

# 0101S101

## Introduction to Sociology

**Instructor:** Emese Vitalis, Ph.D., M.B.A.

**Time:** Monday through Friday (June 17, 2019 - July 19, 2019)

**Office Hours:** 2 hours (according to the teaching schedule)

**Contact Hours:** 60 (50 minutes each)

**Credits:** 4

**Location:** Huiquan Building

**Office:** Huiquan Building 518

### Course Description

Sociology is the academic discipline concerned with the systematic investigation and understanding of human action and interaction. This broad definition includes everything from the actions, attitudes and beliefs of individual persons to the structures and cultures of entire societies and global regions. Sociologists study all manner of topics, from race relations to sports to religious rituals to immigration patterns (and many other things as well), and they do so through large-scale surveys, interviews, participant observation, documentary analysis and other means of measurement. What unites such a diverse set of interests, methods and units of analysis is a common perspective. In the simplest terms, sociology is concerned with the contextual understanding of human behavior, where the context is relational, cultural, institutional, historical, or (most commonly) some combination of these.

### Required Textbook(s)

*Sociology*. John Macionis, 13th Edition. Pearson, Prentice Hall.  
ISBN-13: 9780205786169

### Prerequisites

No prerequisites

## **Course Goals**

By the end of the course students will possess:

1. The basic principles and questions of the discipline;
2. How new members are socialized into the culture of their social worlds;
3. The relationship between individuals and the groups they belong to;
4. Major institutions of society including work, the family, education and religion;
5. Key dimensions of inequality in society, including class, and gender; and
6. Processes of social change.

## **Course Hours**

The course has 25 sessions in total. Each class session is 120 minutes in length. The course meets from Monday to Friday.

## **Course Schedule**

Please note that the schedule is meant to give an overview of the major concepts this course. Changes may occur in this calendar as needed to aid in the student's development.

### **Week 1**

Monday - The Sociological Perspective Chapter 1

Tuesday - The Sociological Investigation Chapter 2, Culture Chapter 3

Wednesday - Culture continued Chapter 3

Thursday - Society Chapter 4

Friday - Society continued, Assignment 1 short presentations

### **Week 2**

Monday - Socialization Chapter 5

Tuesday - Social Interaction Chapter 6

Wednesday - Exam I

Thursday - Groups and Organizations Chapter 7

Friday - Groups and Organizations continued

### **Week 3**

Monday - Sexuality and Society Chapter 8

Tuesday - Social Stratification Chapter 10

Wednesday - Global Stratification Chapter 12

Thursday - Race and Ethnicity Chapter 14

Friday - Aging and the Elderly continued Chapter 15

### **Week 4**

Monday - Exam II

Tuesday - The Economy and Work Chapter 16  
Wednesday - The Economy and Work continued  
Thursday - Families Chapter 18  
Friday - Education Chapter 20

### **Week 5**

Monday - Health and Medicine Chapter 21  
Tuesday – Social Change Chapter 24  
Wednesday - Presentations 24  
Thursday - Presentations  
Friday - Final Exam

## **Course Requirements**

1. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class.
2. Students are expected to read the required readings prior to the class session in which they are discussed.
3. Class Conduct: Consistent, respectful and informed participation is expected from every student in the course. This includes:
  - \* Respectful discussion that avoids personal history;
  - \* No email or Internet usage during class;
  - \* Cell phones turned off when class begins.
4. I will respond to emails in a timely manner. It is best to make an appointment or speak to me after lecture.
5. It is your responsibility to keep me updated with attendance, email, etc.
6. Please check your email regularly for instructions and readings.

## **Assignments**

### **Exams and Quizzes**

There are going to be two exams and a final exam during the course. After every two chapters I will also give you a short quiz to make sure that you keep up with the material and you practice taking tests.

### **Assignment 1, State Analysis**

The goal of the assignment is to help you familiarize yourself with gathering and using data from available databases. Your task is to gather data on a US state and compare them to the national average on a variety of demographic, economic and political factors and write a short paper of your findings. You will also present your findings in class. The assignment will be completed in groups of 2-3. Detailed guidelines will be handed out in class.

### **Assignment 2, Consumer Product Analysis**

The goal of the assignment is to analyze the role that consumer products play in socializing children into “appropriate” gender roles and to reinforce these roles in adults. Your task will be to find consumer products, such as clothing, toys, books, electronics, and other products that are advertised for boys, girls, men, and women and analyze how these items encourage or discourage gender roles. You will have to present your findings to the class. The assignment will be completed in groups of 2-3. Detailed guidelines will be handed out in class.

## Grading Policy

Type	Percentage
Assignments	15%
Quizzes	15%
Exam I	20%
Exam II	20%
Final exam	20%
Attendance	10%

## Grading Scale

The instructor will use the grading system as applied by JNU:

Definition	Letter Grade	Score
Excellent	A	90~100
Good	B	80~89
Satisfactory	C	70~79
Poor	D	60~69
Failed	E	Below 60

## Attendance

Attendance is mandatory in the class. It would be recorded each class and forms part of students' participation record. Students should inform the instructor at the earliest opportunity if they need to ask for a leave. All absences may have negative effect on students' final grades. Any students with more than three unexcused absences will automatically fail the course.

## **Academic Integrity**

As members of the Jinan University academic community, students are expected to be honest in all of their academic coursework and activities. Academic dishonesty, includes (but is not limited to) cheating on assignments or examinations; plagiarizing, i.e., misrepresenting as one's own work any work done by another; submitting the same paper, or a substantially similar paper, to meet the requirements of more than one course without the approval and consent of the instructors concerned; or sabotaging other students' work within these general definitions. Instructors, however, determine what constitutes academic misconduct in the courses they teach. Students found guilty of academic misconduct in any portion of the academic work face penalties that range from the lowering of their course grade to awarding a grade of E for the entire course.