

Sociology

Course Number: EL1120

Grade level: 10

Credits: 0.5

Prerequisite Courses: None

Course Description

Providing insight into the human dynamics of our diverse society, EL1120 is an engaging one-semester course that delves into the fundamental concepts of sociology. This interactive course, designed for high-school students, covers cultural diversity and conformity, basic structures of society, individuals and socialization, stages of human development as they relate to sociology, deviance from social norms, social stratification, racial and ethnic interactions, gender roles, family structure, the economic and political aspects of sociology, the sociology of public institutions, and collective human behavior, both historically and in modern times.

Course Objectives

Throughout the course, you will meet these goals:

- Identify the factors that account for variations among and within cultures
- Outline the basic values that form the foundation of American culture and describe the new values that have developed in the United States since the 1970s
- Describe how the composition of the labor force in the United States has changed throughout history
- Identify the principal types of crime in the United States, and describe the characteristics of the American criminal-justice system
- Explain how different motivations and cultural values influence the American class system
- Describe the characteristics that distinguishes minority groups from one another
- Describe the characteristics of the capitalist and the socialist economic systems, and outline the developments that have transformed the American economic system
- Compare and contrast the views of sociologists concerning education, and identify some of the current issues in American education

Student Expectations

This course requires the same level of commitment from you as a traditional classroom course would. Throughout the course, you are expected to spend approximately five to seven hours per week online on the following activities:

- Interactive lessons that include a mixture of instructional videos and tasks
- Assignments in which you apply and extend learning in each lesson

- Assessments, including quizzes, tests, and cumulative exams

Communication

Your teacher will communicate with you regularly through discussions, email, chat, and system announcements. Through this communication with your teacher, you will monitor your progress through the course and improve your learning by reviewing material that was challenging for you.

You will also communicate with classmates, either via online tools or face to face, as you:

- Collaborate on projects
- Ask and answer questions in your peer group
- Develop speaking and listening skills

Grading Policy

You will be graded on the work you do online and the work you submit electronically to your teacher. The weighting for each category of graded activity is listed below.

Assignments	20%
Essays	0%
Lesson Quizzes	30%
Unit Tests	30%
Cumulative Exams	20%
Additional	0%

Scope and Sequence

When you log into the Virtual Classroom, you can view the entire course map, which provides a scope and sequence of all topics you will study. Clicking a lesson's link in the course map leads to a page listing instructional activities, assignments, and learning objectives specific to that lesson. The units of study are summarized below:

- Unit 1:** An Introduction to Sociology: Exploring Culture and Social Control
- Unit 2:** Social Structure and Socializing the Individual
- Unit 3:** Adolescents, Adults, and Families in Society
- Unit 4:** Deviance, Social Control, Social Stratification, and Social Institutions
- Unit 5:** Exploring our Differences, Social Structure, and Change

Unit	Lesson	Lesson Objectives
An Introduction to Sociology: Exploring Culture and Social Control		
Examining Social Life		
Define sociology and explain what it means to have a sociological imagination.		
Describe how sociology is similar and different from other social sciences.		
Sociology: Then and Now		
Describe the ways the three main theoretical perspectives in sociology differ in their focus.		
Explain how the field of sociology developed.		
The Meaning of Culture		
Define meaning of the term culture, and how material culture and nonmaterial culture differ.		
Outline the basic components of culture.		
Cultural Variation		
Define cultural universals and explain why they exist.		
Define ethnocentrism and cultural relativism.		
Identify the factors that account for variations among and within cultures.		
The American Value System		
Describe the new values that have developed in the United States since the 1970s.		
Outline the basic values that form the foundation of American culture.		
Social Control		
Analyze the differences between formal and informal sanctions.		
Analyze the differences between positive and negative sanctions.		
Describe how the norms of society are enforced.		
Social Change		
Explain the main sources of social change.		
Identify the factors that lead people to resist social change.		
Social Structure and Socializing the Individual		
Building Blocks of Social Structure		
Describe the two major components of social structure.		
Explain how these two components of social structure affect human interaction.		
Types of Social Interaction		
Describe the common types of social interaction.		
Identify the types of interactions that stabilize social structure and those that can disrupt it.		
Types of Societies		
Describe the roles that individuals play in these models of group systems.		
Identify the types of societies that exist in the world today.		

