

Syllabus

Introduction to Sociology --- Soc 101 --- Spring Term IV --- Online ---

(March 22, 2022 to May 10, 2022)

**Instructor: Dr. Candice Idlebird**

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**Office Hrs: By appointment only. I will be checking e-mails periodically. Please feel free to e-mail me for a quick response. Please add to the subject "Gender & Society."**

**Credits: 3**

## **Course Description and Objectives**

SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology (3SH)

### **Course Description:**

An introduction to sociological inquiry including theory and methods, the American social class structure, socialization, gender, deviance, population, ethnic relations, collective behavior, marriage and family, and others. The student will learn how social forces influence behavior and shape the lives of individuals and the contribution of sociology to understanding society.

### **Rationale for the Course:**

This is an introductory course in the discipline of Sociology. The course will provide opportunities for students to develop perspectives which provide a basis for the systematic study of human behavior and the products of those behaviors. These perspectives will help us to challenge both explanations of behavior based upon "common sense" as well as those explanations that are based solely upon our individual experiences. In addition, the course will help us to understand the influence of groups and social structures upon human behavior and to analyze and to understand what is happening in our communities and in our society. From these newer perspectives we will be able to have a better understanding of the kinds of groups and societies we wish to live in and the policies we would be willing to support to achieve these goals.

### **Course Knowledge/Research Base:**

This course is based on the traditions that have emerged within the discipline of American Sociology. The dominant theoretical schools within this tradition will therefore color our discussion of human behavior. These perspectives do not make the social world operate in particular ways. Rather, they are attempts to discover just what it is that creates the events within which we live our lives. The theories guide us, or recommend to us "if we want to understand why these events happen, then we should look at a number of specific things". They are neither right nor wrong. They are best compared in terms of whether they suggest avenues of research that result in the development of "factual knowledge" about what determines various patterns in social life.

**Required Course Text:**

**Society: the basics (14<sup>th</sup> Edition) by John J. Macionis, Pearson/Prentice Hall; ISBN 9780134206325**

**Course Goals:**

The course is designed to introduce you to the way in which sociologists study human behavior and societies. To do this, we first look at the way sociologists think of, or imagine, social events. The theories of sociology direct our attention toward looking at man-made factors and their impact on those events. We look at how each person's behavior is linked to and affects the other person's behavior. Second, this class will focus on how sociologists go about observing and measuring human behavior. We will emphasize the benefits and limitations of research data interpretation. Third, the class is designed to emphasize the influence our decisions on our personal lives, the lives of those about whom we care, the lives of people within our community, and the society as a whole.

**Course Objectives:**

The readings, assignments, class discussions, and examinations are designed to provide the background information and critical thinking. This course is important because it will allow you the opportunity to view the world through a sociological lens. This view will broaden your horizons and allow you to view human interactions in a different light. This class will provide a better understanding of societal issues/phenomena (various sexuality perspectives, religious beliefs, and a variety of minority perspectives). If you have never taken a sociology course, this class will answer many questions about society as you (think) you know it. The goals of this course will be accomplished by making you more aware of the impact social structures have on your own behavior and life circumstances, and those of others.

Upon completing this course, you will be able to:

- Identify several major theorists and connect their theoretical contributions to the field of sociology.
- Define major concepts aligned with social class and social status, minorities, crime and deviance, socialization.
- Apply sociological concepts to your personal lives and connect these aspects to the lives and behaviors of others in order to provide explanations for human interactions.
- Interpret sociological phenomena from a critical perspective.
  
- Discuss the development of the sociological imagination
- Define the scientific method
- Discuss the various elements of culture
- Discuss the role of socialization
- Identify and discuss the various elements of social structure
- Describe the global nature of the media and its effects on society
- Define and discuss the elements of social control
- Describe the various systems of stratification
- Discuss stratification in the world system
- Describe the various population patterns of racial and ethnic diversity in the United States
- Describe the social construction of gender roles
- Analyze the social institution of family using the main sociological perspectives
- Discuss the sociological approach to religion, and, describe the role of education from the various sociological perspectives
- Describe the various types of economic systems
- Identify and discuss the various elements involved in the study of population

- Describe the approaches used to explain social movements

**Course Instructional Methodology:**

The instructor will utilize the online class board, and web-based research projects, in reference to textbook chapters, and full-class discussion of the assigned readings. I recommend that you create your own study guide for the chapters as you read them. Taking notes in your own words will provide an opportunity to test your comprehension of what you have just read. It will also provide a study guide that is based on the way in which you personally organize and edit information. Additionally, I recommend that you keep track of questions that arise during the course of your reading. This will provide a basis for asking questions during discussions. These class strategies and preparation techniques are based on the assumption that comprehension and retention of material is enhanced by the development of skills which require you to translate information into your own organizational style and apply that information to everyday experiences. Like all skills, they are developed through practice and experience. Your participation in the discussion forums as well as assignments will provide a variety of chances for me to observe and assist you in the development of these skills.

