



**SOCI 1301.011 IN**  
**Introduction to Sociology**  
**FALL 2022 (16 Week)**  
**Internet/Online**  
**\*This course is 100% online\***

**Instructor Information:**

**Name:** Professor Montemayor  
**Email:** [cmontemayor1@com.edu](mailto:cmontemayor1@com.edu)  
**Phone:** 409-933-8212. Please leave a message

**Student hours and location:**

Online: Let's talk on M-Th after 3:30pm. Please request a time

**Required Textbook/Materials:** Society in Focus: An Introduction to Sociology, 9<sup>th</sup> edition. Written by W.E. Thompson, J.V. Hickey, and M.L. Thompson

**Course Description:** Introduction to the scientific study of human society, including ways in which groups, social institutions, and individuals affect each other. Causes of social stability and social change are explored through the application of various theoretical perspectives, key concepts, and related research methods of sociology. Analysis of social issues in their institutional context may include topics such as social stratification, gender, race/ethnicity, and deviance.

The course is set up online. The student will have the ability to communicate with the course professor and classmates online. All course material/information and assessments are located online.

**Course requirements: See Grade Assessment Explanation on page 2, page 3, and page 4**  
**Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:**

Assessment Name	Possible Points	Points Earned
(1) Orientation Module	100	
(2) Assignments: Discussion Forums, Video/Article Quizzes, Other assessments as offered	600	
(3) Post-Topic Quizzes	900	
(4) Weekly Attendance Discussion Forums	160	
(5) Final Writing Assignment (Steps 1, 2, 3)	200	
(6) Study Guides (Extra Credit)	400	
<b>TOTAL Points Offered</b>	<b>2360</b>	

<b>Course Grading Scale</b>	
<b>Final Letter Grade</b>	<b>Points earned AND FWA requirements</b>
<b>A</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student earns minimum 1300 points and higher <b>AND</b></li> <li>• Student submits/earns credit for the FWA* -</li> <li>• Student must earn credit for FWA Step 1, Step 2, Step 3</li> </ul> <p>All the above criteria must be met to earn an A</p>
<b>B</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student earns minimum 1000 points and higher <b>AND</b></li> <li>• Student submits/earns credit for the FWA* -</li> <li>• Student earns credit for FWA Step 1, Step 2 but does not earn credit for Step 3 or does not submit Step 3</li> </ul> <p>All the above criteria must be met to earn a B</p>
<b>C</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student earns minimum 700 points and higher <b>BUT</b></li> <li>• Student does not submit/earn credit for FWA* Step 1, 2 (3)</li> </ul> <p>The student will earn a C even if the student earns 1000 points and more, but the student does not submit/earn credit for FWA Step 1, 2 (3)</p>
<b>D</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student earns 500-699 points</li> </ul>
<b>F</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student earns 499 points and lower</li> </ul>
<b>FX</b>	<p>Repeatedly fails to attend class/submit required coursework No activity (defined as completion of module assessments) in course for 2 consecutive weeks</p>

\* There are 3 steps of the FWA. Completion of each step allows the student to earn a higher letter grade.

**A student's Final Letter Grade is determined by the total number of points earned AND FWA submission! Each criterion must be met! Review the above table carefully!**

**Grade Assessments Explanation – Select the My Points (Grades) link for points earned on each assessment**

**(1) Orientation Unit**

- 3 required assessments: Introduction Discussion Forum; Syllabus/Contract Quiz; email communication
- Optional/extra credit assignments: What Do You Know; Start the Conversation Discussion Forum; Student Survey, other assessments

