



SOCI 1301.01111(2670)
Introduction to Sociology
Spring 2025
Internet only

All course material/information and assessments are located online via D2L

Instructor Information

Professor Montemayor-Allen

E-mail: cmontemayor1@com.edu (primary form of communication)

Phone: 409-933-8212

This is the number to the Behavioral and Social Sciences Department. Leave a message with Ms. Kerry Kloesel

Department Office: Social/Behavioral Sciences Department, LRC Bldg., Suite A

Communicating with course professor: All electronic communication with the course professor must be through a student's COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance through non-COM email accounts. Read the comments/feedback offered for each assessment. FERPA restrictions restrict discussion about grades via email. Communication can occur virtually via COM student email, COM Teams or other COM approved software.

Be sure to check your COM student email account regularly. Responses to emails will be made within 48 hours if received M-Th and F/noon. Emails sent on Sat/Sun and College holidays will be responded to the next day the college is officially open.

Office hours/location:

Virtual/Internet only

Virtual communication via email, Teams or other virtual communication approved by COM.

Email course professor to request a meeting

Required Textbook/Materials: Introduction to Sociology, 3rd edition, OpenStax. Students have free access to the textbook via this link:

<https://openstax.org/details/books/introduction-sociology-3e/>

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.

Course requirements and Grading Formula

Final Letter Grade Determination	
Final Letter Grade	Points earned AND FWA submission
A	• Student earns 1100 or more points/FWA
B	• Student earns 900-1099 points/FWA
C	• Student earns 700-899 points/FWA
D	• Student earns 600-699 points (no FWA)
F	• Student earns 599 or less points (no FWA)
FN	Student stops submitting required coursework – no online activity
	*Submission of paper required to earn C and higher. Must meet minimum paper requirements.

ALL numbers/points will be included in the calculation of a student's numerical score which is connected to a letter grade. This includes required and extra credit. This indicates to the student, the course professor, and college administrators which coursework was completed and which was not. This means that all points will be added together, even a 0.

When numbers are added together, the result is a SUM! A 0 does not decrease or increase a student's score.

In D2L, the student will see two numbers separated by a line: XX/XXX. At all times, the student is to focus on the first number only. This number is connected to a letter grade

Example:

0+50+10+25+75+0+0+50+25+0+10+5+0+25+0+0+100+0+50+0+75+0+10+0=510 points out of 860 offered. The student will see 510/860. Focus on 510! The 860 has no meaning!

There are 4 modules in SOCI 1301, so there are 4 benchmarks: after the Orientation Module, after Module 1, after Module 2, and after Module 3 (course ends).

As the student completes an assessment, points are earned. Points are added together which results in a sum. This is a "running/current" score that increases each time points are earned. A 0 is a number and does not decrease nor increase one's score.

There are 4 major benchmarks as there are 4 modules in the course

After the Orientation Module coursework has been evaluated and points posted to Bb:

A=earn 68 and more points

B=earn 60-67 points

C=earn 53-59 points

D=earn 45-52 points

F=earn 44 and fewer points

After Module 1 coursework has been evaluated and points posted to Bb:

- A=earn 410 and more points
- B=earn 335-409 points
- C=earn 261-334 points
- D=earn 220-260 points
- F=earn 219 and fewer points

After Module 2 coursework has been evaluated and points posted to Bb:

- A=earn 752 and more points
- B=earn 610-751 points
- C=earn 469-609 points
- D=earn 395-468 points
- F=earn 394 and fewer points

After Module 3 coursework, CWA has been evaluated and points posted to Bb:

- A=earn 1100 points and submit College Writing Assignment (must meet minimum requirements)
- B=earn 900-1099 points and submit College Writing Assignment (must meet minimum requirements)
- C=earn 700-899 points and submit College Writing Assignment (must meet minimum requirements)
- D=earn 600-699 points
- F=earn 599 and fewer points

*A grade of A, B, C is earned only when minimum points are earned and the student submits the Final Writing Assignment (must meet minimum requirements)

Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula

Assessment Name	Possible Points	Points Earned
Required		
(1) Orientation Module Assignments (3) points vary	75	
(2) Topic assignments (12) 30 points each	360	
(3) Topic quizzes (12) 15 points each	180	
(4) Module Exams (3) 120 points each	360	
(4) FWA-Final Writing Assignment (Outline/Paper)	75/100	
(5) Attendance Discussion Forum (16) 10 points each	160	
Total Points	1310	
Optional/Extra Credit, if offered		
TBD – look for items marked with (EC)	TBD	

Grade Assessments Explanation – The student can see how many points they earn on each assessment by clicking on the Grades link. Assessments must be submitted to D2L. Coursework will not be accepted via email.

