



SOCI 1301.012IN
Introduction to Sociology
Summer 2021 (5 Week)
ONLINE/INTERNET
****This course is 100% online****

Instructor Information

Name: Professor Montemayor

Email: cmontemayor1@com.edu (

Phone: 409-933-8212. Please leave a message.

Student hours and location: Online M-F(noon); Appointment only via online software – e.g. Blackboard or Zoom. Request a time to meet, the request will be confirmed or a different time will be suggested. This communication will occur via COM email.

Course Communication: All electronic communication with the course professor must be through a student's COM email and/or Blackboard. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means.

- M-Th (noon): If a student sends an email Monday through Thursday (noon), the student will receive a response within 24 hours AFTER the email is read. Be patient. The course professor responds to all communication.
- S/S: If a student sends an email on a Saturday or Sunday, generally the student will receive a response the following week.
- College Holidays: If a student sends an email while the College is closed, the student will receive a response on the next business day that the College is open.

Required Textbook/Materials: Society in Focus: An Introduction to Sociology, 9th 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 in Blackboard (Bb). The student will have the ability to communicate with the course professor and classmates using Bb; all course material/information and assessments are located in Bb.

Course requirements/assessment explanation: See pages 6 and 7

Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula

Assessment Name	Possible Points	Points Earned
(1) Orientation	150	
(2) Study Guides	500	
(3) Assignments: Topic Discussion Forums, Quizzes	900	
(3) Post Topic and Sociological Theory Quizzes	900	
(4) Final Writing Assignment (Paper)	250	
(5) Weekly Attendance Discussion Forums	100	
TOTAL	2800	

Course Grading Scale	
Final Letter Grade	Points earned and Assessments submitted
A	1700 points AND 4 study guides submitted AND FWA submitted*
B	1200-1699 points AND 4 study guides
C	700-1199 points
D	500-699 points
F	499 points and lower
FN	Repeatedly fails to attend class/submit required coursework (3 weeks/9 hrs)

Review the course grading scale – notice that a lower final grade is easier to accomplish than a higher final grade. The higher the grade, the more work required! **2500 points are offered in this course**

***A student's Final Letter Grade is determined by the total number of points earned AND study guide submissions AND FWA submission! Each criterion must be met! Review the above table carefully! Request clarification from the course professor – virtual meetings only.**

All students are encouraged to meet with the course professor at least once during this term to discuss the student's status and success in the course. Be prepared to set time aside to meet with the course professor at least one time during the term. Meetings will occur via Bb Collaborate or Zoom.

Success Tips for Students:

- Read the course syllabus, read the information posted to Blackboard
- Attend class regularly – in an online course this means log in, complete work weekly
- Pay attention to announcements posted to Bb, emails; AND participate
- Read the textbook
- Complete required work
- Use the learning technique that works best for you (highlighter, virtual study groups through Blackboard, Zoom)
- Contact the course professor and ask for help; ask for clarification!
- Take advantage of the extra credit opportunities

Classroom Etiquette and Requirements

Conversation/Discussion in Classroom (online and on-campus): 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 hear difference, learning to 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 for it! 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!

Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy

Attendance Policy/Extra Credit: Attendance will be taken at each week via an online discussion forum. The purpose is to encourage students to engage in course reading and completion of course assessments each week and discuss findings/observations.

- Be prepared to participate in online discussion forums located under the “Weekly Participation/Attendance” link. These are discussion forums on weekly “current or social events.” This is an opportunity for you to share your opinion, share a little about you (at your comfort level) as it relates to what is occurring in our society and as it relates to the course – and there is SO MUCH! If you are looking to earn extra credit in the course, this is how you do it! There is not an extra credit assignment at the end of the course! Earn extra credit points all throughout the course, don’t wait until the last minute!

Late Work/Make-Up Work: Students are encouraged to complete assigned work each week. This course offers much flexibility, but has identified due dates/deadlines for each unit. 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 within each unit! If there is a medical emergency 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.

Communicating with your instructor: ALL electronic communication with the course professor must be through a student’s COM email and/or Blackboard. 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).

- M-F (noon): If a student sends an email Monday through Friday, the student will receive a response within 24 hours AFTER the email is read. Emails are not read constantly or 24/7. Be patient. Wait for a response. The course professor responds to all communication in a time manner.
- S/S: If a student sends an email on a Saturday or Sunday, the student will receive a response the following week.
- College Holidays: If a student sends an email while the College is officially closed due to a holiday, the student will receive a response on the next business day.

Student Learner Outcome (SLO)	Maps to Core Objective(s)	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

Academic Dishonesty: Any instances of academic dishonesty are reported in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on exams or papers will result in a grade of zero for that exam or paper.

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 Stacey Henderson at shenderson@com.edu (email) or 409-933-8134 (phone).

