

Introduction to Sociology (SOCI 1301-9M2-202590)

CREDIT

3 semester credit hours (3 hours lecture, 0 hours lab)

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Distance Learning (Online)

PREREQUISITE/CO-REQUISITE:

Complete the Online Orientation and answer yes to 7+ questions on the Online Learner Self-Assessment: <http://www.lit.edu/depts/DistanceEd/OnlineOrientation/OOStep2.aspx>.

Course Description

The scientific study of human society, including ways in which groups, social institutions, and individuals affect each other. Causes of social stability and social change are explored through the application of various theoretical perspectives, key concepts, and related research methods of sociology. Analysis of social issues in their institutional context may include topics such as social stratification, gender, race/ethnicity, and deviance.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Compare and contrast the basic theoretical perspectives of sociology.
2. Identify the various methodological approaches to the collection and analysis of data in sociology.
3. Describe key concepts in sociology.
4. Describe the empirical findings of various subfields of sociology.
5. Explain the complex links between individual experiences and broader institutional forces.

Core Objective

1. Critical Thinking: To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
2. Communication: To include the effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
3. Social Responsibility: To include the intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Walter L Holt

Email: wholt@eagle.lit.edu

Office Phone: (409) 853-6261

Office Location: N/A

Office Hours: I will be on-call at the following times:

8:00AM – 5:00PM Mondays and Tuesdays



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6:00PM – 10:00PM Wednesdays through Friday via phone or email.

NOTE: If using the phone, text me your name and class beforehand.

Required Textbook and Materials

1. Conerly, T. R., Holmes, K., & Tamang, A. L. (2021). *Introduction to Sociology 3e*. Houston, TX: OpenStax.
<https://www.oercommons.org/courses/openstax-4/view>
2. Access to media/video files via YouTube, Netflix, Hulu, etc.
3. A laptop, computer, tablet, or iPad, and consistent and reliable internet access.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance in this course is strongly encouraged and necessary to be successful in any course. Since sociology is a shared learning experience better suited for groups, class discussions, online discussion boards, and additional assignments (if applicable), will make up a significant portion of one's participation and attendance in the course.

DROP POLICY

If you wish to drop a course, you are responsible for initiating and completing the drop process by the specified drop date as listed on the [Academic Calendar](#). If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an "F" in the course. Failure to access the course material by the end of the first week will result in your record being flagged in Starfish.

CALENDAR SOCI 1301: Intro to Sociology, Instructor Walter Holt, Fall 2025

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS (Due for the Week)	Discussion Board (Due on Fridays by 11:59 PM)	ASSIGNMENTS (Due on Saturdays by 11:59 PM)
8/25-8/30	<u>Week 1:</u> Introduction to Sociology	Chapter 1	8/29/2025 Discussion Board 1: Introduction	8/30/2025 Syllabus Quiz
9/1-9/6	<u>Week 2:</u> Sociological Research	Chapter 2		
9/8-9/13	<u>Week 3:</u> Culture and Society	Chapter 3	9/12/2025 Discussion Board #2: Culture	
9/15-9/19	<u>Week 4:</u> Social Interaction	Chapter 4		
09/22-09/26	<u>Week 5:</u> Socialization	Chapter 5		(09/27/2025) Quiz #1 Due
09/29-10/03	<u>Week 6:</u> Deviance	Chapters 7	(10/03/2025) #3: Deviance	