IMPORTANT: ONLY access the course assessments using the weekly links and the attendance links under the Course Content link. Do **not** use the discussion, assignment, quizzes link listed at the top of D2L. These links do not include the instructions/ information for assessments. Not following these instructions may result in a confusing, frustrating experience course experience

(R) = Required assessment and counts towards the 1300 points

(EC) = Optional/extra credit assessment and is above and beyond the 1300 points

++Attendance Discussion Assignments are different than the topic discussion assignments. These are located under the Attendance tab

(1)Orientation Module. Required

- Discussion Assignment
- Syllabus/Contract Quiz

(2)Topic Assignments. Required. Discussion or quiz – labeled. Submit to D2L only. Will not be accepted via email

***Discussions over articles, videos, course-related material.** To earn points, the student must follow the instructions and the evaluation rubric. The student must respond to the instructor’s prompt and reply to a classmate’s post. Write in complete sentences, use course required terms, follow APA format. Use the assigned textbook and/or lecture summary only, unless instructions direct one to use a different source. Be sure to follow [APA formatting rules](#)

- **Response 1-Required:** Reply to all questions/statements made by the course professor. Use the required term(s) in your post – these are in bold font. End the response with a question to your classmates that relates to your post.
- **Response 2-Required:** Respond to a post made by a classmate. Begin your response with the classmate’s name. Do not write the words “good job or similar language.” The goal is to simulate conversation that would take place in the classroom.
- **The Discussion Assignment Evaluation Rubric will be used to score this assessment.** Review this information prior to submitting responses

See next page for Evaluation Rubric

• **Evaluation Rubric:**

- **27-30 points (Excellent response):** met word count requirement; answered all questions, incorporated required terms definitions into response, excellent use of course material and correctly applied/followed APA format for in-text citations rules. Review example listed in D2L. Review [Purdue OWL website APA formatting rules](#)
- **24-26 points (Above average response)** met word count requirements; answered all questions, used required terms, included all definitions of required terms in the post, excellent use of course material and correctly applied (correct examples), did not follow APA format and/or use in-text quotations. Review [Purdue OWL website APA formatting rules](#)
- **21-23 points: (Average response):** met word count requirements; answered some questions, used some required terms but did not show an understanding of the course material or course assignment; did not follow APA format or use in-text quotations. Review [Purdue OWL website APA formatting rules](#)
- **2-20 (Poor response):** responded to the question(s), did not use complete sentences, significant spelling and grammar errors, did not apply course material
- **1 point:** did not submit the two required responses
- **0 points:** Did not attempt

***Video/Article Quizzes**

Short quiz over an assigned video, article. Students have two attempts! No additional attempts will be offered. To earn points, the student must complete and submit the quiz.

(3) Topic quizzes. Required. An opportunity to review the material for each topic/chapter. Students have 2 attempts to complete topic quizzes with the highest score posted to D2L. Students should review course material/textbook prior to attempting and completing each quiz. Scores are automatically posted upon successful completion

(4)Module Exams. Required

Three (3) online exams over course material. Each is worth 120 points. Multiple choice and True/False questions are offered. This assessment is completed via D2L. 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. Students are discouraged from attempting exams on cell phone.

If the student experiences technical difficulties, caused by College of the Mainland, contact Distance Education for assistance at <https://de-support.com.edu/requests>. Also inform the course professor. Distance Education staff will work with the course professor to address the technical difficulties so that the student can complete the exam.

If a student misses Exam 1 or 2, or experiences technical difficulties due to the student's Internet connection or personal computer source, the student may take a comprehensive exam offered at the end of the term. This will take the place of one missed/"messed-up" exam. The comprehensive exam is ONLY for students who experience technical difficulties or miss an exam. Students who complete Exam 1, Exam 2 and Exam 3 will not be offered

the opportunity to take the Comprehensive Make-up Exam. The Comprehensive Exam will take the place of Exam 1 or Exam 2 – not Exam 3.

The student who wishes to take the Comprehensive Exam must request access to the Comprehensive Exam at least 7 days before the day they wish to take the Comprehensive Exam. If the student does not submit a request by the allotted date, the student will not be granted access to the Comprehensive Exam.

(5) Final Writing Assignment (Outline/Paper). Required.

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 current social issue (topic is assigned). This assessment is required.

FWA Outline

- Read the FWA Outline instructions and complete the assignment. There are 4 sections to this assignment. All 4 sections must be completed
- FWA Outline must be submitted as 1 file and as a .DOC or .PDF file. No other files will be accepted. A grade of 0 is earned if not .DOC/.PDF file. Student can resubmit if there is still time to do so.
- Submit to D2L and allow several business days (sometimes up to 5-7 business days) for evaluation and posting of points. The student is required to read the feedback and incorporate this feedback into the FWA Paper
- The student must earn at least 25 points on the FWA Outline to gain access to the instructions for the FWA Paper and the paper submission link. If the student scores less than 25 points, the student can redo and resubmit the FWA Outline. Do not write the FWA paper until the FWA Outline has been completed, submitted and points posted.

