

Course: S0CL 100: Online Introductory Sociology

Instructor: John Musalia

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Course Dates: July 11 - 29, 2022

General Contact: Use email for course questions.

Course Description

Sociology is the scientific discipline that studies how social groups influence human action and interaction. We will learn the methods of inquiry sociologists utilize to examine the influence of gender, race, class, region of the country, and type of community, on an individual's values, behavior, and expectations. Students will explore the difference and similarities among cultures within the United States and the world. We will focus on the contribution of social institutions like family, education, the economy, and the polity make in shaping a society's knowledge. Through discussion of these sociological issues the course will enable you to think critically about the social world in which we live.

This course fulfills part II of the Explorations section of the Colonnade (Social and Behavioral Sciences) general education requirement. Upon completion of this course students should be able to:

- a. Demonstrate knowledge of at least one area of the social and behavioral sciences.
- b. Apply knowledge, theories, and research methods, including ethical conduct, to analyze problems pertinent to at least one area of the social and behavioral sciences.
- c. Understand and demonstrate how at least one area of the social and behavioral sciences conceptualizes diversity and the ways it shapes human experience.
- d. Integrate knowledge of at least one area of the social and behavioral sciences into issues of personal or public importance.
- e. Communicate effectively using the language and terminology germane to at least one area of the social and behavioral sciences.

Specifically, at the end of this course you should:

- a. Explain the theoretical perspectives and research methodologies used in Sociology.
- b. Illustrate how an individual's race, class, and gender affect his/her experiences in the social world.
- c. Explain the role of social institutions such as the family, education, the economy, religion and the polity in shaping our experiences in society.

REQUIRED READINGS:

Schaefer, Richard. 2022. Sociology: A Brief Introduction (14th edition). New York: McGraw-Hill.

First Day Access

This course participates in The Barnes and Noble college First Day Access program. This program is designed to provide immediate access to required materials for all students at prices cheaper than any other option. You will access the required materials for this course from single sign-on access with no codes required in Blackboard.

WKU will bill you at the discounted price as a course charge for this course.

It is NOT recommended that you Opt-Out, as these materials are required to complete the course. You can choose to Opt-Out on the first day of class, but you will be responsible for purchasing your course materials at the full retail price and access to your materials may be suspended.

For more information and FAQs go to customercare.bncollege.com

Personal Computer: You should have a computer with consistent internet access. You should also have storage facilities such as USB or other storage media that you can use to store your class documents.

Teaching Methods

Lectures: Recorded chapter introduction videos and PowerPoint's slides are provided to guide you as you go through the course.

Exams:

Exams will be completed using the testing capabilities of the Blackboard learning management system and will consist of multiple-choice questions. All tests will open on the first day of class and each will timeout on their due dates. You will have a total of FOUR tests in the course each consisting of 50 multiple choice questions to be completed in 60 minutes. Considering that this is a THREE weeks class, you should expect to digest a lot of information within a short time. You will be examined after every three chapters. To be clear, Test 1 will cover materials from Chapters 1-3; Test 2 will cover materials from Chapters 4,5,7; Test 3 will cover materials from Chapters 8-10 and Test 4 will cover materials from Chapter 11-13. See the schedule below for details. Before you take the test, please make sure you are well prepared.

All tests will open on the first day of class and each will timeout after its due date (see schedule below). For example, test 1 will not be available after midnight, July 15. So please make sure you take the tests before they expire. I will not open them up again.

Respondus Lockdown Browser and Respondus Monitor

You must use a special Internet Browser named Respondus Lockdown Browser to take the exams. **For Test 1, you will be required to use both Respondus Lockdown and Respondus monitor.** The rest of the tests you will only need to use the Lockdown browser. Remember you CANNOT use Explorer, Firefox, Safari or Google Chrome to open the test. If you do so, you will be prompted for a password that does not exist. In fact, if for some reason you are asked for a password know that you have made a mistake. ONLY Respondus Lockdown Browser has access to the tests on Blackboard. It is FREE and can be downloaded from WKU's Blackboard site (look at the top of the Blackboard page and click on Software tab at the top of our Blackboard page) or download it directly from <http://www.respondus.com/lockdown/information.pl?ID=476234332>

Internet: All material will be distributed on the Internet. Instructional material such as PowerPoints, recorded lectures and exams will be posted on Blackboard. Students are responsible for their own Internet access. Your professor cannot troubleshoot connections or computer

problems for you. The class website can be found at <https://blackboard.wku.edu>. If you encounter technical problems with the Blackboard learning environment call the help desk at 270-745-7000.