Course Calendar/Outline:

WEEK	DATE	DISCUSSION TOPIC	TASK/ASSESSMENT
Week 1	7/12-7/18	Orientation *Topic 1: Sociological Theory (Ch 1) * Topic 2: Sociological Research/Investigation (Ch 2) *Topic 3: Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation assessments – see course calendar link for details/due dates • Topic 1 – see course calendar link for details/due date • Topic 2 – see course calendar link for details/due date • Topic 3 – see course calendar link for details/due date
Week 2	7/19-7/26	*Topic 4: Society * Topic 5: Socialization and Social Interaction (Ch 4, 5) *Topic 6: Groups (Ch 6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic 4 – see course calendar link for details/due date • Topic 5 – see course calendar link for details/due date • Topic 6 – see course calendar link for details/due date
Week 3	7/27-8/1	*Topic 7: The Family (Ch 13) * Topic 8: Groups (Ch 6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic 7 – see course calendar link for details/due date • Topic 8 – see course calendar link for details/due date
Week 4	8/2-8/8	*Topic 9 *Topic 10 *FWA Step 1 due *FWA Step 2 due	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic 9 – see course calendar link for details/due date • Topic 10 – see course calendar link for details/due date • Refer to the FWA link for step 1 details/due date • Refer to the FWA link for step 2 details/due date
Week 5	8/9-8/13 Short week *12:30pm afternoon due date	*FWA Step 3 due *Topic 11 *Topic 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to the FWA link for steps 3 • Topic 11 – see course calendar link for details/due date • Topic 12 – see course calendar link for details/due date

Course due dates:

- July 13, 2021 at 11:30PM CST: Orientation Assignments due
- July 21, 2021 at 11:30PM CST: Topic 1, Topic 2, Topic 3, Topic 4 and Topic 1 Study Guide due
- August 2, 2021 at 11:30PM CST: Topic 5, Topic 6, Topic 7, Topic 8 and Topic 5 Study Guide due
- August 3, 2021 at 11:30PM CST: FWA Step 1 due
- August 5, 2021 at 11:30PM CST: FWA Step 2 due
- August 9, 2021 at 11:30PM CST: FWA Step 3 due
- August 13, 2021 at 12:30PM CST: Topic 9 Topic 10, Topic 11, Topic 12 and Topic 9 Study Guide due ~this is a mid-day deadline~

Grade Assessments Explanation – In Bb, select the “My Points” link to see the points earned for each assessment.

(1) Orientation

- 3 required assessments: Introduction Discussion Forum; Syllabus/Contract Quiz; email communication
- 3 optional/extra credit assignments: What do you know; Start the Conversation Discussion Forum; Student Survey

(2) Assignments

Discussion Forums

- Personal Reflections where the student uses terms to make connections from the course material to their experiences and events occurring in the world around them.
- Two posts are required to earn points. Be genuine, be polite, be sincere, and engage in conversation!
 - 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 listed in Bb. 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 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 classmates. Make it a conversation! Adhere/follow to the word/sentence requirement listed in Bb.

Video/Article Quizzes

- Assesses the student’s understanding of an event. Short quiz or 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.

(3) Quizzes – What Did you Learn (Post Topic Quizzes)

- When a student completes the assigned reading and completes the offered assignments, the student has the opportunity to assess their knowledge of the material by taking a non-timed quiz for each topic/chapter. The student will have two (2) opportunities to complete each topic/chapter quiz. 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. Look for one’s score under My Student Grades link or request a time to meet with the course professor to discuss missed questions and score. There are no unit exams; there is no mid-term exam; there is no final exam!

(4) *Chapter Study Guides ...Focus Questions, Key Terms, Applying sociology

- A study guide (SG) is offered for each topic. For the required study guides (T1, T5, T9), students are asked to define terms, answer questions over the assigned chapter, and write a short essay applying sociological theory For the optional/extra credit study guides, students are asked to define terms, answer questions over the assigned chapter (no short essay).

The purpose of the study guides is to encourage the student to read chapters in the assigned textbook so that they can engage in conversation, excel on the quizzes and write a quality paper (Final Writing Assignment). Once completed, upload each study guide to the indicated link in Bb. Look for the Study Guide folder under each topic folder. To earn points/credit for a study guide, all indicated terms/questions must be answered. Partial work will not earn points or credit towards requirements for a student's final letter grade

- Required: Submit 3 study guides – submit SG marked required in Bb
- Optional: Submit study guides marked as optional/extra credit (9)
- Answers to the questions and definitions to the terms are found in the required textbook, Society in Focus: An Introduction to Sociology, 9th edition. ONLY use the Thompson, Hickey, Thompson for this assessment – do not use any other source.

- (5) **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 connections to a historical event. This assessment is required for those students seeking to earn an A in SOCI 1301. Review the Final Writing Assignment link in Bb for instructions, requirements, helpful tips to succeed, and evaluation criteria.

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. *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

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. 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. Counseling services are available on campus in the student center for free and students can also email 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 is August 6, 2021

F_N Grading: The F_N grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The F_N 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_N grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an F_N 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. Students are required to watch a training [video](#), complete the [self-screening](#), and acknowledge the safety guidance at: www.com.edu/selfscreen. In addition, students, faculty, and staff must perform a [self-screening](#) prior to each campus visit. Finally, students, faculty, or staff who have had symptoms of COVID-19, received a positive test for COVID-19, or have had close contact with an individual infected with COVID-19 must complete the [self-report tool](#).