



**SOCI 1301.011IN**

**Introduction to Sociology**

**Summer1 2023**

**Online only**

**Instructor Information:**

**Name:** Professor Montemayor

**Email:** [emontemavor1@com.edu](mailto:emontemavor1@com.edu)

**Phone:** 409-933-8212. Please leave a message email, phone number

**Student hours and location:**

By appointment; online/virtual

**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.*

**Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula AND Course Requirements:  
Explanation offered on pages 1, 2, 3, 4**

Course Grading Scale	
Final Letter Grade	Points earned AND FWA requirements
A	• Student earns 1100 or more points
B	• Student earns 900-1099 points
C	• Student earns 700-899 points
D	• Student earns 500-599 points
F	• Student earns 499 or less points
FN	Student repeatedly fails to attend class/submit required coursework. No activity (defined as completion of module assessments) in course for 2 consecutive weeks

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### Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula

Assessment Name	Possible Points	Points Earned
<b>Required</b>		
(1) Orientation Module Assignments (3)	100	
(2) Topic assessments (12 at 50 points each)	600	
(3) Module Exams (3 at 120 points)	300	
(4) Final Writing Assignment (Outline/Paper)	30/170	
(5) Attendance Discussion Forum (5 at 20 points each)	100	
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>1300</b>	
<b>Extra Credit</b>		
(1) Post Topic Quizzes (12 at 20 points each)	240	
(2) Study Guides-12 (25 points each)	300	
(3) Additional topic assignments, when offered Online Discussion Forums or Video/Article Quizzes-Extra Credit	TBD	

**Grade Assessments Explanation** – The student can find how many points they earn on each assessment by clicking on the **My Points (Grades)** link

**(1) Online Orientation Unit**

- Required: Introduction Discussion Forum; Syllabus/Contract Quiz; email communication;

**(2) Class Participation. All coursework must be submitted to Bb links. No coursework will be accepted via email**

**\*Online Discussion via Discussion Forums for online students.**

- Online Discussions offer the student the opportunity to make connections from the course material to their experiences and/or events occurring in the world around them
- **Two posts** are required to earn points. 0 points will be earned if the student does not respond both to the question asked by the course professor and a post made by a classmate. Be genuine, be polite, be sincere, and engage
  - **Post 1:** Reply to the questions made by the course professor. Use the required term(s) in the post – which are listed in **bold font**. Write in complete sentences using correct grammar and spelling. End the 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. Points are earned based on adherence to the above instructions

- **Post 2:** Reply to a post made by a classmate. Begin your response with the classmate's name. Write 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.
  - Student work is evaluated on one's ability to follow instructions and correct application of course material
- Discussion Forum Rubric:
    - 45-50 points: met word count requirements; answered all questions, use required terms, include all definitions of required terms in the post, excellent use of course material and correctly applied (correct examples)
    - 40-44 points: met word count requirements; answered all questions, use some required terms, include some definitions of required terms in post, average use course material and application (some examples correct, some not)
    - 35-39 points: met word count requirements; did not answer all questions, did not use required terms, did not include the required definitions, did not use course material correctly and did not apply course material correctly
    - 34 points and below: did not meet the requirements for college level discussion
    - 1 point: did not submit the two required posts. only submitted 1 post

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

- Short quiz over a video or article. Students have two attempts! If a student attempts a quiz a second time, the student's second score will be the points earned. No exceptions. 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. Points earned (or questions missed) can be used under the My POINTS link

### **(3) Module Exams**

- Three (3) online exams over course material. Each is worth 120 points. Multiple choice questions. Find a quiet location with a secure Internet connection. Use a tablet, laptop or desktop computer to take the exam. Only 1 attempt will be offered to each student. If the student experiences technical difficulties or misses the deadline/due date for an exam, a comprehensive exam will be offered at the end of the term. This will take the place of the missed/"messed up" exam. The comprehensive exam is ONLY for students who experience technical difficulties or miss an exam. As students are required to complete 3 exams only.

### **(4) Final Writing Assignment (Outline/Paper)**

- 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. Outline must be completed and submitted. This will be evaluated and points posted to Bb. If the student meets the minimum requirements, the student will have access to the paper link/instructions. Outline and Paper instructions and submission links are located in D2L. Coursework must be submitted to D2L – submissions will not be accepted via email. See next page for information.
- FWA Outline
  - Completion of the FWA outline must be completed and evaluated before the student is given access to the FWA Paper instructions/submission link
  - The FWA Outline will be evaluated by the course professor which takes several days. The student is required to read the feedback and incorporate this feedback into their paper
  - The student must earn at least 15 points on the outline to gain access to the instructions for the paper and the paper submission link. If the student scores less than 15 points, the student will still have the opportunity to redo and resubmit their work. If the student earns 15 or more points, the student will gain access to the FWA Paper and submission link. Do not write the FWA paper until the FWA Outline has been completed, submitted and points earned.
- FWA Paper. The student writes an essay using sociological terms and phrases. The Paper 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 outline
  - **Prerequisite:** Completion, submission, and earn minimum points on FWA outline assignment.
- Review the FWA Paper link for instructions, requirements, helpful tips to succeed, and evaluation criteria

### **Extra Credit**

#### **Chapter Study Guides ... Key Terms, Focus Questions, Short Answer. Optional/Extra Credit**

- 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 each study guide as one file. Failure to follow instructions will result in 0 points earned.