Grading: Your grade is earned through your performance on exams. As the instructor, I only record the grade that you have earned.

The following will be your grade distribution:

Exams (4 of them)	100 points each.
Grade distribution will be as follows:	
A = 90.00 – 100.00%	C = 70.00 – 79.99%
B = 80.00 – 89.99%	D = 60.00 – 69.99%, Else F

Class Attendance/Participation: There is limited “class attendance” in the traditional sense of the word. Students are free to manage their own schedules within the due-dates of the various deliverables.

Academic Dishonesty: Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses and will result in an F for the course. For more information, refer to the "Academic Dishonesty" policy in the University Catalog.

Class Schedule: For your convenience, a class schedule has been prepared and is located at the end of this document. It is recommended that you print and post a few copies in places where you will logically refer to them (e.g., on the refrigerator, at the office, a copy in your car, etc.). Deliverables are noted in bold. Changes to the calendar may be made to accommodate the class. Such changes will be formally announced on Blackboard. If a change is made, please immediately update your schedule(s).

E-Mail Formatting: E-mail is the most common way for students to contact me. For ease of identification, your email should be formatted as:

Subject: Socl 100-D71, YourLastName, A Brief Subject Statement

Example: Soc 100-D71, Musalia, A question about next week's deliverable

The Learning Center

Should you require academic assistance with your WKU courses, The Learning Center (located in the Downing Student Union, 2141) provides free supplemental education programs for all currently enrolled WKU students. The Learning Center at Downing Student Union offers certified, one-on-one tutoring in over 200 subjects and eight academic skill areas by appointment or walk in. Online tutoring is offered to distance learners. TLC is also a quiet study area (with side rooms designated for peer-to-peer tutoring) and a computer lab to complete academic coursework. Please call TLC in the Downing Student Union at (270) 745-5065 for more information or to schedule a tutoring appointment at www.wku.edu/tlc/.

Disability Accommodation

In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, 1074. The phone number is 270.745.5004 [270.745.5121 V/TDD] or email at sarc@wku.edu. Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation (LOA) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.

Title IX, Discrimination, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct Policy

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU's Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy (#0.2070) at <https://wku.edu/eoo/documents/titleix/wkutitleixpolicyandgrievanceprocedure.pdf> and Discrimination and Harassment Policy (#0.2040) at https://wku.edu/policies/hr_policies/2040_discrimination_harassment_policy.pdf.

Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121.

Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are "Responsible Employees" of the University and **MUST** report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center at 270-745-3159.

Class Schedule

This is an introduction to Sociology, online course, concentrated into 4 weeks. Research indicates that learners prefer focusing upon subjects within short time frames. This can facilitate a strong immersion into the material, but there are costs. By more than "doubling up" on the schedule, you must be willing to devote a lot of your time and energy to this concentrated course during these weeks.

This schedule indicates the days each chapter is covered and exam dates. You may have questions about the schedule, the tests, or other things relating to this concentrated Online Socl 100 course. I will be glad to respond to you via email at john.musalia@wku.edu

Class Duration: July 11 – July 29, 2022		
Dates	Topics	Tests
11-14	Chapter 1: Understanding Sociology Chapter 2: Sociological Research Chapter 3: Culture	Test 1 July 15
16-19	Chapter 4: Socialization and the Life Course Chapter 5: Social Interaction, Groups and Social Structure Chapter 7: Deviance, Crime and Social Control	Test 2 July 20
21-24	Chapter 8: Stratification and Social Mobility	Test 3

	Chapter 9: Global Inequality Chapter 10: Racial and Ethnic Inequalities	July 25
26-29	Chapter 11: Stratification by Gender Chapter 12: The Family and Human Sexuality Chapter 13: Education and Religion	Test 4 July 29

Caveat: Just so that you know that there is a possibility that I may need to make modification to this syllabus and if that happens, I will let you know of such changes by posting a notice under ANNOUNCEMENTS on our Blackboard site.