Unit	Lesson	Lesson Objectives
Groups Within Society		
<p>Explain the purposes that groups fulfill.</p> <p>Outline the major features of primary and secondary groups.</p>		
The Structure of Formal Organizations		
<p>Describe how bureaucracies are structured.</p> <p>Explain how bureaucracies are effective.</p>		
Personality Development		
<p>Describe how isolation in childhood affects development.</p> <p>Outline the four main factors that affect the development of personality.</p>		
The Social Self		
<p>Explain how a person's sense of self emerges.</p> <p>Identify the theories that have been put forth to explain the process of socialization.</p>		
Agents of Socialization		
<p>Explain why family and education are important social institutions.</p> <p>Identify the most important agents of socialization in the United States.</p>		
Adolescents, Adults, and Families in Society		
Adolescence in Our Society		
<p>Identify the five general characteristics of adolescence.</p> <p>Summarize how adolescence developed as a distinct stage of the life cycle in the United States.</p>		
Teenagers and Dating		
<p>Outline the functions that dating fulfills.</p> <p>Summarize how dating developed as a form of social interaction.</p>		
Early and Middle Adulthood		
<p>Summarize Daniel Levinson's theory of male development.</p> <p>Summarize the stages of adult female development.</p>		
The World of Work		
<p>Describe how the composition of the labor force in the United States has changed.</p> <p>Describe how the nature of work in the United States has changed.</p>		
The Later Years		
<p>Describe the characteristics of life during late adulthood.</p> <p>Identify the new challenges that older Americans face.</p>		
Age and Disability		
<p>Explain how aging of the population is affecting the life chances of older Americans.</p> <p>Summarize the effect that aging of the population is having on society.</p>		

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		<p>The Family in Cross-Cultural Perspective</p> <p>Describe the norms that influence the ways in which marriage patterns are organized around the world.</p> <p>Identify the basic societal needs that the institution of family satisfies.</p> <p>The American Family</p> <p>Outline the trends in American family life that are currently being examined by sociologists.</p> <p>Summarize how American families begin and the disruptions they might face.</p>
		<p>Deviance, Social Control, Social Stratification, and Social Institutions</p> <p>Deviance</p> <p>Compare the theories that have been proposed to explain deviance.</p> <p>Summarize the nature and social functions of deviance.</p> <p>Crime</p> <p>Describe the characteristics of the American criminal-justice system.</p> <p>Identify the principle types of crime in the United States.</p> <p>Systems of Stratification</p> <p>Compare and contrast the major theories of social stratification.</p> <p>Describe the characteristics of caste systems and class systems.</p> <p>The American Class Systems</p> <p>Describe the characteristics of the American class system.</p> <p>Explain how different motivations and cultural values influence the American class system.</p> <p>Poverty</p> <p>Analyze the steps that have been taken by the federal government to lessen the effects of poverty.</p> <p>Identify the groups of Americans that are affected by poverty.</p> <p>The Political Institution</p> <p>Describe how the exercise of power varies by type of government.</p> <p>Describe the major characteristics of the U.S. political system.</p> <p>The Sociology of Education</p> <p>Compare and contrast the views of the functionalist, conflict, and interactionist sociologists concerning education.</p> <p>Identify some of the current issues in American education.</p> <p>The Sociology of Religion</p> <p>Describe the basic societal needs that religion serves.</p> <p>Identify the distinctive features of religion in American Society.</p> <p>Mass Media as a Social Institution</p> <p>Identify the types of mass media in the United States.</p> <p>Outline some of the contemporary mass-media issues.</p> <p>Summarize the major developments in the history of mass media.</p>

Unit	Lesson	Lesson Objectives
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Exploring our Differences, Social Structure, and Change

Race, Ethnicity, and the Social Structure

Describe the characteristics that distinguishes minority groups from one another.

Explain how sociologists define the terms race, ethnicity, and minority group.

Patterns of Intergroup Relations

Describe how discrimination and prejudice differ.

Identify the most common patterns of minority-group treatment.

Minority Groups in the United States

Identify the conditions under which minority groups in the United States live.

Summarize the government policies that have affected the lives of minority groups in the United States.

Gender

Describe how gender roles affect the opportunities available to men and women in society.

Explain how gender roles are affected by socialization.

Population Change

Describe how sociologists explain population change.

Identify the factors that affect the size and structure of populations and how sociologists measure these factors.

Outline the programs that have been instituted to control population growth.

Urban Life

Explain how cities evolve and why urbanization is such a recent event.

Outline the models that have been proposed to explain the structure of cities.

Summarize the theories that have been put forth to explain city life.

Collective Behavior

Describe the differences between various types of collectivities.

Summarize the explanations that have been proposed to explain collective behavior.

Summarize the preconditions that are necessary for collective behavior to occur and explain how they build on one another.

Social Movements

Describe the types of social movements that exist and explain how they differ.

Explain the existence of social movements.

Identify the stages of the life cycle of social movements.

Explaining Social Change

Explain how the theories on social change have evolved.

Summarize the theories that social scientists have offered to explain the process of social change.