## **(2) Assignment Assignments (Different types offered)**

### **\*Topic Discussions**

#### **Online Discussion via Discussion Forums**

- Online Discussions offer the student the opportunity to make connections from the course material to their experiences/events occurring in the world around them.
- **Two posts** are required to earn points. Be genuine, be polite, be sincere, and engage
  - **Post 1:** Reply to the question/statement made by the course professor. Use the required term(s) in your post. Write in complete sentences using correct grammar and spelling. End your post with a question that relates to the topic/or your post. Follow the word/sentence requirement. Use the assigned textbook, do not use any other source
  - **Post 2:** Reply to a post made by a classmate. Begin your response with the classmate's name. Write in complete sentences using correct grammar and spelling. Adhere to the word/sentence requirement. Do not write the words "good job or similar language." The goal is to simulate conversation that would take place in the classroom. You are writing what you would say if we were in class (on-campus) discussing the topic with your classmate. Follow the word/sentence requirement listed.

### **\*Video/Article Quizzes**

- Assesses the student's understanding of an event. Short quiz over a video or article. Students have two attempts! If a student attempts a quiz a second time, the student's final score will be the points earned on the second attempt. Do not attempt a quiz a second time if one is satisfied with one's initial score. Do not click on the quiz a second time if one is attempting to see points earned or questions missed. The student can see the points earned by selecting the My POINTS (grades) link

### **(3) Post Topic Quizzes – What did you learn?**

- **Post-Topic Quiz:** When a student completes the assigned reading and completes the offered assignments, the student can assess their knowledge of the material by taking a non-timed quiz for each topic/chapter. Students have two attempts! If a student attempts a quiz a second time, the student's final score will be the points earned on the second attempt. Do not attempt a quiz a second time if one is satisfied with one's initial score. Do not click on the quiz a second time if one is attempting to see points earned or questions missed. The student can see the points earned by selecting the My POINTS (grades) link. There is no midterm or final exam

- (4) Final Writing Assignment – 3 steps: Final Writing Assignment.** This assessment offers the student the opportunity to utilize a beginner's mind, discuss and apply sociological theory, as well as make sociological connections to a historical event. This assessment is required for those students seeking to earn an A or B in SOCI 1301. There are 3-steps to the FWA and each is released as the pre-requisite is completed. Look on the next page for explanation of Step 1, Step 2, and Step 3

- **FWA Step 1.** Step 1 is available to all students sometime in Module 2. Step 1 is a quiz that offers students the opportunity to refresh their understanding of the FWA requirements. Read the information listed under the FWA link and do not procrastinate.
  - Students must answer all quiz questions correctly to gain access to Step 2. Answers are in the course syllabus; under the FWA link
  - Students can retake the quiz as many times needed to answer all questions correctly
  - Students do not have access to FWA Step 2 until the requirements for FWA Step 1 are met
  - Look for one's score under My Points (Grade)
  - Required to earn a B and required to earn an A
- **FWA Step 2. Prerequisite:** Completion of FWA Step 1 (perfect score/15 points). Step 2 an opportunity to collect data and information needed to write a well-informed paper ( Step 3)
  - Step 2 must be completed and evaluated before the student is given access to Step 3 (paper instruction and requirements)
  - FWA Step 2 will be evaluated by the course professor. This process takes 5-7 days. Each student will receive feedback. The student is required to read the feedback and incorporate this feedback into FWA Step 3
  - If the student does not answer all of the information for Step 2, a score of .05 will be entered for the grade. The student will have the opportunity to redo their work and resubmit FWA Step 2. The redo must be uploaded by the date listed on the course calendar/announcement made by the course professor. The student's submission will be evaluated (allow several days) and the points posted online along with feedback/comments. READ the comments offered on this assessment and use them to help you write your paper (FWA Step 3).
- **FWA Step 3. Prerequisite:** Completion of Step 2 earning at least 20 points AND completion of Step 1. Step 3 is the "actual paper" that the student writes using sociological terms and phrases. FWA Step 3 offers each student the opportunity to show their ability to discuss sociological theory at the college-level.
  - Review the evaluation rubric and write a paper using the feedback offered by the course professor from FWA Step 2.
  - Students must earn at least 80 points on the FWA Step 3 to be eligible to earn an A or a B in this course
  - The student must earn at least a score of 80 points
  - If the student earns less than 80 points, a score of .05 will be entered for the assessment. The student may rewrite and resubmit FWA Step 3 (paper). The redo must be uploaded by the date listed on the course calendar
  - Look for one's score under My Points (Grade)
  - Required to earn a B and required to earn an A
- Review the Final Writing Assignment link for instructions, requirements, helpful tips to succeed, and evaluation criteria

