

ESSEX COUNTY COLLEGE
Social Sciences Division
SOC 101 – Introduction to Sociology
Course Outline

Course Number & Name: SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology

Credit Hours: 3.0 **Contact Hours:** 3.0 **Lecture:** 3.0 **Lab:** N/A **Other:** N/A

Prerequisites: Grades of “C” or better in ENG 096 and RDG 096 or placement

Co-requisites: None

Instructor: Dr. Akil Kokayi Khalfani

Email: TBA

Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description: This class will help students critically analyze the world through a sociological lens. The major theories and methodologies used by sociologists to understand the social world will be examined and applied.

Textbook: Basirico, Laurence A, Barbara G Cashion, J Ross Eshleman, and Akil Kokayi Khalfani. 2009. *Introduction to Sociology: Understanding Our Complex World*, 4th edition. Horizon Textbook Publishing: Redding, CA.

General Education Goals (GEG): The aggregate of the core courses required for any major at ECC have the following goals:

1. **Written and Oral Communication:** Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.
2. **Quantitative Knowledge and Skills:** Students will use appropriate mathematical and statistical concepts and operations to interpret data and to solve problems.
3. **Scientific Knowledge and Reasoning:** Students will use the scientific method of inquiry through the acquisition of scientific knowledge.
4. **Technological Competency/Information Literacy:** Students will use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to achieve educational and personal goals.

5. **Society and Human Behavior:** Students will use social science theories and concepts to analyze human behavior and social and political institutions and to act as responsible citizens.
6. **Humanistic Perspective:** Students will analyze works in the field of art, music, or theater; literature; and philosophy and/or religious studies; and will gain competence in the use of a foreign language.
7. **Historical Perspective:** Students will understand historical events and movements in World, Western, non-Western, or American societies and assess their subsequent significance.
8. **Global and Cultural Awareness of Diversity:** Students will understand the importance of global perspective and culturally diverse peoples.
9. **Ethics:** Students will understand ethical issues and situations.

Course Goals: Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to do the following:

1. recognize and describe sociological concepts and terms;
2. recognize the names of important figures in the development of sociology and recognize and explain theories and concepts they espoused or critiqued;
3. compare and contrast the various social sciences;
4. analyze and evaluate social phenomena using sociological theory; and
5. compare and contrast the diverse global social and cultural perspectives.

Measurable Course Performance Objectives (MPOs): Upon successful completion of this course, students should specifically be able to do the following:

1. Recognize and describe sociological concepts and terms:
 - 1.1 *articulate the three major sociological theories: Conflict, Structural Functional, and Symbolic Interaction;*
 - 1.2 *explain and apply the concept of the sociological imagination; and*
 - 1.3 *discuss the methods used for sociological analysis*
2. Recognize the names of important figures in the development of sociology and recognize and explain theories and concepts they espoused or critiqued:
 - 2.1 *identify early European and American sociological thinkers, such as Marx and Du Bois;*
 - 2.2 *describe the contributions of the Atlanta Sociological Laboratory and the Chicago School and identify the central scholars who brought recognition to these institutions; and*
 - 2.3 *identify contemporary sociologists and discuss their ideas*
3. Compare and contrast the various social sciences:
 - 3.1 *describe how sociology differs from the other social sciences; and*
 - 3.2 *explain the differences between applied and pure sociology*

4. Analyze and evaluate social phenomena using sociological theory:
 - 4.1 *identify a social problem and critically analyze it using the three major sociological theories and the methods used for sociological analysis;*
 - 4.2 *explain how social inequality impacts race, class, and gender in society; and*
 - 4.3 *conduct high quality research projects using the library, the internet, and scholarly research search engines*

5. Compare and contrast the diverse global social and cultural perspectives:
 - 5.1 *recognize and discuss biases on a local, national and global level;*
 - 5.2 *analyze cultural differentiation using the three major sociological theories and the concept of the sociological imagination; and*
 - 5.3 *analyze personal biases and describe how they influence decisions and perceptions*

The **Analytical Reflections** are weekly requirements. All assignments must be typewritten.

Methods of Instruction: Instruction consists of lectures, class discussions, videos, and a scholarly research project.

Outcomes Assessment: Weekly analytical reflections and/or quiz/exam questions are blueprinted to course objectives. Rubrics are used to evaluate the assigned research paper and the final presentation for the presence of course objectives. Data is collected and analyzed to determine the level of student performance on these assessment instruments in regards to meeting course objectives. The results of this data analysis are used to guide necessary pedagogical and/or curricular revisions.

Course Requirements: All students are required to:

1. Read all assigned course materials including the textbook selections.
2. Attend class regularly.
3. Complete all written assignments and participate in classroom discussions.
4. Complete the assigned research paper using ASA format for reference and citation.
5. Take exams/quizzes as scheduled.

Attendance Policy: Regular and prompt attendance is essential for academic success. Faculty members take attendance at each scheduled class session. Students are expected to attend and be on time for all classes. Individual faculty members may establish specific attendance policies. Attendance records will be turned in to the appropriate Division/Department Chair and/or Program Director at the end of the term and in the interim upon request. Any students with more than three unexcused absences will automatically fail the course.

