

**COURSE SYLLABUS (2020 – 2021)**

**SCHOOL/COLLEGE**: College of Arts & Sciences

**DEPARTMENT NAME**: Social Sciences

**SEMESTER:**

**COURSE TITLE**: Sociology I

**COURSE NUMBER**: SOC1001

**SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS**: 3

**PREREQUISITE(S):** None

**PROFESSOR NAME**: Dr. Amini

**OFFICE LOCATION: None**

**OFFICE PHONE: None**

**E-MAIL ADDRESS**: samini@jwu.edu

**OFFICE HOURS**: By Appointment Only

**DEPARTMENT CHAIR:** Professor David Newman

This syllabus contains the policies and expectations established for this course that are intended to create a productive learning atmosphere for all students. Students should read the entire syllabus carefully and understand that they will be expected to fully abide by these policies and expectations.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**: This course provides an introduction to sociology with the focus of study on how humans interact within a society, both as individuals and in groups. Emphasis is placed on sociological methods and perspectives/paradigms.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**: Upon satisfactory completion of this course, a student should be able to:

1. Identify the core features of sociology.
2. Describe the specific varieties of social scientific methodologies that allow sociologists to make qualified generalizations about human behavior.
3. Examine and analyze the social situation from several different perspectives.
4. Compare and contrast the norms, values, beliefs, material culture and symbols within and between cultures.
5. Using the sociological imagination, assess how social structures and social processes impact everyday life, regardless of the level or scale of the interactions.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

Benokraitis, Nijole V., Sociology, 6th edition, Cengage Learning, Wadsworth, 2019. ISBN: 978-1337405164.

<https://openstax.org/details/books/introduction-sociology-2e> (Prof. Sherwood’s class)

**EVALUATIVE CRITERIA**:

The final grade must be based on a minimum of four evaluative criteria exclusive of a grade for participation and including a final examination.

1. Midterm Exam (25% of the final grade)
2. Final Exam (25% of the final grade)
3. Article Review #1 (10% of the final grade)
4. Article Review #2 (10% of the final grade)
5. Film Review #1 (15% of the final grade)
6. Film Review #2 (15% of the final grade)

**CAMPUS-SPECIFIC STUDENT POLICIES**:

All students are required to read, understand, and abide by the provisions of the Catalog and Student Handbook applicable to their campus, which can be found at <http://academics.jwu.edu/catalogs/>.

In particular, students should be aware of the following university policies:

**General Information and Policies**

Prohibited Discrimination and Harassment

Withdrawal

University Holds

**Academic Policies:**

Academic Integrity/Academic Integrity Review Process/Turnitin Notification

Attendance

Occupancy in Class

Outcomes Assessment

**Student Affairs:**

Student Code of Conduct

**Student Services:**

Accessibility Services

**Accommodation Statement**

Johnson & Wales University supports all students’ academic needs. Students with documented disabilities interested in accommodations and/or auxiliary services must contact Accessibility Services, meet with an Accessibility Services advisor, and together complete an Accommodation Agreement. Students are encouraged to speak privately with their professors regarding their academic accommodations. Contact Accessibility Services at <https://academicsupport.jwu.edu> for campus-specific information including office location and contact number.

**SYSTEM OF RECORD FOR ACADEMIC GRADES:**

Official academic grades can be accessed via jwuLink. Grades maintained in the ULearn course management system are for tracking purposes only and may not reflect all of the criteria considered when calculating a student’s final grade.

**CLASSROOM POLICIES** **& PROCEDURES**:

**CONTENT OUTLINE:**

1. The Sociological Perspective (Course Objectives 1 & 3)
   1. Overview of perspectives
2. How Sociologists Do Research (Course Objective 2)
   1. Varieties of methods in sociological research
3. Societies to Social Networks (Course Objectives 4 & 5)
   1. Socialization as a social process
   2. Social interactions from different sociological perspectives
4. Culture (Course Objective 4)
   1. Norms, values, beliefs
   2. Material culture
   3. Symbols
5. Deviance and Social Control (Course Objectives 4 & 5)
   1. Social creation of deviance
6. Socialization (Course Objective 5)
   1. The process of learning to participation in groups
7. Inequality of Gender (Course Objectives 1, 3 & 5)
   1. Inequalities between genders
   2. Dimensions and sociological explanation of differences
8. Inequality of Social Class (Course Objectives 1, 3 & 5)
   1. Inequalities among different income and status groups
   2. Dimensions and sociological explanations of differences
9. Inequality of Race and Ethnicity (Course Objectives 1, 3 & 5)
   1. Inequalities among different income and status groups
   2. Dimensions and sociological explanations of differences

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE:**

**Week 1: Introduction to Sociology**

* **Defining Sociology (Sociological Imagination)**
* **The History of Sociology (Industrial Revolution)**
* **Three Key Theoretical Perspectives (Conflict, Structural-Functionalism, Symbolic Interaction)**

**Read: (pp. 1 – 43)**

**Week 2: Sociological Research**

* **Approaches to Sociological Research (Macro/Micro)**

**Read: (pp. 1 – 43)**

* **Types of Research Methods (Survey, Experiment, Participant Observation, Case Study, Historical Analysis)**

**Week 3: Culture**

* **What is Culture?**
* **Components of Culture (Material, Non-Material)**
* **Types of Culture (Dominant Culture, Sub-Cultures, Pop Culture)**
* **Theoretical Perspectives on Culture (Conflict, Functionalism, Symbolic Interaction)**

**Read: (pp. 51 – 75)**

**Week 4: Society and Social Interaction (the Meaning of Self?)**

* **Theories of the Development of Self/Personality (Nature or Nurture?)**
* **Historical Types of Society (Traditional, Modern, Post-Modern)**
* **Social Construction of Reality (Contextuality)**

**Read: (pp. 76 – 92)**

**Week 5: Socialization**

* **Theories of Development of Self**
* **Agents of Socialization**
* **Socialization Across the Life Course**

**Read: (pp. 93 – 104)**

**Week 6: Groups and Organization (Simmel, Weber)**

* **Types of Groups (Formal, Informal)**
* **Group Size and Structure**
* **Formal Organizations (Modern Bureaucracy)**

**Read: (pp. 115 – 134)**

**Week 7: Deviance, Crime, Social Control**

* **Theoretical Perspectives on Deviance**
* **Deviance and Social Control**

**Read: (pp. 135 – 154)**

**Week 8: Media and Technology – Types of Groups**

* **Media and Technology in Knowledge-Based Society**
* **The Globalized Society and Culture**
* **Theoretical Perspectives on Media and Technology**

**Read: (pp. 155 – 182)**

**Week 9: Social Stratification and Social Inequality**

* **What is Social Stratification?**
* **Theoretical Perspectives on Stratification**

**Read: (pp. 183 – 204)**

**Week 10: Global Stratification and Inequality**

**Read: (pp. 205 – 224)**

**Week 11: Race and Ethnicity**

* **Definition of Race and Ethnicity**
* **Racial and Ethnic Differentiation and Stratification**
* **Stereotypes, Prejudice, Discrimination**

**Read: (pp. 225 – 250)**

**Week 12: Gender, Sex, Sexuality**

**Read: (pp. 251 – 273)**

**Week 13: Social Institutions**

* **Marriages and Families**
* **Religion**

**Read: (pp. 307 – 352)**

**Week 14: Education – Government/Politics**

**Read: (pp. 353 – 394)**

**Week 15: Work and Economy – Health and Medicine**

**Read: (pp. 395 – 448)**

**Week 16: Social Movements and Social Change**

**Read: (pp. 475 – 486)**