FWA Paper. The student writes an essay over the assigned topic using sociological terms and concepts. The Paper offers each student the opportunity to show their ability to discuss sociological theory at the college-level. The assessment will only be evaluated once. Students are not offered a second opportunity unless an incorrect file was accidentally submitted or a file with the incorrect extension was submitted.

- Read the instructions for this assessment under the FWA Paper tab. Follow the evaluation rubric. The FWA Paper must be completed and submitted in one (1) file with a .DOC or .PDF extension. No other files will be accepted. A 0 will be earned if not a .DOC/.PDF file
- **Prerequisite:** Complete, submit, and earn minimum required points on the FWA outline submission

Review the FWA Paper link for instructions, requirements, helpful tips to succeed, and evaluation criteria

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

Late Work/Make-Up Work: Students should strive to complete the assigned coursework each week. However, as long as weekly coursework is completed by the module due date, there is no penalty. Students have a couple of weeks to complete coursework for each module (not Orientation). This set up allows the student flexibility, as needed. However, if a student finds that they have fallen behind and needs “a little extra time” to catch up the student will be offered a “late pass.” Each student is offered a 1 “late pass” per course. The request must be

made before the due date/deadline. The student will be offered a specific date to submit work late. The student must submit the late coursework by the "extended due date/deadline." The student will earn 0 points on coursework not completed/submitted by the extended date.

If one does not request a late pass, the student will not be allowed to submit work late. The student is encouraged to take advantage of extra credit offered throughout the course to "make up missed points." There are no "end of the course" extra credit opportunities. Plan ahead!

If there is a medical emergency that prevents a student from submitting coursework by the due date/deadline, contact the course professor via email.

At times, the course instructor may offer a "free extension to all students." Take advantage of these offers. They are not guaranteed; they are not without deadlines.

Once a deadline has passed, do not attempt work that has been awarded a score in the D2L. **Once a score has been entered into the D2L gradebook, the student's grade will not be changed (unless feedback directs otherwise).** Plan to complete coursework before the due date/deadline listed on the course calendar for each assessment.

Optional/Extra Credit Assessments

One (1) optional/extra credit assignment will be offered for each module. It might be a quiz or it might be a discussion. Same instructions and requirements as required for quizzes/discussions offered in each module. Read the instructions for each. These will not be re-opened or reset as these are optional/extra credit.

Attendance Policy: Students are counted present only when they complete the attendance discussion assignment each week. These are different from the topic discussion assignments. Review the Student Handbook regarding your responsibility to "attend class" and be engaged as an active learner

Communicating with your instructor: All electronic communication with Professor Montemayor 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. Virtual meetings will occur via COM approved software.

Use of AI (Artificial Intelligence)

Students are allowed to use advanced automated tools (artificial intelligence such as CoPilot, ChatGPT or Dall-E 2, etc.) on assignments in this course if permission is first obtained from the course professor (and properly cited). Do not turn to AI to write responses for SOCI coursework. Unless given permission to use IA tools, each student is expected to complete each assignment without substantive assistance from others, including automated tools.

Student Learner Outcomes

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
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 appropriate discipline action.

Student Concerns: If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact Professor Montemayor using the contact information listed on page one of this document. If, after discussing your concern with Professor Montemayor, you still have questions, please contact Dr. Wakao, Behavioral and Social Sciences Department Chair at 409-933-8212 or swakao@com.edu.

SOCI 1301 Course Calendar

College of the Mainland does not offer “complete at your own pace courses.” Coursework will be assigned and opened on a weekly basis. Coursework will be released to students on the **Monday** of the assigned week. Due dates/times listed on the calendar refer to 11:59PM CST at the “end of the designated week” (Sunday). Because Week 8 ends on Wednesday, the coursework for Week 8 will be released early. Notice there is a significant amount of reading and coursework due every few weeks.

