

ESSEX COUNTY COLLEGE
Social Sciences Division
SOC 101 – Introduction to Sociology
Course Outline

Course Number & Name: SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology

Credit Hours: 3.0 **Contact Hours:** 3.0 **Lecture:** 3.0 **Lab:** N/A **Other:** N/A

Prerequisites: Grades of “C” or better in ENG 096 and RDG 096 or placement

Co-requisites: None

Instructor: TBA

Email: TBA

Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description: This class will help students critically analyze the world through a sociological lens. The major theories and methodologies used by sociologists to understand the social world will be examined and applied.

Textbook: Basirico, Laurence A, Barbara G Cashion, J Ross Eshleman, and Akil Kokayi Khalfani. 2009. *Introduction to Sociology: Understanding Our Complex World*, 4th edition. Horizon Textbook Publishing: Redding, CA.

Mueller, Kathryn and Akil Kokayi Khalfani. 2009. *Study Guide–Introduction to Sociology: Understanding Our Complex World*, 4th edition. Horizon Textbook Publishing: Redding, CA.

The Sociology Writing Group. 2008. *A Guide to Writing Sociology Papers*. 6th edition. New York: Worth Publishers.

General Education Goals: SOC 101 is affirmed in the following General Education Foundation Category: **Society and Human Behavior**. The corresponding General Education Goal is as follows: Students will use social science theories and concepts to analyze human behavior and social and political institutions and to act as responsible citizens.

Course Goals: Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to do the following:

1. recognize and describe sociological concepts and terms;

2. recognize the names of important figures in the development of sociology and recognize and explain theories and concepts they espoused or critiqued;
3. compare and contrast the various social sciences;
4. analyze and evaluate social phenomena using sociological theory; and
5. compare and contrast the diverse global social and cultural perspectives.

Measurable Course Performance Objectives (MPOs): Upon successful completion of this course, students should specifically be able to do the following:

1. Recognize and describe sociological concepts and terms:
 - 1.1 *articulate the three major sociological theories: Conflict, Structural Functional, and Symbolic Interaction;*
 - 1.2 *explain and apply the concept of the sociological imagination; and*
 - 1.3 *discuss the methods used for sociological analysis*
2. Recognize the names of important figures in the development of sociology and recognize and explain theories and concepts they espoused or critiqued:
 - 2.1 *identify early European and American sociological thinkers, such as Marx and Du Bois;*
 - 2.2 *describe the contributions of the Atlanta Sociological Laboratory and the Chicago School and identify the central scholars who brought recognition to these institutions; and*
 - 2.3 *identify contemporary sociologists and discuss their ideas*
3. Compare and contrast the various social sciences:
 - 3.1 *describe how sociology differs from the other social sciences; and*
 - 3.2 *explain the differences between applied and pure sociology*
4. Analyze and evaluate social phenomena using sociological theory:
 - 4.1 *identify a social problem and critically analyze it using the three major sociological theories and the methods used for sociological analysis;*
 - 4.2 *explain how social inequality impacts race, class, and gender in society; and*
 - 4.3 *conduct high quality research projects using the library, the internet, and scholarly research search engines*
5. Compare and contrast the diverse global social and cultural perspectives:
 - 5.1 *recognize and discuss biases on a local, national and global level;*
 - 5.2 *analyze cultural differentiation using the three major sociological theories and the concept of the sociological imagination; and*
 - 5.3 *analyze personal biases and describe how they influence decisions and perceptions*

Methods of Instruction: Instruction consists of lectures, class discussions, videos, and a scholarly research project.

Outcomes Assessment: Weekly analytical reflections and/or quiz/exam questions are blueprinted to course objectives. Rubrics are used to evaluate the assigned research paper and the final presentation for the presence of course objectives. Data is collected and analyzed to determine the level of student performance on these assessment instruments in regards to meeting course objectives. The results of this data analysis are used to guide necessary pedagogical and/or curricular revisions.

Course Requirements: All students are required to:

1. Read all assigned course materials including the textbook selections.
2. Attend class regularly.
3. Complete all written assignments and participate in classroom discussions.
4. Complete the assigned research paper using ASA format for reference and citation.
5. Take exams/quizzes as scheduled.

Attendance Policy: Regular and prompt attendance is essential for academic success. Faculty members take attendance at each scheduled class session. Students are expected to attend and be on time for all classes. Individual faculty members may establish specific attendance policies. Attendance records will be turned in to the appropriate Division/Department Chair and/or Program Director at the end of the term and in the interim upon request. Any students with more than three unexcused absences will automatically fail the course.

