

## Sociology I

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** The world is becoming more complex. How do your beliefs, values and behavior affect the people around you and the world we live in? In this increasingly connected world, students will examine problems in our society and learn how human relationships can influence the life of the student. Exciting online video journeys to different areas of the world are also presented in the course.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

- Learn about the sociological approach.
- Learn what sociologists do.
- Understand the development of sociology.
- Understand the major sociological perspectives.
- Understand sociology today.
- Understand what culture is.
- Learn how culture develops in a society.
- Learn what language, norms, values, and sanctions are.
- Understand cultural variations like subcultures and countercultures.
- Learn about cultural diversity.
- Understand what socialization is and how people learn to be members of their culture.
- Examine the different socialization processes throughout the life course.
- Learn how the agents of socialization teach individuals culture.
- Examine how socialization affects the development of the self.
- Understand the role of the family, school, peer group, media, and workplace in the socialization process.
- Examine the social structure of society and how this structure affects your everyday life.
- Learn about the statuses in society that you may hold and the roles that follow from these statuses.
- Follow the development of technology in society from preindustrial societies to postmodern ones and examine how these changes affect the social structure of societies.
- Explore social interactions between groups of people.
- Understand what deviance is and how it affects society.
- Examine the different explanations for deviance.
- Discuss how society encourages conformity and how it uses social control to discourage deviance.
- Understand the different types of crime and how society deals with crime.
- Understand what social stratification is and how it affects society.

- Learn about the three types of social stratification.
- Examine the major theories of social stratification.
- Investigate the social classes that exist in the United States and Canada.
- Learn about poverty in North America and which groups are more likely to be poor.
- Learn what race and ethnicity are.
- Investigate the characteristics of a minority group.
- Understand what prejudice, racism, and discrimination are.
- Examine the different ways that group relationships may be organized in society.
- Discuss how a minority group may respond to repression.
- Learn what gender and gender roles are.
- Examine how gender roles and expectations influence the positions and opportunities available to men and women.
- Discuss the social construction of gender.
- Investigate how the socialization process teaches gender.
- Look at gender inequality in society and how it affects men and women.

**PREREQUISITES:** None

**COURSE LENGTH:** One semester

**REQUIRED TEXT:** No required textbook for this course.

**MATERIALS LIST:** No required materials for this course.

**COURSE OUTLINE:**

**Unit 1: An Invitation to the World of Sociology**

**Unit 2: Our Culture**

**Unit 3: Socialization**

**Unit 4: Social Structure & Group Behavior**

**Sociology Midterm Exam**

**Unit 5: Deviance & Crime**

**Unit 6: Social Stratification & Class**

**Unit 7: Inequalities of Race & Ethnicity**

**Unit 8: Gender**

**Sociology Final Exam**