SYG 2000

Introduction to Sociology

Section: RVBB

Internet/Fully Online

Fall Term 2025

Course Time Zone | Eastern Time (ET). Course due dates are according to this time zone.

Professor Information

Theodora Leontaridis

Roles: Primary Instructor

Email: tleontar@fiu.edu

Response Time: Responds within 24 hours during the week, 48 hours during the weekend

Phone: (305) 348-2247

Office Hours: by appointment

Office Location: virtual office hours on zoom

Department or Academic Unit: Global & Sociocultural Studies

Course Prerequisites

Course prerequisites, if any, are listed below.

Course Description and Purpose

Sociology is the scientific study of human action and interaction. Sociologists argue that individual and group action and experiences are shaped by the social context in which they

occur and in turn, that social context is shaped by individual and group activities and experiences. Sociology, very broadly, aims to understand this interaction.

This course will introduce students to various sociological perspectives on issues in contemporary society, as well as how sociologists use research to develop these perspectives. We will cover a variety of broad issues studied by sociologists including social structure, inequality, race, gender, class, families, deviance, work, institutions, and culture. An active "sociological imagination" is important in many professional fields such as education, social work, health, safety, politics, business, economics, or engineering.

Textbook and Course Materials

A Sociology Experiment

Subtitle: https://sociologyexperiment.com/

Required/Recommended: Required

Authors: Shamus Khan, Patrick Sharkey, and Gwen Sharp

Publisher: A_Sociology_Experiment.com

Publication Date: 2020

Copyright Date: 2020

ISBN 10: none

ISBN 13: none

Notes: The textbook is available online for purchase ($1 per chapter) through the indicated website https://sociologyexperiment.com/

Description: Each chapter is written by an different expert in the field of Sociology

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Panther Book Pack

The Panther Book Pack rental program provides your required print and digital course materials at a flat rate of $20 per undergraduate credit hour. When you registered for your classes this session, you were notified via email of the required course materials that are included in the Panther Book Pack.

Make sure to review the pricing for all materials across your classes this semester and compare the cost to the Panther Book Pack flat rate. If the Panther Book Pack is not your best option, you may opt out up to three days after the add/drop deadline. The deadline to opt back into the Panther Book Pack is also three days after the add/drop deadline.

If you do not opt out of the Panther Book Pack rental program, you will be charged $20 per undergraduate credit hour for which you are registered and the course materials will be reserved in your name. For more details and to learn how to access your course materials, visit onestop.fiu.edu/bookpack.

Other Course Materials and Open Educational Resources (OER)

https://sociologyexperiment.com/

This is the website for our required textbook. Each chapter can be purchased separately for $1 on the indicated website.

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

Student learning outcomes allow faculty to assess the level of proficiency in content knowledge and skills that their students acquire in a course.

If the objective meets a special designation, you will see the code after the objective:

University Core Curriculum: UCC
Gordon Rule Writing: GRW
Global Learning: GL
Civic Literacy: CL

1. better understand their interrelationships with society in critical and global perspectives.

2. learn to understand the "sociological imagination" and other basic concepts/methods of sociology and apply these concepts/methods to:

3. identify the features of society and their interrelationships, especially those related to race, class, and gender

4. analyze interrelationships between society and self

5. compare and explain the foundations of global inequalities

6. evaluate concepts and theories on constructive change in societies at the local, national/regional, and global levels.

7. develop viewpoints on how to approach problem solutions in specific sociological fields.

Expectations of this Course

This is an online course, which means most (if not all) of the course work will be conducted online. Expectations for performance in an online course are the same as a traditional course. In fact, online courses require a degree of self-motivation, self-discipline, and technology skills which can make these courses more demanding for some students.

Students are expected to:

- **review the getting started** page located in the course modules;

- **introduce yourself to the class** during the first week by posting a self-introduction in the appropriate discussion;

- **take the practice quiz** to ensure that your computer is compatible with the learning management system, Canvas;

- **interact** online with instructor and peers;

- **review** and follow the course calendar and weekly outlines;

- **log in** to the course **2-3 times** per week;

- **respond** to discussions by the due date specified. **Late work will be accepted with a late penalty (-5% per day up to 6 days after the original due date;**

- **respond** to **emails** within **1-2 days;**

- **submit** assignments by the corresponding deadline.