Methods of Evaluation: Final course grades will be computed as follows:

Grading Components	% of final course grade
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analytical Reflections/Class Participation/Attendance Weekly assignments are made that analyze reading materials and/or current affairs, the selection of which is based on relevance to course objectives. Responses to analytical reflections will provide evidence of the extent to which students have met course objectives. Classroom participation and attendance are also considered here. 	30 – 40%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research Paper This research project requires students to use scholarly journals as sources and ASA formatting to present a professional research paper. The papers are evaluated using a rubric for the presence of course objectives, including using the three major sociological theoretical perspectives. 	20 – 40%

- **Final Presentation** **0 – 35%**
 The presentation requires the use of PowerPoint and discussion of the student’s paper in conjunction with one of the chapters covered over the course of the semester and, therefore, relates to one or more course objectives.

- **Literature Reviews** **10 – 20%**
 Literature reviews are written exercise in which students must investigate a particular topic either in the textbook or assigned by the instructor that is related to the course objectives and conduct a review of the sociological literature. Based on the literature review, students are required to develop a thesis and draw conclusions on the topic researched.

- **Quizzes** **10 – 15%**
 Quizzes will provide evidence of the extent to which students have met course objectives.

- **Final Exam** (optional and alternative to above measures) **0 – 35%**
 The **comprehensive** final exam will examine the extent to which students grasp and synthesize the sociological concepts, methods, and theories and have achieved course objectives.

NOTE: The instructor will determine (as appropriate) the specific components for the course and provide specific weights which lie in the above-given ranges at the beginning of the semester.

Grading System:

A	90% - 100%	Superior
B+	87% - 89%	Very Good
B	80% - 86%	Good
C+	77% - 79%	Above Average
C	70% - 76%	Satisfactory
D	60% - 69%	Passing
F	59% - 0	Failing

Academic Integrity: Dishonesty disrupts the search for truth that is inherent in the learning process and so devalues the purpose and the mission of the College. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- plagiarism – the failure to acknowledge another writer’s words or ideas or to give proper credit to sources of information;
- cheating – knowingly obtaining or giving unauthorized information on any test/exam or any other academic assignment;
- interference – any interruption of the academic process that prevents others from the proper engagement in learning or teaching; and
- fraud – any act or instance of willful deceit or trickery.

Violations of academic integrity will be dealt with by imposing appropriate sanctions. Sanctions for acts of academic dishonesty could include the resubmission of an assignment, failure of the test/exam, failure in the course, probation, suspension from the College, and even expulsion from the College.

Student Code of Conduct: All students are expected to conduct themselves as responsible and considerate adults who respect the rights of others. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. All students are also expected to attend and be on time all class meetings. No cell phones or similar electronic devices are permitted in class. Please refer to the Essex County College student handbook, *Lifeline*, for more specific information about the College’s Code of Conduct and attendance requirements.

Course Content Outline: This is a tentative course schedule; the instructor reserves the right to make changes on it to make it better for the student's development. Notice will be given should any changes take place.

Class Meeting

(90 minutes)	Topics/ Chapters
1 – 2	Orientation & Course Introduction/Review of Class Syllabus
3	Preface and Chapter 1 in <i>Intro to Sociology</i>
4 – 5	Development of Sociology – Chapter 2 in <i>Intro to Sociology</i>
6 – 7	Methods – Chapter 3 in <i>Intro to Sociology</i>
8 – 9	Writing Sociologically, Chapters 1 – 4 in <i>A Guide to Writing Sociology Papers</i>
10 – 11	Culture and Society – Chapter 4 in <i>Intro to Sociology</i>
12 – 13	Social Structure, Groups and Organizations – Chapter 5 in <i>Intro to Sociology</i>
14 – 15	Socialization – Chapter 6 in <i>Intro to Sociology</i>
16 – 17	Deviance and Social Control – Chapter 7 in <i>Intro to Sociology</i>
18 – 19	Social Stratification – Race, Class & Gender – Chapters 8 – 10 in <i>Intro to Sociology</i>
20 – 21	Family and Education – Chapters 12 & 14 in <i>Intro to Sociology</i>
22 – 23	Political and Economic Groups – Chapter 16 in <i>Intro to Sociology</i>
24 – 25	Social Change – Chapters 19 & 20 in <i>Intro to Sociology</i>
26	Final Presentations or Final Exam

NOTE: In SOC 101, the instructor must cover all of chapters 1 – 10 as listed above in any reasonable order throughout the duration of the semester. Also, the instructor may include additional areas such as those listed in the above weekly schedule based on his/her expertise and/or interests.