

Bergen Community College
Division of Business, Arts Social Sciences
Department of Social Sciences

Departmental Syllabus

SOC- 101 Introduction to Sociology

Date of Most Recent Syllabus Revision: March, 2023

Course Typically Offered: Fall ___ Spring ___ Summer ___ Every Semester ___ x ___ Other _____

Syllabus last reviewed by: BCC General Education Committee _____ Date: _____

(Most courses need review Ad Hoc Committee on Learning Assessment _____ Date: _____

by only one of the following) Curriculum Committee: _____ Date: _____

Semester and Year:

Course and Section Number: SOC-101-xxx

Meeting Times and Locations 3 contact hours/week

Instructor:

Office Location:

Phone:

Departmental/Division Secretary:

Office Hours:

Email Address:

Course Description

SOC-101 – Sociology is an examination of the culture and structure of human societies. The course focuses on social groups and institutions, their norms and controls, and how and why they change. Topics of discussion will include the family, education, deviance, race and ethnicity, sex roles, social change, and social inequalities.

3 lectures, 3 credits

Prerequisites: None

C-requisites: None

General Education Course

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion, the student will be able to:

1. Define concepts, theories, and methods used by contemporary sociologists.
2. Differentiate/distinguish between opposite or apparently similar sociological concepts and theories.
3. Apply the sociological concepts and/or theories in analyzing social facts, events, phenomena, etc.
4. Evaluate and utilize materials found on the internet and other sources.
5. State and support their own views on social issues addressed in the course with logical rigor and clarity.

Means of Assessment

Objective tests, essay questions, oral reports, class discussions, and writing assignments.

Course Content

Topics headings that are preceded by an asterisk (“*”) are considered essential topics in this course. The coverage of additional topics in this class is at the discretion of the individual instructor. The sequence in which these topics are covered in class is suggested by the following outline, but instructors are free to rearrange the suggested sequence.

- *1. Sociology and the Real World
- *2. Sociological Research Methods
- *3. Culture
- *4. Socialization
- *5. Social Groups
- *6. Deviance
- *7. Social Class: The Structure of Inequality
8. Race and Ethnicity
9. Gender and Sex
- *10. Social Institutions: Politics, Education, and Religion
11. The Economy and Work
12. Family
13. Leisure and Media
14. Health and Illness
15. Population Cities, and the Environment
- *16. Social Change

Course Texts and/or Other Study Materials

Required text: Ferris K. and Stein J. The Real World. An Introduction to Sociology, Norton, 2022

Additional Readings: There are no other required readings for this course, however all faculty have the freedom to assign the student study guide that accompanies the textbook or any other articles or books of the instructor's choosing that are appropriate for an introductory level course. Preferably, instructors will

make the online learning center created by the publisher available to students, which is free, rather than expecting them to buy the study guide.

Grading Policy

In determining a student's semester grade, a minimum of three, and preferably more, grading mechanisms should be employed. Multiple choice, matching, fill-in, true/false, and short answer questions are appropriate. Term projects and research reports may be utilized, as well as essay questions based on outside readings should be considered. If a web site for the course is developed (this is encouraged), students may also be evaluated on the basis of their participation in online discussions. Online exams are acceptable, if they are one of several assessment tools.

Grading System:

Students will be presented with a grading system for the course on the first day of the semester. The grading system will include, at a minimum, two or three components:

1. A scale for determining grades A-F, such as the following:

- A = an average of 90 or higher
- B+ = an average between 87 and 89
- B = an average between 80 and 86
- C+ = an average between 77 and 79
- C = an average between 70 and 76
- D = an average between 65 and 60
- F = an average lower than a 65

2. An explanation for the value of course components can include as per the following:

- a. 3 tests: each test represents 25% of the final grade for a total of 75%
- b. 1 short paper: represents 20% of final grade
- c. attendance/participation represents 5% of final grade,

or, if online:

- d. 5 online discussions: each discussion is 20% of final grade for a total of 100%

Research, Thinking, Writing, and/or Examination Requirement(s)

Writing Activity:

Students will be expected to engage in one or more written assignments. These assignments may be essay questions on one or more tests, and essay test, or a short written report based on outside readings or activities.

Critical Thinking:

Students should be encouraged through classroom activities to think about, analyze, and use basic psychosocial concepts. Memorization of key concepts and theories should be thought of as the first, not the final, stage of learning significant course materials.

Student Evaluation:

In determining a student's semester grade, a minimum of three, and preferably more, grading mechanisms should be employed. Multiple choice, matching, fill-in and essay questions are appropriate; true-false questions are not. Term projects and research reports are not necessary at this level, but essay tests based on outside readings should be considered.

Attendance Policy

BCC Attendance Policy:

All students are expected to attend punctually every scheduled meeting of each course in which they are registered. Attendance and lateness policies and sanctions are to be determined by the instructor for each section of each course. These will be established in writing on the individual course outline. Attendance will be kept by the instructor for administrative and counseling purposes.

Social Sciences Department Attendance Policy:

The department has agreed to leave attendance policies up to the discretion of each instructor.

Attendance Policy in this Course:

To be determined by the instructor.

Student and Faculty Support Services

Smartthinking Tutorial Service	Online at:	www.bergen.edu/library/learning/tutor/smart/index.asp
The Tutoring Center	Room L-125	201-447-7908
The Writing Center	Room L-125	201-447-7908
The Online Writing Lab (OWL)	Online at:	www.bergen.edu/owl
The Office of Specialized Services (for Students with Disabilities)	Room L-115	201-612-5270
	Online at:	www.bergen.edu/oss
The Sidney Silverman Library	Room L-226	201-447-7436

Include a Course Outline and Calendar

Week	Topic/Activity	Evaluation
1	Sociology and the Real World	
2	Sociological Research Methods	
3	Culture	Exam 1
4	Socialization	
5	Social Groups	
6	Deviance	
7	Social Class: The Structure of Inequality	Exam 2
8	Race and Ethnicity	
9	Gender and Sex	
10	Social Institutions: Politics, Education, and Religion	
11	Family	Paper
12	Leisure and Media	
13	Health and Illness	
14	Social Change	Exam 3
15	Wrap up	

Note to Students: This Course Outline and Calendar is tentative and subject to change, depending upon the progress of the class.