The instructor will:

- log in to the course **5** x per week;

- respond to **emails** within **24 hours during the week, 48 hours during the weekend;**

- grade assignments and/or provide feedback within **5 days** of the assignment deadline.

Course Communication

Communication in this course will take place via the Canvas Inbox. Check out the [Canvas Conversations Tutorial](#) or [Canvas Guide](#) to learn how to communicate with your instructor and peers using Announcements, Discussions, and the Inbox. I will respond to all correspondences within 24 hours on weekdays.

Policies & Resources

Before starting this course, please review the Policies & Resources Page in Canvas which includes comprehensive information on various University and Course Level Policies such as:

- University Policies

- Accessibility and Accommodations

- Online Etiquette

- Technical Requirements and Skills

- Computer & Digital Literacy Skills

- Course Technology Accessibility Statements and Privacy Policies

- Academic Integrity

- Copyright Statement

- Core Principles of This Course

- Nondiscrimination Statement

- Panthers Care & Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

- Fair Use Policy

Assignments & Assessments

Discussion Forums

Keep in mind that your discussion forum postings will likely be seen by other members of the course. Care should be taken when determining what to post.

Discussion Forum Expectations:

- **Reflections Expectations**:

  o There are six reflections.

  o Answer all questions based on the assigned materials in the textbook. You may add your own views, but you should first demonstrate that you read and understood the key ideas and concepts.

  o Please write in your own words and do not use AI generated content. It is a waste of your time (and mine), if you are interested in learning and developing your critical thinking skills. If AI generated content is suspected, the instructor may ask a student for a meeting and a more detailed explanation of the submitted work.

  o Write a separate paragraph for each question, no less than 400 words.

  o After submitting your answers, read through some of your classmates' posts. Choose one and write a response stating whether you agree or disagree with one or more points they made and explain the reason(s) why. A good response adds something new to the conversation.

  o All assignments are due on Thursdays at 11:59 PM. They stay open for one week after the due date, but a late penalty applies (-5% per day).

  o Rubric:
  -The answers must be clear, coherent, and reflect that you understood the assigned content.
  -They should show that you can evaluate and apply the key concepts your read about in the assigned chapter.
  -The answers should also draw a connection between the theory (ideas and concepts in our textbook) and real life (your own experiences or things your observe).

  o The expected turn-around time for grades and feedback is 7 days.

Exams

In order to mitigate any issues with your computer and online assessments, it is very important that you take the Practice Quiz from each computer you will be using to take

your graded quizzes and exams. Assessments in this course are not compatible with mobile devices and should not be taken through a mobile phone or a tablet.

There are six exams. They are based entirely on the assigned content from our textbook, A Sociology Experiment. The exams include multiple-choice and true-false questions. Each exam will have 20 questions and you will have 30 minutes to complete the answers. Exams are available within the modules.

The results will be available on Friday morning after the due date on Thursdays at 11:59 pm.

Syllabus Quiz

On the first week, there is a quiz based on the information of the syllabus. It is worth 5% of your course grade.

Group Assignment

In this assignment, students work together to collect and analyze information related to a specific issue. They create a summary and interpretation of the data they found and propose a solution to an assigned sociological problem.

This assignment will be due close to the end of the semester and be worth 15% of the course grade.

Groups are formed randomly through Canvas.

Zoom Video Conference

Zoom is a video conference tool that you can use to interact with your professor and fellow students by sharing screens, chatting, broadcasting live video/audio, and taking part in other interactive online activities.

Zoom meetings can be accessed via the Zoom link in the course navigation menu. Once you click on the Zoom link, it will route you to join the meeting for the respective class session. You will also be able to view upcoming meetings, previous meetings that you have already joined, and meeting recordings. Before joining an actual class session:

- Reference the Zoom Student Tutorials to learn about the tool, how to access your meeting room, and share your screen.

