



SYG 2000: Introduction to Sociology

Connie M. Viamonte, Ph.D.

Email: cviamont@fiu.edu

Office: Virtual office on Zoom

Office Hours: After class and by appointment.

Additional Notes: the best way to reach me is through Canvas E-mail

Class Meetings: Fridays 3-4:15 pm; PC 310

General Information

Course Description and Purpose

This course offers an introduction to sociology as a way of understanding complex social, political, and economic phenomena in the world. Sociology is a field of study that focuses on social structures, social forces, and group interactions. Specifically, this course will concentrate on several important sociological topics such as culture, the social construction of knowledge, “race,” gender, sexuality, and economic inequality, as well as political sociology.

University Core Curriculum

Sociologist Peter L. Berger saw sociology as a debunking perspective – that is, looking at things from different ways in which people traditionally see the world. This is one of the major objectives for this class, where combining and developing critical thinking skills are applied to the understanding of major themes in society. Thus, by the end of the class, students should be able to:

This course satisfies the following University Core Curriculum requirement for Social Science Group One (state-required):

Students will demonstrate the ability to examine behavioral, social, and cultural issues from a variety of points of view. Students will demonstrate an understanding of basic social and behavioral science concepts and principles

used in the analysis of behavioral, social, and cultural issues, past and present, local and global.

It is supported by the following learning outcomes for the course:

1. Describe and identify major sociological figures and their contributions to the sociological discipline
2. Describe and identify the main sociological theoretical perspectives
3. Analyze and apply these perspectives to contemporary social problems
4. Develop insight into the critical link between social structure and individual circumstances
5. Acquire analytical skills for understanding and evaluating social phenomena and the interactions from which they emerge.

Important Information

Policies

Before starting this course, please review the following pages:

- [Policies](#)
- [Netiquette](#)
- [Technical Requirements and Skills](#)
- [Accessibility and Accommodation](#)
- [Panthers Care & Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#)
- [Academic Misconduct Statement](#)

Please remember that although we are working in a virtual environment, it might be easy to forget that we still need to be civil. "Netiquette" is remembering to treat others with respect. Sometimes we may encounter difficult subjects and we want to be able to express our opinions safely and respectfully.

Course Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Textbook and Course Materials

- Introduction to Sociology 2e (Fully available on Canvas as a pdf)

Expectations of this Course

This is a hybrid course, which means we will have one in-class session a week and most of the course work will be conducted online and out of class. Expectations for performance in a remote hybrid course are the same for a traditional course. In fact, working online requires a degree of self-motivation, self-discipline, and technology skills which can make these courses more demanding for some students. Modules are released on a weekly basis (typically on Sundays) and may span one week or two weeks depending on module assignments.

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;
- **attend** all class sessions or, in case of emergency, watch the recorded lesson
- **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. **No late work will be accepted unless a valid reason is given;**
- **respond** to **emails** within **2 days**;
- **submit** assignments by the corresponding deadline

The instructor will:

- log in to the course **3 times** a week;
- respond to discussion postings within **3-4 days of the deadline**;
- respond to **emails** within **24-48 hours**;
- grade assignments within **1-2 weeks** of the assignment deadline.

Course Detail

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 24-48 hours during business days. Please allow more time for weekend correspondence.

Assignments

In this course, there will be weekly quizzes, discussions, or assignments.

PlayPosit/Videos

For each lesson, you will have a video assignment to watch outside of class. This helps you to see the lesson in a real-world context. Many of the videos will be PlayPosit assignments, with interactive viewing. You will be asked questions as you watch and this will count as an assignment grade.

Quizzes

This is an important way to keep track of what you are reading/learning. All quizzes are open book and not timed, so you should have no trouble reading the information or watching the assigned films and then taking the quiz.

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.

Zoom

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. We may utilize this tool if the professor wishes to communicate directly about an assignment or film. If utilized, you will be given fair warning (at least a week) before the date is set.

- [Download Zoom](#)
- [Login to Zoom through Desktop Application](#)

COVID Procedures

- **Daily and before arriving to campus, complete the P3 app.** If you are not given the green check mark to enter campus, then return home, and contact me by email.
- **Please check your FIU email account and your Canvas course at least once a day.** Email and Canvas are the best ways for the university, and your professors, to contact you.
- If you do not feel well, have tested positive for COVID, or have been in contact with a person with COVID while not yet being fully vaccinated, ***please do not come to class, immediately complete the P3 app to notify the COVID Response Team or call them at 305-348-1919, and contact me by email as soon as you can. To excuse absences for P3 failure/COVID, please contact the COVID Response Team at 305-348-1919.*** If you are directed to quarantine because of COVID-19, your absences will be considered excused.
- A **vaccinated, asymptomatic** individual exposed to a COVID positive person does not need to quarantine. They need to continue to wear a mask. It is recommended to test 3-5 days post known exposure. However, if at any time they become symptomatic, they need to test immediately. If the test returns positive, they need to follow the COVID positive protocol at that time.

- Please take every precaution to keep yourself and others healthy. Per CDC guidelines, you are encouraged to get vaccinated and strongly advised to wear a mask indoors and in public including all FIU facilities.
- Missing excessive days may lead to failing a class or a grade of incomplete.
- For me to assist you in achieving your goals, it is important for you to contact me as soon as you experience any events that might disrupt your course participation. For up-to-date information about COVID, please see the repopulation.fiu.edu FAQs.

Grading

Course Grades Distribution Table				
<i>Course Requirements</i>	<i>Number of Items</i>	<i>Points for Each</i>	<i>Total Points Available</i>	<i>Weight</i>
<i>Midterm Exam</i>	1	100	100	30%
<i>Final Exam</i>	1	100	100	40%
<i>Assignments, Quizzes, and Discussion posts</i>	12	10	120	30%
Total	14	N/A	320	100%

Schedule

**Schedule is tentative and subject to change at the discretion of the professor.*

Week 1 – Chapter 1- What is Sociology?; **Introduce Yourself Discussion Post** due ; **The Milgram Experiment (PlayPosit)** due

Week 2 – Chapter 2 - Sociological Research; **Milgram and Stanford Prison Assignment** due

Letter Grade Distribution Table					
<i>Letter</i>	<i>Range%</i>	<i>Letter</i>	<i>Range%</i>	<i>Letter</i>	<i>Range%</i>
A	95 or above	B	83 - 86	C	70 - 76
A-	90 - 94	B-	80 - 82	D	60 - 69
B+	87 - 89	C+	77 - 79	F	59 or less