10/05-10/09	<u>Week 7:</u> Groups and Organizations	Chapters 6		
10/13-10/17	<u>Week 8:</u> Media / Technology	Chapter 8	(10/17/2025) #4: Media / Technology	(10/18/2025) Quiz #2 Due
10/20-10/24	<u>Week Seven</u> Social Stratification and Global Inequality	Chapters 9 & 10	(10/24/2025) #5: Stratification	
10/27-10/31	<u>Week Eight</u> Race and Ethnicity Aging and Elderly	Chapter 11 and 13	(10/31/2025) #6: Race / Ethnicity	
11/03-11/07	<u>Week Nine</u> Gender, Sex, and Sexuality Marriage and Family	Chapter 12 and 14	(11/07/2025) #7: Gender / Income Potential	(11/08/2025) Quiz #3 Due
11/10-11/14	<u>Week Ten</u> Religion Education	Chapter 15 and 16	(11/14/2025) #8: Education	
11/17-11/21	<u>Week Twelve</u> Work and Economy Pop., Urbanization	Chapter 18 and 20	(11/21/2025) #9: Urbanization	(11/22/2025) Quiz #4 Due
11/24-11/29	<u>Thanksgiving Week</u>	No work due	No work due	No Work Due
12/01-12/05	<u>Week Fourteen</u> Social Movements and Social Change Health and Medicine	Chapter 21 and 19	(12/05/2025) #10: Final Thoughts	(12/06/2025) Core Assessment: Research Paper Due
12/08-12/10	<u>Finals Week</u>			(12/10/2025) Final Exam Due

Course Evaluation

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Quizzes/ Exams | 53% |
| 2. Discussions | 26% |
| 3. Core Assessment: Research Paper | 21% |

Grade Scale

90 – 100	A
80 – 89	B
70 – 79	C
60 – 69	D
0 – 59	F

LIT does not use +/- grading scales

Course Policies

1. If you wish to drop a course, the student is responsible for initiating and completing the drop process. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an 'F' in the course.
2. No late work. In the case of a documentable emergency beyond the student's control, make-up work may be accepted solely at the professor's discretion. Discussion board assignments will have a courtesy of up to one day beyond listed due date to post assignments without penalty. Make up work for quizzes, exams, additional assignments, and extra credit are solely at the discretion of the professor.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

The latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, etc. can be online at <https://lit.edu/online-learning/online-learning-minimum-computer-requirements>. A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of online technology and resources.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. LIT provides reasonable accommodations as defined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, to students with a diagnosed disability. The Special Populations Office is located in the Eagles' Nest Room 129 and helps foster a supportive and inclusive educational environment by maintaining partnerships with faculty and staff, as well as promoting awareness among all members of the Lamar Institute of Technology community. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409)-951-5708 or email specialpopulations@lit.edu. You may also visit the online resource at [Special Populations - Lamar Institute of Technology \(lit.edu\)](#).

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT

It is the responsibility of all registered Lamar Institute of Technology students to access, read, understand and abide by all published policies, regulations, and procedures listed in the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook*. The *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* may be accessed at www.lit.edu. Please note that the online version of the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* supersedes all other versions of the same document.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE STATEMENT

Lamar Institute of Technology (LIT) recognizes the recent advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI), such as ChatGPT, have changed the landscape of many career disciplines and will impact many students in and out of the classroom. To prepare students for their selected careers, LIT desires to guide students in the ethical use of these technologies and incorporate AI into classroom instruction and assignments appropriately. Appropriate use of these technologies is at the discretion of the instructor. Students are reminded that all submitted work must be their own

original work unless otherwise specified. Students should contact their instructor with any questions as to the acceptable use of AI/ChatGPT in their courses

STARFISH

LIT utilizes an early alert system called Starfish. Throughout the semester, you may receive emails from Starfish regarding your course grades, attendance, or academic performance. Faculty members record student attendance, raise flags and kudos to express concern or give praise, and you can make an appointment with faculty and staff all through the Starfish home page. You can also login to Blackboard or MyLIT and click on the Starfish link to view academic alerts and detailed information. It is the responsibility of the student to pay attention to these emails and information in Starfish and consider taking the recommended actions. Starfish is used to help you be a successful student at LIT.

ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES/INFORMATION

I'll reply to your questions within 24-48 hours except during holidays or weekends. When emailing, always list your name, the course and section number. **Example: SOCI 1301. 2A1. [2A1 is the section number in this example.]** Make sure to always use proper email etiquette when emailing and/or responding to classmates on the discussion board. All assignments must be submitted by the due date unless specified by the professor with a valid excuse. Students are required to participate by interacting with other students via discussion board.