



El Camino College
 COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD – Official

Course Acronym:	SOCI
Course Number:	101
Descriptive Title:	Introduction to Sociology
Division:	Behavioral and Social Sciences
Department:	Sociology
Course Disciplines:	Sociology
Catalog Description:	This course introduces students to the major theoretical perspectives, concepts, and areas of study in sociology. It critically examines the relationship between the social environment and human behavior, specifically how social forces such as race, gender, sexuality, age, and social class shape our everyday lives. In addition to learning sociological theories and research methods, students gain an understanding of sociological concepts such as culture, socialization, social institutions, deviance, stratification, and social change.
Prerequisite:	
Co-requisite:	
Recommended Preparation:	Eligibility for English 1A
Enrollment Limitation:	
Hours Lecture (per week):	3
Hours Laboratory (per week):	0
Outside Study Hours:	6
Total Course Hours:	54
Course Units:	3
Grading Method:	Letter Grade only
Credit Status:	Credit, degree applicable
Transfer CSU:	Yes
Effective Date:	Prior to July 1992
Transfer UC:	Yes
Effective Date:	
General Education: ECC	Area 2C - Social and Behavioral Science
Term:	
Other:	
CSU GE:	Area D - Social Sciences
Term:	

	Other:
	IGETC: Area 4 - Social and Behavioral Sciences
	Term:
	Other:
Student Learning Outcomes:	<p>SLO #1 Sociological Theoretical Perspectives</p> <p>Students will demonstrate an understanding of the purpose of theoretical perspectives and apply sociological perspectives such as functionalism, conflict theory, and interactionism to social scenarios.</p> <p>SLO #2 Sociological Concepts</p> <p>Students will define and demonstrate an understanding of sociological concepts, such as social structure, culture, socialization, deviance, and social stratification by applying them to social scenarios.</p>
Course Objectives:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define and describe sociology as a field of study and distinguish it from other disciplines in the social sciences. 2. Explain and apply the sociological imagination as defined by C. Wright Mills. 3. Identify and describe key theoretical perspectives in sociology, including functionalism, conflict, and interactionism. Analyze the strengths and weaknesses of each perspective relative to a variety of social situational circumstances. 4. Identify and analyze prominent classic theorists in sociology, such as Karl Marx, Max Weber, and Emile Durkheim, as well as contemporary theorists, such as Peter Berger, George Ritzer, and Talcott Parsons and their contributions to the field of sociology. 5. Identify the six steps in the scientific method and distinguish between qualitative and quantitative research methods. 6. Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of research methodologies sociologists use to gather and analyze data. 7. Articulate dimensions of material and nonmaterial culture, including norms, values, and symbols. 8. Classify and define micro and macro elements of social structure, including status, role, social groups, organizations, and institutions. 9. Identify agents of socialization and describe the process of socialization throughout the life course. Explain the nature versus nurture debate and assess socialization theories of human development. 10. Define deviance and social control. Identify and apply theories used to explain deviant behavior. 11. Demonstrate an understanding of sociological concepts relating to social stratification and inequality. 12. Describe major social institutions and evaluate their impact on individuals and groups in American society. Discuss historical and contemporary changes in these institutions.
Major Topics:	<p>I. Introduction (4 hours, lecture)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Definition of Sociology B. Sociological Perspective/Sociological Imagination C. Origins of Sociology D. Important People in the Development of Sociology

- E. Development of Sociology in American Society

II. Theory and Research (4 hours, lecture)

- A. Definition of Science
- B. Steps in Scientific Research
- C. Research Methods Used by Sociologists
- D. Role of Theory in Sociology
- E. Theoretical Perspectives Used by Sociologists
 - 1. Functionalism
 - 2. Conflict
 - 3. Interactionism
 - 4. Other Perspectives
- F. Research Ethics

III. Culture (4 hours, lecture)

- A. Definition
- B. Why Culture is Important
- C. Components of Culture
- D. Interpreting Culture
- E. Cultural Complexity and Diversity

IV. Socialization (4 hours, lecture)

- A. The Importance of Social Experience
- B. Theories of Socialization
- C. Agents of Socialization
- D. Socialization and the Life Course
- E. Resocialization and Total Institutions

