



**Sociology 1301 201 CL**  
**Introductory Sociology**  
**Fall 2021**  
**LRC 255**  
**6:00 PM to 8:50 PM Wednesday**

**Instructor Information:** Zackery Matthews, [zmatthews@com.edu](mailto:zmatthews@com.edu), Phone: 409-938-1211

**Student hours and location:** 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM; Wednesday, Learning Resource Center (LRC), Adjunct office, Suite A

**Required Textbook/Materials:** Hickey, Joseph V., Thompson, William E. Thompson, Mica L., Society in Focus: An Introduction to Sociology, 9th Edition (Required).

**Course Description:** The purpose of this course is to give the student an introduction to the field of sociology, including ways in which groups, social institutions, and individuals affect each other. We will address social stability and social change explored through the application of various theoretical perspectives, key concepts, and related research methods of sociology. We will study social issues in their institutional context including topics such as social stratification, gender, race/ethnicity, population, urbanization and deviance.

**Course requirements:** This is a course that requires the student to attend lectures. Each lecture contains material that may or not may be available in the textbook; thus, any relevant sociological material that is covered in my lectures can be used for testing or exam content. It is essential that students make a concerted effort to attend class. If a student is absent from class, he or she is responsible for acquiring the lecture notes from a classmate. Rigorous note taking and studying of lecture notes is expected if the student is to succeed in the class. In addition to attending lectures, students are expected to read the textbook assignment prior to attending the lecture.

**Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:**

There will be average of 4 exams 50% and 4 quiz 25% = 75% of final grade.

An Information Paper 25% of final score.

Grade Scale:

100 to 90 = A

89 to 80 = B

79 to 70 = C

69 to 60 = D

59 or below = F

**Student Rights:** Students taking this class have rights, but also responsibilities. One student right is the expectation that this course be taught within the parameters specified within this syllabus. While the instructor reserves the right to alter the course, no material or assignment will be added without proper notification and advance warning.

**Late Work Policy:** It is also the student's responsibility to complete and turn in all assignments on the scheduled due date. No late assignments and Information paper will be accepted.

**Extra-credit assignment opportunity: (25 points)**

Opportunities to earn extra credit will be presented on an unscheduled basis throughout the semester. Extra credit assignments are optional and may consist of short, out-of-class assignments. Out-of-class assignments will be due on the date specified. No credit will be given for assignment submitted after due date.

**Technology Outage Policy:** In the event you experience a technology problem, it is your responsibility to communicate immediately with your instructor and the DE department at College of the Mainland (COM). It is a good idea to make a screenshot of the error and email it to me as well as the Distance Education Helpdesk. Contacting COM's Distance Education department can be accomplished by submitting a ticket anytime at <http://com.parature.com> or via live chat Monday to Friday from 8 am to 5 pm whenever the college is open. If the issue does not clear up and if there is no way around it, you may email your assignment to me directly at [zmatthews@com.edu](mailto:zmatthews@com.edu).

**Attendance Policy:** Regular class attendance is expected in order to master course objectives. You are expected to attend class on time and on a regular basis. College of the Mainland's policy on attendance states that "students are not permitted a determined number of absences." If a student, due to an unforeseen problem or illness, cannot attend class, it is the student's responsibility to acquire class lecture notes. It is also the student's responsibility to complete and turn in all assignments on the scheduled due date. No late assignments will be accepted.

**Communicating with your instructor:** ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means. (Faculty may add additional statement requiring monitoring and communication expectations via Blackboard or other LMS)

**Benefits of taking this course:** This course (a) meets the requirements of a college transfer course for four-year degree programs (b) prepares students for upper-division coursework in sociology (c) prepares students for the academic rigors of upper-division coursework in the social sciences (d) prepares students in developing their critical thinking skills.

**Student Learner Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will:  
1. Compare and contrast the basic theoretical perspectives of sociology. This course-level outcome maps to Critical Thinking Skills Core Objectives.

2. Identify the various methodological approaches to the collection and analysis of data in sociology. This course-level outcome maps to Empirical Quantitative Data Skills Core Objective.
3. Describe the key concepts in sociology. This course-level outcome maps to the Critical Thinking Skills Core Objective.
4. Describe the empirical findings of various sub-fields of sociology. This course-level outcome maps to the Empirical Quantitative Skills Core Objectives.
5. Develop, interpret, and express ideas on a Soci 1301—related topic through written communication. This course-level outcome maps to the Communication Skills Core Objective.

**General Education Core Objectives:** Students successfully completing this course will demonstrate competency in the following core objectives:

**Critical Thinking Skills:** Students will demonstrate creative thinking, innovation, and the ability to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information.

**Communication Skills:** Students will develop, interpret, and express ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.

**Empirical Quantitative Data:** Students will include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.

**Social Responsibility:** Students will demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

<b>Student Learner Outcome</b>	<b>Maps to Core Objective</b>	<b>Assessed via this Assignment</b>
1. Compare and contrast the basic theoretical perspectives of sociology	Critical Thinking Skills (CT)	Paper
2. Identify the various methodological approaches to the collection and analysis of data in sociology.	Empirical Quantitative Data (EQD)	Quiz
3. Describe key concepts in sociology.	Critical Thinking Skills (CT)	All exams, Quiz
4. Develop, interpret, and express ideas on a Soci 1301—related topic through written communication.	Communication Skills (CS)	Paper Exam, Quiz
5. Explain the complex links between individual experiences and broader institutional forces	Social Responsibility (SR)	Exam, Quiz, Discussion forum

**Classroom Conduct Policy:** College of the Mainland requires that students enrolled at COM be familiar with the Standards of Student Conduct, which can be found in the on-line Student Handbook. <http://www.com.edu/student-services/student-handbook..> Students are expected to be familiar with and abide by the Student Code of Conduct. Any violations of the Code of Conduct will result in a referral to the Dean of Students and may result in dismissal from this class.