Methods of Evaluation: Final course grades will be computed as follows:

Grading Components	% of final course grade
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analytical Reflections/Class Participation/Attendance
Weekly assignments are made that analyze reading materials and/or current affairs, the selection of which is based on relevance to course objectives. Responses to analytical reflections will provide evidence of the extent to which students have met course objectives. Classroom participation and attendance are also considered here. | 35% |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Project
This research project requires students to use scholarly journals as sources and ASA formatting to present a proposal for a research paper. The papers are evaluated using a rubric for the presence of course objectives, including using one the three major sociological theoretical perspectives. | 15 % |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid Term
Quizzes will provide evidence of the extent to which students have met course objectives. | 25% |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Exam
The comprehensive final exam will examine the extent to which students grasp and synthesize the sociological concepts, methods, and theories and have achieved course objectives. | 25% |

Grading System:

A	90% - 100%	Superior
B+	87% - 89%	Very Good
B	80% - 86%	Good
C+	77% - 79%	Above Average
C	70% - 76%	Satisfactory
D	60% - 69%	Passing
F	59% - 0	Failing

Academic Integrity: Dishonesty disrupts the search for truth that is inherent in the learning process and so devalues the purpose and the mission of the College. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- plagiarism – the failure to acknowledge another writer’s words or ideas or to give proper credit to sources of information;
- cheating – knowingly obtaining or giving unauthorized information on any test/exam or any other academic assignment;
- interference – any interruption of the academic process that prevents others from the proper engagement in learning or teaching; and
- fraud – any act or instance of willful deceit or trickery.

Violations of academic integrity will be dealt with by imposing appropriate sanctions. Sanctions for acts of academic dishonesty could include the resubmission of an assignment, failure of the test/exam, failure in the course, probation, suspension from the College, and even expulsion from the College.

Student Code of Conduct: All students are expected to conduct themselves as responsible and considerate adults who respect the rights of others. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. All students are also expected to attend and be on time all class meetings. No cell phones or similar electronic devices are permitted in class. Please refer to the Essex County College student handbook, *Lifeline*, for more specific information about the College’s Code of Conduct and attendance requirements.

Course Content Outline: This is a tentative course schedule; the instructor reserves the right to make changes on it to make it better for the student’s development. Notice will be given should any changes take place.

Week	Dates	Plan for Class	Assignments
1	Monday	Overview and Introduction	Chapter 1
	Tuesday	Development of Sociology Intro to Soc: Chapter 2	Start talking about research First quiz this week.
	Wednesday	Intro to Soc: Chapter 2	Read Chapters 2 in Basirico Analytical Reflections are due on Mondays starting this week. Research Topic Due 1-27
	Thursday	Methods	Intro to Soc: Chapter 3 5 Journal Articles
	Friday	Review – Meeting with TA	Work on Journals Poetry
2	Monday	Culture and Society – Chpt 4 Social Structure, Groups and Organizations	

	Tuesday	Intro to Soc: Chapter 5	
	Wednesday	Intro to Soc: Chapter 6	
	Thursday	Deviance	Intro to Soc: Chapter 7
	Friday	Review for Midterm	Small Groups
3	Monday	Small group review presentations	
	Tuesday	Midterm Exam	
	Wed	Presentation Preparation	Develop Groups
	Thursday	Social Stratification – Race, Class & Gender	Intro to Soc: Chpts 8, 9 & 10
	Friday	Social Stratification – Race, Class & Gender	Annotated Bibliography Intro to Soc: Chapters 8, 9 & 10
4	Monday	Family and Education	Intro to Soc: Chapter 12 & 14
	Tuesday	Family and Education	Intro to Soc: Chapter 12 & 14
	Wed/Thursday	Political and Econ Groups	Intro to Soc: Chapter 15 & 16
	Friday	Review	Poetry on knowledge gained
5	Monday	Social Change	Intro to Soc: Chapter 19
	Tuesday		Intro to Soc: Chapter 20
	Wednesday	Review	Student Organized
	Thursday	Final Exam	
	Friday	Reflections	

NOTE:

The Syllabus and Calendar are subject to change in the event of unforeseen circumstances. The Grading policies remain the same.

CLASS POLICIES:

We must maintain an effective academic learning environment for all students.

- 1) No CELL PHONES or TEXT MESSAGING in class. They must be turned off or to vibrate.
- 2) No leaving classroom to talk on cell phones.
- 3) Disruptive students will be asked to leave and required to see the instructor to regain entry into the class.
- 4) The classroom is a place for open discussion. No attacks on personal character are allowed, but critical debate is encouraged
- 5) ATTENDANCE and PARTICIPATION ARE MANDATORY
- 6) If you are absent, get missed notes before coming to class. Absence from three or more scheduled sessions requires the student to meet with the instructor to justify continuation in the course.
- 7) Quizzes cannot be made-up.

- 8) Students arriving late for three or more sessions must justify continuation in the class. More than 30 minutes late is considered an absence
- 9) Incomplete grades are only given where and when the students has a medical or legal emergency and a passing average on 70% of all previous work, including analytical reflections.
- 10) Withdrawal from a course must be done “officially” otherwise; a permanent final grade of “F” will be recorded on the student’s transcript.

Analytical Reflections

These reflections represent your understanding of the text and/or handouts. A one-page **typed** (single-spaced) response to the following is due as assigned. We will use your responses to these questions during class. Number each step on your assignment.

- Step 1: Assignment from textbook will be given out in class. (List the question you answer.)
- Step 2: Generate a definition for any word that is new to you from the reading assignment.
- Step 3: Write a 6-line poem to summarize this chapter. In your poem consider how the concepts in the chapter helped improve your understanding of our social world?

This assignment is due as assigned.