100%

VI. Course at a Glance:

Unit	Reading & Preparation Activities	Graded Work Due
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read <i>Seeing Sociology: An Introduction</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chapter 1, “The Sociological Perspective” ○ Chapter 2, “Culture” • View Chapters 1-2 PowerPoints 	Assignment 1.1: Discussion Assignment 1.2: Discussion Assignment 1.3: Research Paper: Topic and Research Question Assignment 1.4: Quiz
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read <i>Seeing Sociology: An Introduction</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chapter 3, “Socialization” ○ Chapter 4, “Social Structures” ○ Chapter 5, “The Social Construction of Reality” • View Chapters 3-5 PowerPoints • Watch the Nature vs. Nurture video. 	Assignment 2.1: Discussion Assignment 2.2: Research Paper: Bibliography Assignment 2.3: Case Study
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read <i>Seeing Sociology: An Introduction</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chapter 6, “Deviance” ○ Chapter 7, “Social Inequalities” • View Chapters 6-7 PowerPoints 	Assignment 3.1: Discussion Assignment 3.2: Case Study Assignment 3.3: Research Paper Outline
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read <i>Seeing Sociology: An Introduction</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chapter 8, “Race and Ethnicity” ○ Chapter 9, “Gender and Sexualities” • View Chapters 8-9 PowerPoints 	Assignment 4.1: Discussion Assignment 4.2: Case Study Assignment 4.3: Quiz
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read <i>Seeing Sociology: An Introduction</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chapter 11, “Families” ○ Chapter 12, “Education and Religion” ○ Module 13.8, “Health Care” in Chapter 13, “Social Change and the Pressing Issues of Our Times” • View Chapters 11-12 and Module 13.8 PowerPoints 	Assignment 5.1: Discussion Assignment 5.2: Research Paper: Draft Assignment 5.3: Essay

Unit	Reading & Preparation Activities	Graded Work Due
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read <i>Seeing Sociology: An Introduction</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chapter 10, "Economics and Politics" ○ Chapter 13, "Social Change and the Pressing Issues of Our Times" • View Chapters 10 & 13 PowerPoints 	Assignment 6.1: Discussion Assignment 6.2: Research Paper: Final Assignment 6.3: Final Exam

VII. Other Policies and Requirements

Follow this link to the Southwestern College Professional Studies [Standard Syllabus](#) in Blackboard. You may be required to log in.