

# **SOC1295 Sociology, Intro.**

## **Course Syllabus**

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Sociology, Intro. is an introductory course. All students are eligible to enroll.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Sociology includes the survey of human groups, institutions, and societies. This course aims to familiarize students to this field of study. The leading intellectual approaches as well as the diverse research methods selected in sociological analysis will be inspected.

You will scrutinize human conduct and social interaction. You will augment an awareness of how social systems and cultures came to be. You will be inspired to reflect beyond your personal life and begin to relate with experiences of people in a larger social structure.

### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

In this course an overview of the root theories of sociology will be probed. This is such a diverse subject to study; therefore, we will delve into the beginnings of this field to understand how it has revolutionized thinking and lives over the years. Sociology is all around us and impacts us every day. The student will come to understand how throughout the studies in this course. By the end of this course, all students should:

- Begin to delve into the astounding cache of questions posed by this field
- Speculate critically about the subject matter introduced
- Generate their own questions about social life
- Describe how sociology advances the understanding of social reality
- Pinpoint and measure methodological approaches
- Gauge the effects of socio-cultural modifications on individuals and social structures
- Classify an array of occupations that employ sociological insights, perspectives and methodologies

### **ATTENDANCE**

Attendance is mandatory for all students. Excellent attendance is imperative for mastery and application of the information dispensed. Whether you are sitting at a desk in a classroom or attending via Skype, your attendance is vital to your success. Late arrivals are distracting and disrespectful. Please refrain from being tardy. Grades will be affected by absences and tardiness. Participation in class is a prerequisite. You learn from lectures, discussions and presentations.

### **CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR**

Students are expected to treat all persons with respect. We should all conduct ourselves in a courteous and responsible manner. Be considerate, you can disagree, don't insult.

Please set all your electronic devices to silent during class so as not to be a disturbance to others in the class.

## **TUTORIAL ASSISTANCE**

We maintain an open-door policy for our students. We are absolutely willing to discuss any matter that may arise during the course. If you have any questions, problems, or need help with the course material, we urge you to reach out as soon as the issue arises. If you want to contest a grade, you must do so within 48 hours and put it in writing. Please ask your student advocate for help. If you do not have a student advocate send an email to: [tutordept@usilacs.org](mailto:tutordept@usilacs.org).

## **NON-DISCRIMINATORY STATEMENT**

All students regardless of age, race, gender, religion, physical disability, class, etc., shall have equal opportunity without harassment in this course. Any problems with or questions about harassment can be discussed confidentially via email at: [hr@usilacs.org](mailto:hr@usilacs.org).

## **DRESS CODE**

For students enrolled who are attending in a classroom or via Skype, please be sure you are dressed modestly and respectfully. Please refer to [www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/business%20casual](http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/business%20casual). NO short shorts or skirts. Avoid low-cut tops. We want to present ourselves in a dignified manner at all times.

## **NETIQUETTE**

- Always read through all the comments of the class before responding. This will avoid duplicating comments or questions asked.
- Avoid language that could be offensive. All profanity is strictly prohibited. Remember that using all caps when replying online signifies shouting. This would be rude and combative.
- Be sensitive to the fact that there will be fellow students from all parts of the world with many differing backgrounds and languages. Remember that slang and idioms will most likely be misconceived and/or misinterpreted. These should be avoided.
- Respect others views or opinions.
- Be thoughtful of the privacy of others. Ask permission before sharing email addresses or other personal information.
- Do not forward inappropriate material such as: virus warnings, chain letters, jokes, etc. The sharing of pornographic material is strictly prohibited.
- Use good spelling and grammar. Avoid using texting shortcuts.
- Strive to compose your comments in a positive, supportive and constructive manner at all times.

Any of these offenses will be dealt with by the school disciplinary committee.