#### (5) Chapter Study Guides ...Focus Questions, Key Terms, and Short Essay

##### OPTIONAL/EXTRA CREDIT

- a. A study guide (SG) is offered for each topic. The purpose of a study guide is to encourage the student to read assigned chapters in the required textbook so that they can learn the terms/phrases needed to engage in conversation, excel on quizzes and write a quality paper (Final Writing Assignment). Answers to the questions and definitions to the terms are found in the required textbook, Society in Focus, 9th edition or the course professor's lecture summary. ONLY use these two resources for this assessment – do not use any other source. Study guides

- must be typed, uploaded as a DOC or PDF document. Once completed, use each respective SG link to upload the file. Submit study guides as 1 file
- b. There are 12 study guides
    - i. Topic 1, 3, 5, 9 are worth 50 points each. There are 3 sections. Each must be completed. No partial points awarded for partial work.
    - ii. Topic 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12 are worth 25 points each. There are 2 sections. Sections 1 and 2 must be completed. No partial points awarded for partial work
  - c. Points earned can be viewed by selecting the My Grades (Points link)

**Extra Credit:** Extra learning opportunities are offered throughout the course – under each topic folder students can complete extra assignments and study guides

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
1. 1. Compare and contrast the basic theoretical perspectives of sociology.	Critical Thinking Skills (CT)	Discussion Assignments; Exams; Writing Assignment
2. 2. Identify the various methodological approaches to the collection and analysis of data in sociology.	Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS)	Discussion Assignments (#2); Reflection Essay-Research; Exam 1; Writing Assignment
3. Describe key concepts in sociology.	Critical Thinking Skills (CT)	Discussion Assignments, Reflection Essays; Exams; Writing Assignment
4. Describe the empirical findings of various subfields in sociology.	Empirical Quantitative Data (EQD)	Discussion Assignments, Reflection Essays; Exams; Writing Assignment
5. Explain the complex links between individual experiences and broader institutional forces.	Social Responsibility (SR)	Discussion Assignments; Reflection Essays; Writing Assignment

**Late Work/Make-Up Work:** Students are encouraged to complete assigned work each week as listed on the course calendar. This course offers much flexibility, but has some non-negotiable due dates/deadlines for modules and some assessments. Assessments must be submitted by the due date/deadline and will not be accepted late. If you miss a due date/deadline, take advantage of extra credit offered for another topic to “make up missed points.” If there is a medical emergence that prevents you from submitting coursework, contact the course professor before the due date/deadline. The course professor will work with you if you contact the course professor before the due date/deadline.

**Attendance Policy:** Students have to login online at least once a week and complete coursework located within each available module. In addition, **attendance is taken each week via online discussion forums located under the “Attendance Discussion Forum” link.** Complete by the date indicated to be counted present. The student must complete each respective Weekly Attendance Discussion Forum assessment to be counted present for that week. The Attendance Discussion Forum must be completed within the 7-day period to be counted present for that week. No other assessment will meet this requirement. Review the Student Handbook regarding your responsibility to attend course and be engaged as an active learner

**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. Grades and performance are not discussed via email as this would be a violation of FERPA. All discussion regarding grades and performance will occur virtually. In regards to email communication:

