

SOCIOLOGY 1301
Introduction to Sociology

Western Texas College
Department of Social Sciences

- I. Basic Course Information
 - A. This course examines the interactions among social institutions, cultures, groups, and individuals. Via three sociological paradigms, this course encourages students to examine how unequal power relations organize the social world and shape individual lives and how individuals negotiate their lives in different social and economic contexts. Further, students are challenged to employ critical thinking defined as “a willingness to ask any question, no matter how difficult; to be open to any answer that is supported by reason and evidence; and to openly confront one’s own biases and prejudices when they get in the way.” (Appelbaum and Chambliss 1997).
 - B. Prerequisites: Student should be proficient in reading and writing
- II. Student Learning Outcomes - Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
 - A. Compare and contrast the basic theoretical perspectives of sociology.
 - B. Identify the various methodological approaches to the collection and analysis of data in sociology.
 - C. Describe key concepts in sociology.
 - D. Describe the empirical findings of various subfields of sociology.
 - E. Explain the complex links between individual experiences and broader institutional forces.
- III. Major Requirements
 - A. There will be several essay exams
 - B. There will be written discussion including peer review on a weekly basis
- IV. Information on Books and Other Course Material
 - A. Henslin, J. Sociology: A Down to Earth Approach, REVEL 13/E ISBN-13: 9780134612959
- V. Other Policies: Please refer to the WTC Course [Catalog](#) for the following:
 - A. Campus Calendar
 - B. Final Exam schedule
 - C. How to drop a class
 - D. Withdrawal information
 - E. Student Conduct/Academic Integrity
 - F. Students with disabilities
 - G. Policy on late work: Late work accepted at the discretion of the instructor and only under rare circumstances.
- VI. Course Organization & Tentative Schedule*

| Week | Topic | Reading Assignments |
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| Week 1 | The Sociological Perspective | Sociology, Chapter 1 |
| Week 2 | Sociological Investigation | Sociology, Chapter 2 |
| Week 3 | Culture | Sociology, Chapter 3 |
| Week 4 | Society | Sociology, Chapter 4 |
| Week 5 | Socialization; Social Interaction | Sociology, Chapters 5 & 6 |
| Week 6 | Groups and Organizations; Sexuality | Sociology, Chapters 7 & 8 |
| Week 7 | Deviance, Social Stratification | Sociology, Chapters 9 & 10 |
| Week 8 | Social Class in the U.S., Global Stratification | Sociology, Chapters 11 & 12 |
| Week 9 | Gender Stratification, Race & Ethnicity | Sociology, Chapters 13 & 14 |
| Week 10 | Aging, the Economy & Work | Sociology, Chapters 14 & 16 |
| Week 11 | Politics & Government, Families | Sociology, Chapters 17 & 18 |
| Week 12 | Religion, Education | Sociology, Chapters 19 & 20 |
| Week 14 | Health and Medicine, Population | Sociology, Chapters 21 & 22 |
| Week 15 | Collective Behavior, Social Change | Sociology, Chapters 23 & 24 |
| Week 16 | Course Wrap-Up | |

*The above schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change.

Last Modified: August 7, 2017