**Classroom Civility, Respect and Tolerance:** A large part of the value of a university education is the opportunity to be exposed to a wide range of different ideas, viewpoints, and types of people from various backgrounds. The content of this course will involve information that might challenge students' deeply-held beliefs. I will not allow incivilities or intolerance in this classroom. Students are required to treat one another (and their instructor) with respect. This classroom is a place where all students will be provided the opportunity to express their individual and diverse viewpoints, but those viewpoints must be expressed respectfully and involve no personal attacks. Challenging the views of others must be done respectfully. Arguments presented should follow "rules of evidence" (which I will present).

**Course Grading:**

Your final grade for the semester will be based on a series of 3 examinations. There will be 2 exams during the semester, and a final, exam. Each examination will be given equal weight in the determination of your grade. The exam dates are identified on the class schedule. You will be required to take all exams at the assigned times. Any exceptions to this policy will have to be arranged with me prior to the day of the examination. Exams needing to be rescheduled after the assigned time will carry a maximum grade penalty. None of the exams are cumulative. Your final grade will be based on the average across your exams as well as class assignments during the semester. You will also have quizzes and out of class assignments and readings that will count towards your final grade. There will be three assignments throughout the course. The assignments are not scheduled and you must be complete them on time to receive credit. There will also be two quizzes to be completed online.

## **Academic Integrity Statement and Policy**

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. Also, unless specifically stated otherwise, all graded work for this class should be done without student collaboration.

## **Disability Statement**

Reasonable accommodations will be provided for qualified students with documented physical, sensory, learning or psychiatric disabilities that require assistance to fully participate in this class. If a student has a documented disability that will need some accommodation by the professor, the student should contact Robin Richardson in the Learning Support Services Office (LSSO) to provide the necessary documentation to that office. Ms. Richardson may be contacted at 843-383-8021 or [rrichardson@coker.edu](mailto:rrichardson@coker.edu). No accommodations can be made without documentation from LSSO. The student is solely responsible for contacting Robin Richardson.

## **Title IX and Reporting of Discrimination and Sexual Harassment**

As a recipient of Federal Funds, Coker University is required to comply with Title IX legislation, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities, admission, and employment.

Coker's Commitment to Equality Equal access to educational experiences is an important part of the Coker experience. If you feel you have been discriminated against based on your sex, gender, gender identity/expression, or sexual orientation, or if you have experienced sexual harassment, misconduct, or violence, we encourage you to report this to a member of the Coker Community.

**Calculation of Course Grades** (See course calendar for dates.)

		<b>Points</b>
<b>Tests</b>	Test 1	100
	Test 2	100
	Final	100

<b>Assignments</b>	Assn. 1	15
	Assn. 2	25
	Assn. 3	20

<b>Quizzes</b>	Quiz 1	15
	Quiz 2	15

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>390</b>
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<b>Number of Points Earned</b>	<b>Course Grade</b>
390 to 363	A
362 to 351	A-
350 to 340	B+
339 to 324	B
323 to 312	B-
311 to 301	C+
300 to 285	C
284 to 273	C-
272 to 262	D+
261 to 246	D
245-234	D-
233 or Less	F

## SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS:

### \*\*\*\*SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Chapter</b>
January 18-24	Introduction- Introduction in- class discussion post, Review of Syllabus. / Assignment 1 will consist of posting an introduction post under coursework assignment 1. Due 1/24	<b>Assn. 1</b>
January 25-31	Sociology; Perspective, Theory, Method	1
Feb.1-7 <sup>th</sup>	Culture	<b>Ch. 2, Quiz 1 Due Feb 7</b>
Feb 8-14	Socialization	3
Feb 15-21	Socialization in everyday	4
Feb 22-28	<b>Test 1 Review and Test Over Chapter 1,2,3,4 (and additional materials)</b>	
March 1-7 <sup>th</sup>	Deviance	8
March 8- 14	Sexuality	<b>Ch. 7 Assignment 2 due March 14</b>
March 15- 21	Family and Religion	14

March  
22- 28

**Assignment 3 due 3/28 (Take the time to also  
prepare for exam)**

March  
29- April  
4  
**Test 2 Review  
and Test Over  
Chapters  
7,8,14**

Race

12 No class April 1<sup>st</sup>

April 5<sup>th</sup>  
- 11<sup>th</sup>

9

April 12-  
18<sup>th</sup> Stratification

Review previous  
chapters and prep  
for final

April 19<sup>th</sup>  
- 25<sup>th</sup>

**Quiz 2 Due Apr. 25**

April 26<sup>th</sup>  
- May  
2<sup>nd</sup>

Gender

11

May 3<sup>rd</sup> - Finals (Will  
6<sup>th</sup> provide a review  
chapters 9,11,12)

You are to complete your exam Between May 3<sup>rd</sup> -  
May 6<sup>th</sup>. **DUE MAY 6<sup>th</sup>**

**\*\*\*\*Syllabus subject to change Keep in mind the schedule is TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO  
CHANGE!!!!**