- Monday - Friday (noon): If a student sends an email Monday through Friday (noon), the student will receive a response within 24-48 hours after the email is read
- Friday afternoon, evening/Saturday communication: If a student sends an email on a Friday afternoon/evening or Saturday, the student will receive a response within 72 hours (generally the start of the next week)
- College Holidays: If a student sends an email while the College is officially closed, the student will receive a response on the next business day that the College is open
- Thank you for your patience as the course professor seeks to respond to all communication in a timely manner

**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 Rocky Barney [rbarney@com.edu](mailto:rbarney@com.edu).

#### **Technology Outage Policy:**

This class includes a distance-education class using an online learning management system for notes, lectures, and assessments. Each student must maintain Internet access throughout this course. Additionally, students are expected to maintain a state of technical compliance, including (but not limited to): up-to-date software as required by the instructor; a stable Internet connection, etc. The instructor is not required to give consideration for lost/missing/unacceptable work stemming from technical noncompliance and/or end-user technical issues. Failure to maintain Internet access shall not constitute a valid excuse for missed work. Any student who cannot keep up with the coursework owing to a lack of computer or Internet must drop the course. In short, if you fail to complete an assignment because your computer crashes or loses internet access, you forget to attach a file or click submit on an assignment, or you did not use the appropriate browser or operating system you are not entitled to make up an assignment. If the assignment was not completed due to your error, it cannot be made up. If you find yourself encountering an error when submitting a written assignment online your best bet would be to send that assignment to me via an email attachment and explain the situation.

Note: If you cannot open PDF files, you have to install Adobe Acrobat Reader and/or Plug-in on your computer. Please visit Adobe's websites below to install and/or solve problems:

- [Adobe Acrobat Reader DC](#)
- [Solutions to common issues viewing PDFs from a website](#)
- [Solve PDF issues by reconfiguring your browser to work with Acrobat or Reader plug-in](#)

**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.php>. 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.

This is an online course. Students are expected to always maintain polite and respectful communication with each other and the course professor. This course covers topics that some deem sensitive and controversial. Students will hear ideas that may differ from their own. That is okay! That is good. Learning to listen and engage with others that are different from you is skill that you want to develop. When we can listen, engage in scholarly conversation and debate and walk away with a better understanding of the “other” – we are a better people, a better society! This is a skill that is developed, it does not come naturally. Learn now – it will help you in your professional and personal relationships as well and interactions with those that you do not know. Past, current events are indicative that this skill is much needed! Be quick to listen, don’t speak over one another or the course professor. Each person will have an opportunity to express their understanding of the topic and their experiences – these are valued!

**Academic Dishonesty:** Any incident of academic policy 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. 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. Please read *Paper Assignment Guidelines*.

**Academic Dishonesty:** (Describe your academic dishonesty policy and state consequences if it is violated)

**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 [insert name and title of direct supervisor] at [phone number/email address].

