

SYLLABUS
Principles of Sociology - SOC 1010
Fully Online
Winter 2018, December 26 - January 14

Course description

This course examines the structure and dynamics of human society and interprets social behavior within the context of modern society and culture. It includes an examination of such topics as culture; social structure and systems; socialization; conformity and deviance; social stratification and social class; inequalities stemming from gender, race and ethnicity, religion, and age; the major social institutions of the family, education, the economy, the political system, the crime and justice system; and belief systems; human ecology; rural, urban and suburban life; popular culture; and social movements and social change.

Required Text

SOC 2016 by Witt, Jon. Publisher: McGraw-Hill Higher Education. Copyright Year: 2016. Fourth edition.

Print ISBN: 9780078130755, 0078130751, e-text ISBN: 9780078028045, 0078028043
<https://www.vitalsource.com/referral?term=9780078028045>

Course prerequisites

None

Course Objectives

- ❖ to acquaint the student with the sociological perspective based on systematic study rather than on common sense;
- ❖ to explore our own attitudes about other groups in society, and develop a sense of cultural relativism and an appreciation of other cultures;
- ❖ to develop a sense of global awareness;
- ❖ to make students aware of the crucial importance of the social structure of society in terms of social class, gender, age, education, income, race and ethnicity;
- ❖ to identify the persistent sources of strain and conflict among groups;
- ❖ to reveal how self image and social identity emerge;
- ❖ to trace the ways in which social problems are identified, perceived & resolved;
- ❖ to demonstrate the differences between social problems and personal dilemmas;
- ❖ to show student how to interpret and use social scientific data, and methods;
- ❖ to teach students not to over generalize from personal experiences;
- ❖ to learn how to apply the sociological perspective to understanding everyday life.

Student Learning Outcomes

After taking this class, students should be able to

- ❖ comprehend the relationship between social structure, culture and individual/collective agency;
- ❖ clearly explain sociological theories and concepts in writing;
- ❖ have a deeper understanding of the issues of race, class, and gender;
- ❖ understand and utilize the primary sociological theoretical perspectives;
- ❖ utilize and critique basic methodological approaches in the field of sociology;
- ❖ apply sociological concepts and theories to their everyday live.

Examinations and Grading Procedures

1. **Quizzes** will have 50 multiple choice questions worth two (2) points each and you can take them when you choose. You will have an hour to complete each quiz. Each quiz **will count for 20 percent of the course grade.**

2. **Discussion Board:** There is a question to be answered in Blackboard’s discussion board; students will have to answer and chat about the topic with their classmates. In the discussions, students will reflect on the reading, express their sociological critical analysis, and raise their own questions about the topics posted. The discussions will be based on textbook materials and class lectures. You will answer the question I post in the board in a minimum of a **TWO-TYPED PAGES**; you will pay special attention to the importance of the topic to **the field of sociology. Use Times New Roman, 12 size font; double-space**; responses should be well written (please spell check! write your posting in your word processor and then copy and paste it into the board forum) and clearly address the issues being discussed. It is not only the quantity of what students write which counts, but also the quality of their responses. Students should make their first posting when the forum is available, and then come back on the following days to post their other comments. I am asking students to write two to three paragraphs, not just a couple of sentences when they make their comments to classmates’ postings. Responses must be substantive and show evidence of sociological reflection and thought. Responses should add new information, or in some way enhance the learning of others in the course by providing additional resources. It is fine to talk about your personal experiences.