- There are 12 study guides. Each study guide has three sections. All three sections must be completed to earn points. Failure to complete all three sections will result in 0 points earned. The student can see points earned via the My Points (grades) link

**Post Topic Quizzes...**Multiple choice/True False quizzes over course material. Students have two (2) attempts on each quiz. The SECOND attempt is the final score – so think before attempting a quiz a second time. There are no additional chances at extra credit quizzes.

**Additional topic assignments.** At times, an additional topic assignment is available for students to complete. See description for topic assignments above.

**Communicating with your instructor:** ALL electronic communication with the course professor must be via the student’s 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 or Sunday communication: If a student sends an email on a Friday afternoon/evening, Saturday or Sunday a response will occur Monday 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

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

**Late Work/Make-Up Work:** Online course work and on-campus discussion opportunities are offered each week. On-campus discussion is not accepted late as students must be present on the day of discussion to earn points. However, students may submit weekly online assessments as long as the work is submitted by the major deadline/due date. FWA Data Collection and Paper are not accepted late, unless otherwise announced. There are no make ups for module exams. A comprehensive final is offered on the last day of the course – takes the place of a missed exam, if needed.

This set up allows the student flexibility, as needed. 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 a student from submitting coursework, contact the course professor before the due date/deadline. The course professor will work with the student if contacted before the due date/deadline.

**Extra Credit: See above information listed on page 4**

**Attendance Policy:** Students are counted present only when they complete each attendance discussion forum (each week). These are different from the topic assignments (discussion forums). Review the Student Handbook regarding your responsibility to attend class meetings 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. (Faculty may add additional statement requiring monitoring and communication expectations via D2L or other LMS)

**Student Learner Outcomes**

<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)	Discussion Assignments; Exams; Writing Assignment
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 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.

**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 Dr. Wakao, Behavioral and Social Sciences Department Chair at 409-933-8212 or [swakao@com.edu](mailto:swakao@com.edu).

**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*.

**Course outline:**

<p>Week 1: 6/5/2023- 6/11/2023</p>	<p>Orientation</p> <p>Topic 1: Chapter 1</p> <p>Topic 2: Chapter 2</p> <p>Topic 3: Chapter 3</p>	<p>Complete Orientation Assignments 1, 2, 3</p> <p>Read Chapter 1 in SIF; read Topic 1 lecture summary; watch videos; complete Topic 1 assignment</p> <p>Read Chapter 2 in SIF; read Topic 2 lecture summary; watch videos; complete Topic 2 assignment</p> <p>Read Chapter 3 in SIF; read Topic 3 lecture summary; watch videos; complete Topic 3 assignment</p> <p>Complete Week 1 Attendance Discussion Forum</p>
<p>Week 2: 6/12/2023- 6/18/2023</p>	<p>Topic 4: Chapter 3</p> <p>Topic 5: Chapters 4 and 5</p>	<p>Read Chapter 3 in SIF; read Topic 4 lecture summary; watch videos; complete Topic 4 assignment; <b>take Exam 1</b></p> <p>Read Chapters 4 and 5 in SIF; read Topic 5 lecture summary; watch videos; complete Topic 5 assignment</p> <p>Complete Week 2 Attendance Discussion Forum</p>
<p>Week 3: 6/19/2023- 6/25/2023</p>	<p>Topic 6: Chapter 6</p> <p>Topic 7: Chapter 13</p> <p>Topic 8: Chapter 7</p>	<p>Read Chapter 6 in SIF; read Topic 6 lecture summary; watch videos; complete Topic 6 assignment</p> <p>Read Chapter 13 in SIF; read Topic 7 lecture summary; watch videos; complete Topic 7 assignment</p> <p>Read Chapter 7 in SIF; read Topic 3 lecture summary; watch videos; complete Topic 8 assignment; <b>take Exam 2</b></p> <p>Complete Week 3 Attendance Discussion Forum</p>
<p>Week 4: 6/26/2023- 7/2/2023</p>	<p>FWA Outline</p> <p>Topic 9: Chapters 8 and 9</p> <p>Topic 10: Chapter 10</p> <p><b>Last date to drop: June 30, 2023</b></p>	<p>Submit FWA Outline on Monday, June 26, 2023 11:59PM. Submit to D2L. Do not email</p> <p>Read Chapters 8 and 9 in SIF; read Topic 9 lecture summary; watch videos; complete Topic 9 assignment</p> <p>Read Chapter 10 in SIF; read Topic 10 lecture summary; watch videos; complete Topic 10 assignment</p> <p>Complete Week 4 Attendance Discussion Forum</p>
<p>Week 5: 7/3/2023- 7/7/2023</p>	<p>FWA Paper</p> <p>Topic 11: Chapter 11</p> <p>Topic 12: Chapter 20</p> <p><b>Last day of course: July 7, 2023 11:59AM CST MORNING DEADLINE</b></p>	<p>Submit FWA Paper on Wednesday, July 5, 2023 11:59PM. Submit to D2L. Do not email</p> <p>Read Chapter 11 in SIF; read Topic 11 lecture summary; watch videos; complete Topic 11 assignment</p> <p>Read Chapter 20 in SIF; read Topic 12 lecture summary; watch videos; complete Topic 12 assignment; <b>take Exam 3; Comprehensive Exam (only for those who missed an exam)</b></p> <p>Complete Week 5 Attendance Discussion Forum</p>

## **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 [Student Handbook 2022-2023\\_v4.pdf \(com.edu\)](#). *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.*

**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 Kimberly Lachney at 409-933-8919 or [klachney@com.edu](mailto:klachney@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> 5-week session is June 30. The last date to withdraw from the 10-week session is July 31. The last date to withdraw for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 5-week session is August 4.

**FN Grading:** The FN grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The FN 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 FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN 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).