**Course Calendar and Outline – page 8 and page 9**

**Course Calendar/Outline:**

<b>Module 1 Understanding Sociology (the foundation)</b>			
<b>WEEK</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>DISCUSSION TOPIC</b>	<b>TASK/ASSESSMENT</b>
Week 1	8/22/2022- 8/28/2022	Introduction/Overview Orientation Module due	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of course</li> <li>• Orientation assessments – read the course calendar link for details/due dates</li> </ul>
Week 2	8/29/2022- 9/4/2022	T1: What is Sociology? / Soc. Theory (Ch 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 1 discussion and assessments – read the course calendar link for details/due dates</li> </ul>
Week 3	9/5/2022- 9/11/2022	T2: Sociological Research and Investigation (Ch 2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 discussion and assessments – read the course calendar link for details/due dates</li> </ul>
Week 4	9/12/2022- 9/18/2022	T3: Culture (Ch 3-pp.62-75)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 3 discussion and assessments – read the course calendar link for details/due dates</li> </ul>
Week 5	9/19/2022- 9/25/2022	T3: Culture (Ch 3-pp.62- 75)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 3 discussion and assessments – read the course calendar link for details/due dates</li> </ul>
Week 6	9/26/2022- 10/2/2022	T4: Culture and Society (Ch 3-pp. 56-61) All Module 1 assessments due by end of week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 3 discussion and assessments – read the course calendar link for details/due dates</li> </ul>
<b>Module 2 The Importance of Socialization (Socialization and Social Interaction)</b>			
Week 7	10/3/2022- 10/9/2022	T5: Socialization, Social Interaction, & the Self (Ch 4/5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 4, 5 discussion and assessments - read the course calendar link for details/due dates</li> </ul>
Week 8	10/10/2022- 10/16/2022	T5: Socialization, Social Interaction, & the Self (Ch 4/5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 4, 5 discussion and assessments - read the course calendar link for details/due dates</li> </ul>
Week 9	10/17/2022- 10/23/2022	T6: Groups/Organizations (Ch 6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 6 discussion and assessments – read the course calendar link for details/due dates</li> </ul>
Week 10	10/24/2022- 10/30/2022	T7: The Family/Families (Ch 13)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 13 discussion and assessments – read the course calendar link for details/due dates</li> </ul>
Week 11	10/31/2022- 11/6/2022	T8: Deviance and Social Control (Ch 7) All Module 2 assessments due)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 7 discussion and assessments – read the course calendar link for details/due dates</li> <li>• Read course syllabus regarding module exams</li> </ul>



**Module 3 Stratification and its impact on society/Social Change**

Week 12	11/7/2022-11/13/2022	T9: Social Stratification (Chs 8 and 9)  FWA STEP 1 due by end of week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 8, 9 discussion and assessments – read the course calendar link for details/due dates</li> <li>Final Writing Assignment Step 1 – read the FWA link details, includes instructions and requirements</li> </ul>
Week 13	11/14/2022-11/20/2022	T9: Social Stratification (Chs 8 and 9)  FWA STEP 2 due by end of week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 8, 9 discussion and assessments – read the course calendar link for details/due dates</li> <li>Final Writing Assignment Step 2 – read the FWA link details, includes instructions and requirements</li> </ul>
Week 14	11/21/2022-11/27/2022	T10: Race and Ethnicity (Ch 10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 10 discussion and assessments – read the course calendar link for details/due dates</li> </ul>
Week 15	11/28/2022-12/4/2022	T11: Sex, Gender, and Sexuality (Ch 11) FWA STEP 3 due by end of week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 11 discussion and assessments – read the course calendar link for details/due dates</li> <li>Final Writing Assignment Step 3 – read the FWA link for details and due dates, includes instructions and requirements</li> </ul>
Week 16	12/5/2022-12/7/2022	T12: Social Change and Movements (Ch 20) FWA Step 3 Rewrite due, if needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 20 discussion and assessments – read the course calendar link for details/due dates</li> <li>Read course syllabus regarding FWA redo</li> </ul>

**Major due dates/deadlines:**

- August 28, 2022 at 11:59PM CST: Orientation Assignments due
- October 2, 2022 at 11:59PM CST: Topic 1, Topic 2, Topic 3, Topic 4
- November 6, 2022 at 11:59PM CST: Topic 5, Topic 6, Topic 7, Topic 8
- November 11 2022 11:59PM CST: FWA Step 1 due
- November 20, 2022 at 11:59PM CST: FWA Step 2 due
- December 4, 2022 at 11:59PM CST: FWA Step 3 due
- December 7, 2022 at 11:59PM CST: Topic 9 Topic 10, Topic 11, Topic 12

## 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 Michelle Brezina at 409-933-8124 or [mvaldes1@com.edu](mailto:mvaldes1@com.edu). The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the Student Success Center.

**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 5. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 18. The last date to withdraw for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week session is December 1.

**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.

### Resources to Help with Stress:

If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click here <https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/>. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in

the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office at [deanofstudents@com.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@com.edu) or [communityresources@com.edu](mailto:communityresources@com.edu).