Course Calendar

<p>Week 1: 1/13/2025- 1/19/2025</p>	<p>Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Complete Orientation Module Required and Extra Credit Assignments Due Wednesday, 1/15/2025 11:59PM CST; Submit to D2L</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday T1(Sociological Theory):Read Chapter 1 in the OpenStax textbook; read Topic 1 lecture summary; watch videos (optional); complete Topic 1 discussion assignment and quiz</p> <p>+Complete Week 1 Attendance Discussion Assignment by end of Week 1</p>
<p>Week 2: 1/20/2025- 1/26/2025</p>	<p>Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday Monday, January 20, 2025 is a college holiday. College of the Mainland is closed. Communication will resume on Tuesday, January 21, 2025.</p> <p>T2(Sociological Research):Read Chapter 2 in the OpenStax textbook; read Topic 2 lecture summary; watch videos(optional); complete Topic 2 discussion quiz and Topic 2 quiz (2 different quizzes)</p> <p>T3(Culture):Read Chapter 3 in the OpenStax textbook – assigned pages; read Topic 3 lecture summary; watch videos (optional); complete Topic 3 discussion assignment and Topic 3 quiz</p> <p>+Complete Week 2 Attendance Discussion Assignment by end of Week 2</p>
<p>Week 3: 1/27/2025- 2/2/2025</p>	<p>Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday</p> <p>T4(Society):Read Chapter 4 in the OpenStax textbook; read Topic 4 lecture summary; watch videos (optional); complete Topic 4 discussion assignment and Topic 4 quiz</p> <p>*Take Exam 1. Covers Topics 1-4. Plan to complete coursework for Topics 1-4 and Exam 1 by 11:59PM CST 1/29/2025 (W)*</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday T5(Socialization):Read Chapter 5 in the OpenStax textbook; read Topic 5 lecture summary; watch videos (optional); complete Topic 5 discussion assignment and Topic 5 quiz</p> <p>+Complete Week 3 Attendance Discussion Assignment by end of Week 3</p>
<p>Week 4: 2/3/2025- 2/9/2025</p>	<p>Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday T6(Groups/Organizations):Read Chapter 6 in the OpenStax textbook; read Topic 6 lecture summary; watch videos (optional); complete Topic 6 discussion assignment and Topic 6 quiz</p> <p>T7(Marriage/Family):Read Chapter 14 in the OpenStax textbook; read Topic 7 lecture summary; watch videos (optional); complete Topic 7 discussion assignment and Topic 7 quiz</p> <p>+Complete Week 4 Attendance Discussion Assignment by end of Week 4</p>

<p>Week 5: 2/10/2025- 2/16/2025</p>	<p>Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Complete the FWA: Info Assignment. This is not the paper. Instructions /requirements located under FWA tab. Due 2/12/2025 11:59PM CST</p> <hr/> <p>Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday T8(Deviance/Social Control): Read Chapter 7 in the OpenStax textbook; read Topic 8 lecture summary; watch videos (optional); complete Topic 8 discussion assignment and Topic 8 quiz</p> <p>*Take Exam 2. Covers Topics 5-8. Plan to complete coursework for Topics 5-8 and take Exam 2 11:59PM CST on Sunday 2/16/2025</p> <p>+Complete Week 5 Attendance Discussion Assignment by end of Week 5</p>
<p>Week 6: 2/17/2025- 2/23/2025</p>	<p>Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday</p> <p>T9(Stratification/Class Inequality): Read Chapter 9 in the OpenStax textbook; read Topic 9 lecture summary; watch videos (optional); complete Topic 9 discussion assignment and Topic 9 quiz</p> <p>T10(Race/Ethnicity): Read Chapter 11 the OpenStax textbook; read Topic 10 lecture summary; watch videos (optional); complete Topic 10 discussion assignment and Topic 10 quiz</p> <p>+Complete Week 6 Attendance Discussion Assignment by end of Week 6</p>
<p>Week 7: 2/24/2025- 3/2/2025</p>	<p>Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday ***Last day to drop without a grade is 2/26/2025 5:00PM CST*** T11(Gender/Sex): Read Chapter 12 in the OpenStax textbook; read Topic 11 lecture summary; watch videos (optional); complete Topic 11 discussion assignment and Topic 11 quiz</p> <p>Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday Complete the FWA: Paper. Instructions/requirements located under the FWA tab. Due by Sunday, 3/2/2025 11:59PM CST</p> <p>+Complete Week 7 Attendance Discussion Assignment by end of Week 7</p>
<p>Week 8: 3/3/2025- 3/5/2025</p>	<p>Short week Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday T12(Social Change): Read Chapter 21 in the OpenStax textbook; read Topic 12 lecture summary; watch videos (optional); complete Topic 12 discussion assignment and Topic 12 quiz</p> <p>*Take Exam 3. Covers Topics 9-12. Plan to complete coursework for Topics 9-12 and take Exam 3 11:59PM CST by Wednesday, 3/5/2025</p> <p>+Complete Week 8 Attendance Discussion Assignment by Wednesday, 3/5/2025</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 https://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student_Handbook_2024-2025_v2.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.*

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, Student Accessibility Services Coordinator
Phone: 409-933-8919
Email: AccessibilityServices@com.edu
Location: COM Doyle Family Administration Building, 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 1st 8-week session is February 26. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is April 21. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is April 30.

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 or communityresources@com.edu.

Nondiscrimination Statement:

The College District prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity and gender expression), or any other basis prohibited by law. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of College District policy.