

Introduction to Sociology Online (SOCI 1301- 2D1)

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

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Office Location: Technology Center, Rm 112 A
Office Hours: MWF: 08:00 AM – 12:00 PM
T/TR: 09:00 AM – 10:30 AM



CREDIT

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

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

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.

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.

Course Outline

- I. Welcome to Sociology
 - a. Overview of Materials
 - b. Definitions and objectives
 - c. Discussion of Term Projects
 - i. Participant Observation or Community Resource Interview
 1. Participant Observation (one of 6 research methods in sociology); sociologist is both a participant and observer in the study
 2. Community Resource Review, another research method, in which the sociologist interviews a respondent about an unusual or deviant lifestyle
 - ii. Community Service Project. Student volunteers in community service organization (10 hrs.); or student may work in special events for community-based group, such as “walk-a-thons,” races, food, clothing, toys for needy in area
- II. An Introduction to Sociology In The Global Age
 - a. The Sociological Perspective or Imagination
 - i. The Changing Nature of the Social World – and Sociology.
 - ii. Thinking about and researching the Social World – classical sociological theory, theorist, and sociological research.
 1. Culture – Material and Nonmaterial
 2. Socialization and Interaction – The process of learning to be human
 3. Organizations, Societies, and The Global Domain – Groups in Society
- III. Social Groups and Social Problems in Society
 - a. Deviance and Crime – Shifting Definitions of Deviance.
 - b. Social Stratification in the United States and Globally – Rankings of Property, Power and Prestige
 - c. Race and Ethnicity – Recognizing Racism in Society
 - d. Gender and Sexuality – Gender Diversity, Femininities and Masculinities, Sexuality
- IV. Social Institutions
 - a. Families
 - b. Education and Religion
 - c. Politics and the Economy
 - d. The Body, Medicine, Health and Health Care
 - e. Population, Urbanization, and The Environment

V. Social Change, Social Movements, and Collective Actions

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.

STUDENT EXPECTED TIME REQUIREMENT

For every hour in class (or unit of credit), students should expect to spend at least two to three hours per week studying and completing assignments. For a 3-credit-hour class, students should prepare to allocate approximately six to nine hours per week outside of class in a 16-week session OR approximately twelve to eighteen hours in an 8-week session. Online/Hybrid students should expect to spend at least as much time in this course as in the traditional, face-to-face class.

COURSE CALENDAR

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS (Due on this Date)	Discussion Board	ASSIGNMENTS (Due on this Date)
01/17- 01/20	Introduction	Chapter 1	Discussion Board #1	01/20/23
01/23- 01/27	Sociological Research & Culture	Chapters 2 and 3	Discussion Board #2	01/26/23 QUIZ #1 (01/26/23)
01/30- 02/03	Society & Social Interaction & Socialization	Chapters 4 and 5	Discussion Board #3	02/02/23 EXAM #1 (02/10/23)
02/06- 02/10	Groups and Organization	Chapter 6		
02/13- 02/17	Deviance	Chapter 7	Discussion Board #4	02/16/23
02/20- 02/24	Media and Technology	Chapter 8	Discussion Board #5	02/23/23 QUIZ #2 (02/24/23)

02/27-03/03	Social Stratification and Global Inequality	Chapters 9 & 10	Discussion Board #6	EXAM #2 (MIDTERM) (03/03/23)
03/06-03/10	Race and Ethnicity	Chapter 11	Discussion Board #7	03/09/23
03/13-03/17	Gender, Sex, and Sexuality	Chapter 12	Discussion Board #8	03/16/23
03/20-03/24	Aging and the Elderly	Chapter 13		QUIZ #3 (03/24/23)
03/27-03/31	Marriage and Family	Chapter 14		
04/03-04/07	Religion	Chapter 15		
04/10-04/14	Education	Chapter 16	Discussion Board #9	04/13/23
04/17-04/21	Workforce and the Economy	Chapter 18		Research Paper Due (04/17/23)
04/24-04/28	Health and Medicine	Chapter 19		QUIZ #4 (04/28/23)
05/01-05/05	Population, Urbanization, and the Environment	Chapter 20	Discussion Board #10	05/04/23
05/08-05/11	Social Movements and Social Change	Chapter 21		Exam #3 (FINAL EXAM) (05/11/23)

Course Evaluation

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

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|-------------------|-----|
| 1. Quizzes/ Exams | 53% |
| 2. Discussions | 26% |
| 3. 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. No food, drinks, or use of tobacco products in class.
2. Cell phones, pagers, earbuds, and other electronic devices must be turned off placed at the lowest possible noise level (silenced) while in class.
3. Earbuds, headphones, beats should not be worn in class.
4. Children are not allowed in class.
5. 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.
6. 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 two days 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.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Students found to be committing academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, or collusion) may receive disciplinary action. Students need to familiarize themselves with the institution's Academic Dishonesty Policy available in the Student Catalog & Handbook at <http://catalog.lit.edu/content.php?catoid=3&navoid=80#academic-dishonesty>.

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.

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

Please allow for up to 48 hours for a response to email inquiries. 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 assignments, in-class discussions, group activities, and the research. Please note: you must respond to two student discussions in complete sentences after making your initial post and you must cite your work in the initial post. All discussion posts are to be cited in proper APA format along with the listed reference(s) (**Wikipedia is NOT a valid source!**).