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**Course Syllabus**

**Introduction to Sociology (SOC 101)**

**Department of Political Science and Sociology**

**North South University**

**Fall 2020**

**Course Teacher:** Syeda Aniqua Batul (SAq)

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**Office: 1189**

**Class Hours: MW Section 11: 8.00 am – 9.30 am**

**MW Section 12: 9.40 am – 11.10 am**

**MW Section 23: 4.20 am – 5.50 pm**

**Description of the course**

Sociology is a scientific study of social behaviour and human groups, which includes a continuous effort to have a better understanding of the great diversity of social relationships through social interactions. It also focuses on the connection and interaction between the individual and social structure following a scientific process. This course provides students with an introduction and understanding of the primary phenomena, concepts, issues and practices associated with sociology as a subject matter. Concepts of fundamental phenomena, issues, and procedures such as social institutions, social class, social groups, culture, social stratification, gender ideologies, socialization process, social mobility, globalization, etc. have been included in this course to help students have an overview of social contexts. The course will encourage students to debate various issues of the globalized world to develop a sociological imagination. Students will also be introduced to basic research methods (with practical exercises) used for sociological investigations which will help them develop the primary skills to study human behaviors.

**Learning goals of the course**

The learning goals of the course are:

* To develop the sociological imagination to have an in-depth understanding of the society.
* To develop knowledge about the key issues that influence the function and structure of the society. Students would **acquire** an understanding of social structure and would realize how it shapes and impacts social interactions and social relationships.
* To be able to explain cultural context by understanding its components and to identify the differences and commonalities within diverse cultures.
* To develop students’ skills to critically analyze the historical and contemporary issues that influence the function and structure of the society and to understand the patterns of cohesions,conflicts, and mechanisms of social changes at the national and global contexts.
* **To be able to i**dentify and employ basic research skills and their appropriate application to the study of social life.
* To be able to apply a better understanding of the social phenomena while engaged in their respective professional lives.

**Lecture Plan**

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| **Lectures** | **Topic** | **Key Areas** |
| 1 and 2 | Introduction to Sociology | Definition and scope of Sociology; Sociological Imagination; History of Sociology as a Discipline; Major theorists of Sociology; Major theoretical perspectives: Functionalist, Conflict, and Interactionist |
| 3 and 4 | Research Methodology | Definition of sociological research; Designing Research; Research strategies and data collection methods; Ethics of Research; Data analysis and report writing |
| 5 and 6 | Culture and Society | Definition of Culture; Culture as a key concept; Nature of culture; Cultural Evolution and adaptation; Cultural Change, Impact of Culture |
| 7 | Socialization | Definition of socialization; Process of socialization; Culture Society and Child Socialization; Gender Socialization; Social construction of gender ideologies |
| 8 and 9 | Social Institutions and Social Structure | Family, Marriage, and Kinship; Elements of Social Structure; Understanding Organisation; Mechanical and Organic Solidarity |
| 10 and 11 | Economic System | Types of economic systems; characteristics |
|  |  | **Midterm Exam After 11th Lecturer (Lecture 1 to Lecture 11)** |
| 13 and 14 | Religion and Society | Definition of religion; Role of religion in society; Types of religion and their basis |
| 15 and 16 | Education | Theorizing the significance of Education; Social Divisions and Education; Education in Global Context |
| 17 and 18 | Social Stratification, Class, Mobility | System of stratification; Theories of class and stratification: Karl Marx and Max Weber,  Social mobility |
| 19 and 20 | Sociology of Health |  |
| 21and 22 | Social Problems: Deviance, Crime and Social Control | Definition of Social Control, Crime and Deviance; Sociological Perspectives of Crime and Deviance and Social Control |
| 23 and 24 | Viva/Review Class |  |
| **FINAL EXAM: Lecture 13 to 22** | | |

**Course Requirement:**

* Reading of suggested course material is essential for a better understanding on the course. In addition, you will have to follow the lecture and class discussion;
* Participation in all exams, quiz and presentation is mandatory.
* The best two quizzes out of three will be considered;
* In case of extreme difficulties or medical condition, please discuss this with the course teacher with relevant evidence;
* Attendance and participation in class is very important to get a better understanding on the subject. Therefore, 10% is kept on the attendance. Class participation and discussion will help you to develop a clear understanding on the subject. Thus, it will be helpful to prepare for exams. You are required to attend at least 90% of scheduled class in order to achieve full marks on attendance.
* Switching off mobile phones or putting it in vibration is a basic etiquette before entering into classroom, therefore, it is expected that all students should strictly follow it to ensure a better environment for lecture.

**Course Evaluation:**

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| Midterm | 25% |
| Project & Viva | 15% |
| Quizzes (Best two out of three) | 15% |
| Attendance and Class Participation | 10% |
| Final Exam | 35% |
| Total | 100% |

**Text:**

**Primary textbook:**

Schaefer, Richard T (2013) *Sociology: A Brief Introduction*, 10th Edition, NY: McGraw-Hill Inc.

**Additional:**

Giddens, Anthony (2009) *Sociology*, 6th Edition, Cambridge: Polity.

**Textbooks are available at the Photocopy centre and at the faculty resources.**

**Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism is presenting someone else’s work as your work intentionally or unintentionally. It includes copying or paraphrasing someone else’s work (published or unpublished) without any reference or acknowledgment to the original author. Plagiarism is an act of academic cheating, I, therefore, expect from all students to avoid this while you write. To avoid plagiarism, please follow these instructions:

* Do not copy from others;
* Always acknowledge and use reference if you get any information from other authors;
* Even if you copy materials from a website, please provide the reference;
* Do not use a long quotation, use short quotation with justification. In the context where you need to refer an author in a longer sentence, paraphrase the content using reference with the page number.

***Good Luck***