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**Tardiness Policy:** This class begins promptly at the scheduled time. Tardiness (being late to class) not only disrupts the class, it has a detrimental impact on the student's performance in the class as tardy students will miss lecture material.

**Academic Dishonesty:** (Maintain good Scholastic Honesty: College of the Mainland is committed to a high stand of academic integrity among its students and faculty. Academic dishonesty is not a good study habit. Dishonesty consists of cheating and or collusion among students on exams, and plagiarism on written assignments. Dishonesty will result in a zero grade for any particular test or assignment. There is no negotiation or compromise on these matters. Furthermore, any incident of academic dishonesty will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on exams is an extremely serious offense and will result in a grade of zero on that exam and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is using someone else's words or ideas and claiming them as your own. Plagiarism is a very serious offense. Plagiarism includes paraphrasing someone else's words without giving proper citation, copying directly from a website and pasting it into your paper, using someone else's words without quotation marks. When in doubt – cite!! Any assignment containing any plagiarized material will receive a grade of zero and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action.

College of the Mainland's Speaking, Reading, and Writing Center offers appointments for students requesting access to Safe Assign's plagiarism prevention online service. The telephone number to the Writing Center is 409-933-8703. It would be a great idea to access Safe Assign's plagiarism via COM's Writing Center. This will enable you to do well on discussion questions' responses and this course's major social stratification assignment

Link(s) to resource(s) about ways to avoid plagiarism:

<http://en.writecheck.com/ways-to-avoid-plagiarism/>

**Student Concerns:** If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Shinya Wakao: Department Chair/Social Behavioral Science Department at (409)-933-8107 and [swakao@com.edu](mailto:swakao@com.edu)

**Course outline:** Schedule of Topics and Chapter Reading Assignments for Sociology 1301  
**(You are responsible for any and all schedule changes).**

First three weeks Part I: The sociological Perspective

Chapter One: Discovering Sociology, The Development of Sociology and Modern Sociological Perspectives: Structural-Functionalism, Conflict, Symbolic-Interactionist, and Feminism

Chapter Two: Doing Sociology, The relationship between Sociology and Science  
(1-2 Exam 1/Quiz)

Weeks 4-8 Part II: The Social Framework

Chapter Three: Culture and Society

Chapter Four: Socialization Importance of Socialization

Chapter Five: Social Interaction in Everyday Life

Chapter Six: Social groups and organizations and Bureaucracies  
(3-6 Exam 2/Quiz)

Weeks 9-13 Part III: Inequality

Chapter Seven: Deviance and Conformity

Chapter Eight: Social Stratification and US Class System

Chapter Nine: Global Stratification

Chapter Ten: Race and Ethnicity

Chapter Eleven: Sex and Gender

Chapter Twelve: Age and the Elderly

(7-12 Exam 3/Quiz)

Weeks 13-15 Part IV: Social Institutions

Chapter Thirteen: The Family

Chapter Fourteen: The Education System

Chapter Fifteen: Religion

(13-15 Exam 4/Quiz)

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## **Institutional Policies and Guidelines**

**Grade Appeal Process:** Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook. <[https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student\\_Handbook\\_2019-2020v5.pdf](https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf).

*An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor's professional judgment of the quality of the student's work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.*  
[https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student\\_Handbook\\_2019-2020v5.pdf](https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf)

**Academic Success & Support Services:** College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

**ADA Statement:** Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact Holly Bankston at 409-933-8520 or [hbankston@com.edu](mailto:hbankston@com.edu). The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the Student Success Center.

**Counseling Statement:** Any student needing counseling services is requested to please contact Holly Bankston in the student success center at 409-933-8520 or [hbankston@com.edu](mailto:hbankston@com.edu). Counseling services are available on campus in the student center for free and students can also email [counseling@com.edu](mailto:counseling@com.edu) to set up their appointment. Appointments are strongly encouraged; however, some concerns may be addressed on a walk-in basis.

**Textbook Purchasing Statement:** A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

**Withdrawal Policy:** Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a "W" grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1<sup>st</sup> 8-week session is October 6. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 19. The last date to withdraw for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week session is December 2.

**F<sub>N</sub> Grading:** The F<sub>N</sub> grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The F<sub>N</sub> grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the F<sub>N</sub> grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an F<sub>N</sub> grade.

**Early Alert Program:** The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

**COVID-19 Statement:** All students, faculty, and staff are expected to familiarize themselves with materials and information contained on the College of the Mainland's Coronavirus Information site at [www.com.edu/coronavirus](http://www.com.edu/coronavirus). In compliance with Governor Abbott's May 18 Executive Order, face coverings/masks will no longer be required on COM campus. Protocols and college signage are being updated. We will no longer enforce any COM protocol that requires face coverings. We continue to encourage all members of the COM community to distance when possible, use hygiene measures, and get vaccinated to protect against COVID-19. Please visit [com.edu/coronavirus](http://com.edu/coronavirus) for future updates.