However, remember to relate them to the readings. **Students must make at least four postings besides their initial postings for the discussion.** You can make as many postings as you want, **but you should post the four required postings on different days.** You will comment and raise questions about your classmates’ postings. Students should not wait until the deadline date to post their discussions and then post their other comments all on the same day. Make your postings on different days; the idea is that you log into the course several times per week. **The discussion board will count for 20 percent of the course grade.**

<u>Week</u>	<u>Readings</u>	<u>Discussion board due</u>	<u>Exams</u>
1	Origins Of Sociology; Chapters 1, 2, and 3.		Quiz 1
2	Chapters 4, 5, 6, and 7.		Quiz 2
3	Chapter 8, 9, and 10.		Quiz 3
4	Chapters 11, 12, 13 and 14.	1/14/17	Quiz 4

1. Quiz 1	20%
2. Quiz 2	20%
3. Quiz 3	20%
4. Quiz 4	20%
6. Blackboard discussion questions	20%
TOTAL	100%

Grades for this course will be assigned on the following scale

4.00	A	93% - 100%	2.00	C	73% - 76%
3.67	A-	90% - 92%	1.67	C-	70% - 72%
3.33	B+	87% - 89 %	1.33	D+	67% - 69%
3.00	B	83% - 86 %	1.00	D	60% - 66%
2.67	B-	80% - 82%	0.00	F	0% - 62 %
2.33	C+	77% - 79%			

Blackboard

In this course, you will be required to utilize Blackboard (BB), the online course management tool. Blackboard is available to all students via the web, and it can be accessed at any computer lab on campus or from home. Its Internet address is <http://bb.wpunj.edu>. See the Information Technology staff in the Atrium if you need assistance in accessing your account. The following are some of the features of BB that we will be utilizing:

- **Grading:** your current grade for the class can be viewed at any time
- **Course documents**
- **Discussion Board**

Make-up policy

There will be no make-up exam for the quizzes or for the discussion board. There is no incomplete grade for the course.

Responsibility for grades

Students are responsible for the grades they earn. If you are having difficulty understanding the material and are concerned about your performance and exams, please feel free to talk to me. I am more than willing to assist you if you are having difficulty understanding the material or assignments. Do not wait until the end of the course.

Student Conduct & Plagiarism

Violations of academic integrity

Violations of the Academic Integrity Policy will include, but not be limited to the following examples:

1. Cheating during examinations includes any attempt to (1) look at another student's examination with the intention of using another's answers for attempted personal benefit; (2) communicate in any manner, information concerning the content of the examination during the testing period or after the examination to someone who has not yet taken the examination; (3) use any materials, such as notebooks, notes, textbooks or other sources, not specifically designated by the professor of the course for student use during the examination period or (4) engage in any other activity for the purpose of seeking aid not authorized by the professor.

2. Plagiarism is the copying from a book, article, notebook, video or other source, material whether published or unpublished, without proper credit through the use of quotation marks, footnotes and other customary means of identifying sources, or passing off as one's own, the ideas, words, writings, programs and experiments of another, whether or not such actions are intentional or unintentional. Plagiarism also includes submitting, without the consent of the professor, an assignment already tendered for academic credit in another course.

3. Collusion is working together in preparing separate course assignments in ways not authorized by the instructor. Academic work produced through a cooperative (collaborative effort) of two or more students is permissible only upon the explicit consent of the professor. The collaboration must also be acknowledged in stating the authorship of the report.

4. Lying is knowingly furnishing false information, distorting data or omitting to provide all necessary, required information to the University's advisor, registrar, admissions counselor, professor, etc. for any academically related purpose.

5. Other concerns, which relate to the Academic Integrity Policy include such issues as computer security, stolen tests, falsified records, as well as vandalism of library materials. No list could possibly include all the possible violations of academic integrity. These examples should, however, give a clearer idea of the intent and extent of application of this policy.

Sociology Department Penalties for Committing Plagiarism

1. With documented evidence, a student who cheats on an exam or plagiarizes a paper for the first time will fail the course, and the record of the student's cheating or plagiarism will be sent to the Department Chairperson and the relevant Dean.

2. For the second offense in another course, the student will fail the course and be expelled from the sociology major. For those non-sociology major students who are found guilty of a second offense, they will be banned from future consideration as a sociology major and their cheating/plagiarism will be reported to the relevant Dean.

Disability

Exams may be timed. If you have any disability that may prevent you from completing the exam on time, please let the instructor know by the second week of class.

Finally, anything on this syllabus is subject to change at the Instructor's discretion