- Access the Zoom Test Meeting Room to test out the software before joining an actual session.

If you encounter any technical difficulties, please contact the [FIU Canvas Help Team](). Please ensure you contact support immediately upon the issue occurring.

Grading

Assignments and grading:

Syllabus quiz (1) 5%

Group assignment (1) 15%

Reflections (6) 40%

Exams (6) 40%
_____

Total course grade 100%

 All assessments become available on Friday mornings (12 AM).
They will be due on the following Tuesday (reflections first post) and Thursday (reflections second post and exams) at 11:59 PM.
Assignments stay open until one week after the due date and can be submitted late with a late penalty (-5% per day).
Exam scores will be available immediately, but answers will only be accessible after the availability period ends.

For more information, please review the [important information about quizzes]() page.

Late work

Late work is accepted with a 5% penalty per day during the availability period of an assignment on Canvas.

Once an assignment has become unavailable on Canvas, it cannot be reopened without a documented reason (doctor's note etc.).

Only a very limited number of late assignments can be made up.

Extra credit

There will be no extra credit assignments.

Course Grades Distribution Table

| **Syllabus Quiz** | 1 | 5 | 5 | 5% |

Course Grades Distribution Table

Course Requirements	Number of Items	Points of Each	Total Points Available	Weight
Group Assignment	1	15	15	15%
Reflections	6	7	42	40%
Exams	6	7	42	40%
Total	14	N/A	100	100%

Letter Grade Distribution Table

Letter Grade	Sample Range %
A	95 - 100
A-	90 – 94.99
B+	87 – 89.99
B	83 – 86.99
B-	80 – 82.99
C+	77 – 79.99
C	70 – 76.99
D	60 – 69.99

F	0 – 59.99

Schedule of Topics

Module	Due Date	Assignment
0	10/23	Syllabus Quiz, Introduce yourself
1	10/30	Reflection 1, Exam 1
2	11/6	Reflection 2, Exam 2, Group Assignment part 1
3	11/13	Reflection 3, Exam 3
4	11/20	Reflection 4, Exam 4, Group Assignment part 2
5	11/26	Reflection 5, Exam 5
6	12/4	Reflection 6, Exam 6

Core Principles of this Course

This course is designed to serve all students by fostering collaboration and encouraging an appreciation for multiple perspectives and ideas. We recognize and value the lived experiences that each student brings to the classroom and are committed to ongoing education that supports open participation.

In alignment with Florida International University's endorsement of the Florida Board of Governors' Statement of Free Expression, this course supports full and open discourse. Civil and respectful discussion is fundamental to critical thinking, both within the classroom and in broader university events. Students are expected to engage in discussions with curiosity, respect, and a willingness to consider differing viewpoints.

Nondiscrimination Statement

The **Office of Civil Rights Compliance and Accessibility** (CRCA) is responsible for ensuring that FIU maintains a workplace and learning environment free from discrimination, where current and prospective faculty, staff, and students are treated equitably. If any student, employee, or applicant has a sincere and reasonable belief that they have been discriminated against or harassed based on age, color, disability, gender,

marital status, ethnic or national origin, race, religion, retaliation, sex, or any other protected category, they can report their concerns to the CRCA team through report.fiu.edu.

UCC Category Description

This course satisfies the University Core Curriculum **Social Sciences**, **Group 2** requirement.

According to this category:

Social science courses afford students an understanding of the basic social and behavioral science concepts and principles used in the analysis of behavior and past and present social, political, and economic issues.

State General Education Course Description and Outcomes

This course aligns with the state-mandated course description and student learning outcomes specified below.

SYG 2000 - Introduction to Sociology

In this course, students will gain an understanding of the basic sociological concepts and vocabulary, including the methodological tools, sociological perspectives, and scientific procedures used by social scientists to collect data and conduct research. Topics generally include: society and culture, institutions, socialization, influences, crime, change, groups, sex, race and ethnicity, family, class, and population.

Student learning outcomes:

- Students will apply multiple sociological perspectives.

- Students will identify methodological tools used to evaluate sociological research questions.

- Students will understand dynamics between individual agency and social influences.