## **ADA ACCOMMODATIONS**

All reasonable accommodations will be provided for students with disabilities. Any student attending USILACS who needs an accommodation due to a chronic challenge (i.e. blindness, deaf or hard of hearing, mobility issues, psychological, or learning disability), register with:

USILACS Registrar's Office  
1221 Brickell Ave.  
Miami, FL 33131  
1-305-330-2202  
[registrarsoffice@usilacs.org](mailto:registrarsoffice@usilacs.org)

## **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY/CHEATING**

We encourage collaborating with others, either in person or online, to study and learn. When you complete your assignments or your exams, however, the wording has to be your own.

Plagiarism is the theft of someone else's work and ideas. You are permitted to cite or even quote someone else, however, you must properly cite them. There are two accepted ways of doing this. They are known as Modern Language Association (MLA) or American Psychological Association (APA). You can visit [www.citationmachine.net](http://www.citationmachine.net) for help in correctly citing information.

As a school that strives to maintain high moral standards, we strongly caution our students to be ethical and honest. Endeavor to be honest in conducting yourself in regard to any coursework you accomplish or exams you may take. Cheating is a dishonest practice.

## **REFERENCE MATERIALS**

The vast majority of textbooks are outdated by the time they are published. USILACS education programs are not based upon outdated printed textbooks. USILACS programs are based on the most accurate and reliable knowledge available; specifically, up-to-date vetted internet-based information.

For those who would like some reference or Internet search recommendations, we would recommend the following.

- (2013) Introduction to Sociology 2e. OpenStax College. Rice University.
- (2016) Introduction to Sociology/Stratification. Wiki Books.
- (2017) What is Sociology? Crash Course Sociology by Nicole Sweeney
- (2017) Social Development: Crash Course Sociology by Nicole Sweeney
- (2017) Social Groups: Crash Course Sociology by Nicole Sweeney
- (2016) Types of Societies in Sociology by Yolanda Williams

## **MINIMUM REQUIRED SUPPLIES**

All students will need all of the following:

- Computer with camera, microphone, and speakers.

- Skype installed on the computer with an active Skype account.
- Internet
- Printer
- Notebook paper
- Pens/pencils

If the student does not have a computer or internet, there will be some available for use at the school in the computer lab.

## **GRADING SYSTEM**

There will be three tests throughout the course. Each test will count for 33.3% of the final grade.

Grade	Percentage	Grade Point
A+	99	4.0
A	97	3.8
A-	94	3.7
B+	89	3.3
B	85	3.0
B-	81	2.7
C+	77	2.3
C	73	2.0
C-	69	1.7
D	66	1.0
F	59	0.0

All students must earn at least a “D” in order to pass the class.

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

### *Reflection Paper-*

How has the distribution of income and wealth changed since the 1970's? How do middle class families survive economically in today's world? Think about these questions. Do some research. Write about your findings and your thoughts. This assignment requires at least 1,000-word paper.

### *“Friendly” Letter-*

Write a letter to a fictitious friend explaining how their current viewpoint can be enhanced by a sociological perspective you have learned in class. You should use creative writing style and explain your stand in a coherent narrative. This paper should be at least 1,000 words in length.

### *Opinion Paper-*

You no doubt will develop opinions on the subjects covered in this course. Here is your opportunity to let your voice be heard. This should cover a specific social problem of your choosing and write the piece as if you are writing an opinion article for a newspaper. 1,000-1,500 words minimum.

## **WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS**

<b>Week 1</b>	Overview of course and coursework An Introduction to Sociology (1)
<b>Week 2</b>	Sociological Research (2)
<b>Week 3</b>	Culture (3)
<b>Week 4</b>	Society and Social Interaction (4) <i>Reflection Paper due</i>
<b>Week 5</b>	<i>Video review and Exam</i>
<b>Week 6</b>	Global Inequality (10)
<b>Week 7</b>	Race and Ethnicity (11)
<b>Week 8</b>	Religion (15) <i>"Friend"ly Letter due</i>
<b>Week 9</b>	<i>Video review and Exam</i>
<b>Week 10</b>	Education (16)
<b>Week 11</b>	Work and the Economy (18)
<b>Week 12</b>	Social Movements and Social Change (21) <i>Opinion Paper due</i>
<b>Week 13</b>	<i>Video review and Final exam</i>