

Master Syllabus

1. Course Information

College: Liberal Arts
Department: Sociology/Anthropology
Course Title: Social Life
Course Designation and Number: SOC 200
GE Area(s): (List all area(s) that apply.)

III. Human Behavior--Sociology
VI. College Component

Writing Intensive: Yes No

For WI Courses: All sections Selected sections are WI

Method(s) of Instruction: Lecture
 Discussion
 Web-enhanced
 Web-only
 Other (explain below)

Includes Lab: Yes No
(For lab courses specify how the weekly meeting times are structured.)

Prerequisites: (Specify or state 'None.') None

2. Objectives

GE Program Objectives:

- ...sharpen critical thinking, problem-solving and communication skills.
- ...learn about the aesthetic, ethical, moral, social, and cultural dimensions of human experience needed for participation in the human community
- ...increase knowledge and understanding of the past, of the world in which we live, and of how both past and present have an impact on the future

GE Area III Objectives:

- a. Use multiple approaches/perspectives to systematically analyze complex individual and institutional behavior culturally, subculturally, and or cross-culturally
- b. Recognize appropriate ethical uses of social scientific knowledge

GE Area VI Objectives:

- a. communicate with individuals who are in the student's major, in allied fields and non-specialists

- b. understand important relationships and interdependencies between the student's major and other academic disciplines, world events or life endeavors
- c. additionally meet the objectives of Area I, II, III, IV, or V

Course Objectives and GE Learning Outcomes:

Sociology 200 is the basic, introductory social course currently taken by all students in general education. It provides a broad overview of some major areas of sociology and gives the students preparation for further courses in sociology. Sociology, the broadest of the social sciences, links social institutions and processes to all areas of society. For instance, discussions of institutions of family, education, religion, politics and economics link sociology to courses in other departments. Furthermore, sociology has practical implications for students' lives, subject matter that they can use in work and personal life. Students will learn about the sociological perspective, viewing the world objectively, understanding differences in individuals and groups, appreciation of diversity, and systematic methods for studying groups and society. They will practice writing skills, critical thinking and problem solving skills. Students will also gain concrete knowledge of sociological findings on subject areas covered. As students listen to news or deal with community issues, knowledge from sociology will be useful to them. Specific examples of course objectives from one course are as follows: developing an understanding and tolerance for difference peoples and viewpoints; understanding how the social system works and how to bring about change in the social system; acquainting you with a global perspective, a new way of looking at the world; and helping you use and apply this knowledge in your everyday life. The course is directly focused on area 3 learning objectives to use multiple approaches/perspectives to systematically analyze complex individual and institutional behavior culturally, subculturally and/or cross-culturally and to recognize appropriate ethical uses of social scientific knowledge. The course uses lecture, active learning, writing assignments, text and readings to accomplish the goals of area 3.

Area Three learning outcomes assessed:

Using multiple approaches/perspectives, students systematically analyze complex individual and institutional behavior culturally, subculturally, and/or cross-culturally.

Area Six learning outcomes assessed:

Students in this class focus upon social institutions and processes to all areas of society. Discussion of institutions of family, education, religion, politics, and economics link sociology to courses in other departments thus allowing students to communicate with individuals within the major as well as other academic disciplines. The students can also apply sociological concepts to world events or life endeavors.

For WI Courses: WAC Objectives:

- To improve students' writing proficiency-their ability to develop and transmit information for an appropriate audience in an organized, coherent fashion while writing with appropriate style and correct grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling.
- To encourage students to use writing as a learning tool to explore and structure ideas, to articulate thoughts and questions, and to discover what they know, thereby empowering students to use writing as a tool of discovery, self-discipline, and thought.
- To demonstrate for students the ways in which writing is integral to all disciplines, essential to the learning and conveying of knowledge in all fields.
- Students will be required to write a paper focusing on one assigned article and one chapter from the text. This paper must include three terms from the assigned chapter. An introductory paragraph will summarize the main idea/findings of the article. The next three paragraphs will briefly explain the terms and how they relate to the article. The concluding paragraph will relate the terms and article content to the student's experiences or ideas about the topic. Papers will be returned to students with comments. Students are then required to revise and submit a second paper based on written comments from paper 1. Papers are again reviewed and returned to students with comments. Students will revise and submit a third paper based on the written comments from paper 2.

3. **Suggested Course Materials**

Text: Diane Kendall, 2002, Sociology in Our Times: The Essentials, 3rd ed., Wadsworth (paperback)

Cargan and Ballantine, 2000, Sociological Footprints, 8th ed., Wadsworth

Course Notes: Soc 200, Fall 2003 (optional - also on web site=www.wright.edu/~jballant)

4. **Suggested Methods of Evaluation**

Faculty typically require between 2 and 4 exams, 3 papers, and class projects. Sample below:

We will have 3 exams, each covering approximately one-third of the material in the course, including readings, lectures, videos, and other class activities. Exams will be multiple choice with approximately 50 questions on each exam. Some examples may have an optional essay.

All Soc 200 classes are writing intensive. Out of class, written projects will be assigned and are worth 30% of your grade. These projects are a requirement in all Soc 200 classes.

5. **Grading Policy**

(This section is to be reproduced on all master syllabi exactly as it appears here.)

All GE courses are graded A-F.

WI component is graded Pass/Unsatisfactory. (Include only for WI courses.)

6. Suggested Weekly Course Outline Including Typical Assignments

Week 1 Introduction	Why Study Sociology? What Do Sociologists Study? How Do Sociologists Explain The World?	T – Ch. 1 Introduction R – 2 (Mills)	
Week 2 Quiz (1/2 class)			Quiz 1
Weeks 2-3 Culture	What Influence Do Culture, Subcultures & Society Have On Who We Are?	T – Ch. 2 Culture R – 11, 12 (Miner & Harris)	Paper 1 1-23
Weeks 3-4 Socialization	How Do We Become Members of Society?	T – Ch. 3 Socialization R – 6, 9 (Davis & Pollock)	
Week 4 Groups	How Do Groups Function?	T – Ch. 5 (pp.130-141) for exam 1 R – 15 (Hall)	
Week 5 Exam 1			Exam 1
Week 5 Organizations	How Do We Fit into Organizations?	T - Ch. 5 (pp. 130-141) for exam 1 R - 18 (Ritzer)	
Week 6 Deviance	Why Do Some Individuals Become Deviant? How Do We Deal With Crime?	T - Ch. 6 Deviance R - 51, 54 (Ball and Rosenhan)	Paper 2 2-13
Week 7 Stratification	Why Is There Inequality In Society? Why are people rich or poor?	T – Ch. 7 Stratification R – 22, 58 (Grans & Rossi)	
Week 8 Exam 2			Exam 2
Weeks 8-9 Race and Ethnicity	Why do we look different? Why is there Prejudice and Discrimination?	T – Ch. 9 Minorities R – 48, 49 (Moore & Anderson)	Paper 3 3-4
Week 9 Population	What affect does population have on how we live?	T - Ch. 15 (pp.434-445) R - 56 (Mitchell)	
Week 10 Change	What Brings About Change? What Effect Does It Have on Our Lives?	T – Ch. 16 Change R – 62 (Inglehart)	
Week 10 Exam 3			Exam 3
Final Exam	OPTIONAL COMPREHENSIVE EXAM		

7. **Other** (This section is to be reproduced on all master syllabi exactly as it appears here.)
Syllabus distributed to students should employ the format approved by UCAP and must include:

- Instructor name, office hours, and contact information
- Office of Disability Services information
- Information on how grades will be determined
- Attendance policy