V. Social Structure and Social Interaction (5 hours, lecture)

- A. Status, Role
- B. Social Groups
- C. Formal Organizations
- D. Bureaucracy: Type of Organizational Structure

VI. Deviance and Social Control (4 hours, lecture)

- A. Dimensions of Deviance
- B. Theoretical Perspectives on Deviance
- C. Crime and Social Control

VII. Social Construction, Stratification and Social Mobility (10 hours, lecture)

- A. Social Class
- B. Social Construction of Race
- C. Ethnicity
- D. Social Construction of Gender
- E. Age

	<p>VIII. Social Institutions (15 hours, lecture)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Family B. Education C. Religion D. Health Care E. Economy F. Government/Politics <p>IX. Collective Behavior and Social Change (4 hours, lecture)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. The Meaning of Collective Behavior B. Theoretical Perspectives on Social Movements C. Social Change
Total Lecture Hours:	54
Total Laboratory Hours:	0
Total Hours:	54
Primary Method of Evaluation:	1) Substantial writing assignments
Typical Assignment Using Primary Method of Evaluation:	<p>Shopping Mall Observation Research Paper</p> <p>After reading the chapters on sociological research methods and culture go to a local shopping mall and observe shoppers. In a five-page essay address the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is culture? 2. What types of symbols are prevalent in a shopping mall? Why are these symbols significant to shoppers? 3. What is a norm? Distinguish folkways and mores. Describe examples of each observed among shoppers and explain their significance. 4. What are values? Describe values demonstrated by shoppers during the observation. Why are these values significant in American society?
Critical Thinking Assignment 1:	Select an article on individual behavior or a social issue in American society from a recent newspaper or magazine publication. Write a two-page essay which evaluates this article from a sociological perspective. Discuss and analyze whether individual choice or social factors are more responsible for the individual behavior or the social issue in the article. Defend your answer.
Critical Thinking Assignment 2:	Identify and select a subculture in American society. In a two- to four-page essay describe the characteristics that define this group as a subculture and assess whether this subculture is also a minority group using the definition of minority group as given in the text and class lectures.
Other Evaluation Methods:	Completion, Essay Exams, Matching Items, Multiple Choice, Reading Reports, Term or Other Papers, True/False, Written Homework
Instructional Methods:	Discussion, Group Activities, Guest Speakers, Lecture, Multimedia presentations
If other:	Library

Work Outside of Class:	Answer questions, Observation of or participation in an activity related to course content (such as theatre event, museum, concert, debate, meeting), Required reading, Study, Written work (such as essay/composition/report/analysis/research)
If Other:	
Up-To-Date Representative Texts:	Kerry Ferris, Jill Stein. <u>The Real World: An Introduction to Sociology</u> . 9th ed. W. W. Norton & Company, 2024. Open Stax. Introduction to Sociology. 3rd ed. Rice University, 2021.
Alternative Texts:	
Required Supplementary Readings:	
Other Required Materials:	
Requisite:	
Category:	
Requisite course(s): List both prerequisites and corequisites in this box.	
Requisite and Matching skill(s):Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s).	
Requisite Skill:	
Requisite Skill and Matching Skill(s): Bold the requisite skill(s). If applicable	
Requisite course:	
Requisite and Matching skill(s):Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s).	
Requisite Skill:	Eligibility for English 1A
Requisite Skill and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s). If applicable	<p>Students will be asked to identify and synthesize concepts, compare and contrast concepts, as well as analyze, assess, evaluate and apply concepts in textbook and writing assignments.</p> <p>Read and apply critical thinking skills to college-level expository prose for the purposes of writing and discussion.</p> <p>Select and employ reading strategies to interpret the content of a college-level textbook, with special focus on constructing a thesis statement and providing valid support.</p> <p>Identify an implied main idea (thesis), and support with major and minor details, from a longer text or novel.</p> <p>Apply appropriate strategies in the writing process including prewriting, composing, revising, and editing techniques.</p>

	Compare and contrast college-level texts to evaluate content.
Enrollment Limitations and Category:	
Enrollment Limitations Impact:	
Course Created by:	R. Lee/A. Levine/J. Ribal
Date:	10/01/1983
Original Board Approval Date:	
Last Reviewed and/or Revised by:	Melissa Fujiwara
Date:	11/06/2023
Last Board Approval Date:	01/17/2024
Effective Term:	FALL 2024