



SO23013: Introduction to Sociology

Sociology

Arkansas Northeastern College

DEPARTMENTAL SYLLABUS

I. Course Prerequisites

Students should be able to read and absorb information from a college-level textbook, and to write effectively. Students enrolled in *College Reading Skills* and/or *College Writing Skills* are strongly advised **not** to take this course.

II. Course Catalog Description

A general survey course which introduces the student to the field of sociology. The course includes basic concepts, the relationship of the individual to culture and the group, and the major social institutions.

III. Required Text

Heather Griffiths, Fayetteville State University, Nathan Keirns, Zane State College, Eric Strayer, Hartnell College, Susan Cody-Rydzewski, Georgia Perimeter College, Gail Scaramuzzo, Lackawanna College, Tommy Sadler, Union University, Sally Vyain, Ivy Tech Community College, Jeff Bry, Minnesota State Community and Technical College at Moorhead, Faye Jones, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. **Introduction to Sociology** (2nd Edition). **OpenStax**

IV. Course Rationale:

History and social sciences provide the student the opportunity to develop an appreciation of the essential worth of the individual person as a viable and active instrument of change, socially and politically, in the affairs of life. This can be accomplished through an integrated view of civilization, economic development, and social evolution.

V. Course Level Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Explain the Sociological perspective (imagination) **(Communication Fluency) (Critical Thinking)**
2. Describe social institutions and their importance in society **(Communication Fluency)**
3. Explain the significance of culture and society **(Diversity Awareness)**

VI. Required Texts and Materials:

Heather Griffiths, Fayetteville State University, Nathan Keirns, Zane State College, Eric Strayer, Hartnell College, Susan Cody-Rydzewski, Georgia Perimeter College, Gail Scaramuzzo, Lackawanna College, Tommy Sadler, Union University, Sally Vyain, Ivy Tech Community College, Jeff Bry, Minnesota State Community and Technical College at Moorhead, Faye Jones, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. **Introduction to Sociology** (2nd Edition). **OpenStax**

VII. Unit and Instructional Objectives

Unit I, The Foundation of Sociology

Rationale: It is imperative that students learn of the development of sociology as a formal discipline, in order to properly dispel many of the misconceptions that they have. This will enable the students to approach the material throughout the

semester with more of an open mind. Students must also begin to properly recognize how their own personal lives have been shaped by larger forces of culture and social structure.

Student Level Outcomes: The student will be able to:

- 1) identify the two parts of the sociological perspective. **(CLO 1)**
- 2) explain the scientific basis of sociology. **(CLO 1)**
- 3) distinguish between the three theoretical approaches in sociology. **(CLO 2)**
- 4) summarize various research methods employed by sociologists. **(CLO 2)**
- 5) identify the various elements of culture. **(CLO 3)**
- 6) distinguish between various types of cultural norms. **(CLO 3)**
- 7) describe how subcultures and countercultures contribute to cultural diversity. **(CLO 3)**
- 8) differentiate between ethnocentrism and cultural relativism. **(CLO 3)**
- 9) identify the characteristics of social structure. **(CLO 1)**
- 10) distinguish between different types of statuses and roles. **(CLO 1)**
- 11) describe the main theories associated with the social construction of reality. **(CLO 2)**

UNIT II The Power of Groups

Rationale: Students must be able to recognize how social groups impact every aspect of their lives in ways they may not easily discern. This unit will allow students to explore group dynamics in formal organizations, the choices they make with regard to sexuality, and their willingness to either obey or violate the rules of society.

Student Level Outcomes: The student will be able to:

- 1) identify the differences between primary and secondary groups. **(CLO 2)**
- 2) distinguish between types of group leadership. **(CLO 2)**
- 3) summarize the key research studies on conformity. **(CLO 2)**
- 4) identify the elements of the bureaucratic model. **(CLO 2)**
- 5) explain the problems associated with bureaucracy. **(CLO 2)**
- 6) explain the idea of the McDonaldization of Society. **(CLO 3)**
- 7) explain the biological and cultural factors associated with sexuality. **(CLO 1)**
- 8) summarize the sexual revolution and sexual counterrevolution. **(CLO 1)**
- 9) describe key research findings on several sexual controversies. **(CLO 1)**
- 10) identify how deviance is a product of society. **(CLO 2 & CLO 3)**
- 11) summarize various sociological theories of deviance. **(CLO 2 & CLO 3)**
- 12) describe the various elements of our criminal justice system. **(CLO 2 & CLO 3)**

Unit III Social Stratification and Social Institutions

Rationale: Students in the service area of Arkansas Northeastern College deal directly with social inequality, as well as the institutions of family and religion, on a regular basis. This unit will give them a vocabulary to better articulate their experiences and to recognize the potential for positive social change in their communities.

Student Level Outcomes: The student will be able to:

- 1) identify the principles of social stratification. **(CLO 3)**
- 2) describe the relationship between ideology and stratification. **(CLO 3)**
- 3) contrast the structural-functional and conflict approaches to stratification. **(CLO 3)**
- 4) identify and describe the various social classes in the United States. **(CLO 3)**
- 5) summarize competing theories on what causes poverty. **(CLO 2 & CLO 3)**

- 6) describe the elements of welfare reform. **(CLO 7)**
- 7) explain how gender is a creation of society. **(CLO 1, CLO 2 & CLO 3)**
- 8) summarize the differences that gender makes in people's lives. **(CLO 3)**
- 9) describe how gender is an important dimension of social stratification. **(CLO 3)**
- 10) explain how race is a socially constructed category. **(CLO 3)**
- 11) define and give examples of stereotypes associated with various racial/ethnic categories. **(CLO 3)**
- 12) describe various patterns of interaction between minorities and others within society. **(CLO 3)**
- 13) explain how prejudice is measured. **(CLO 3)**
- 14) differentiate between the terms prejudice and discrimination. **(CLO 3)**
- 15) describe how prejudice and discrimination operate together in a vicious circle. **(CLO 3)**
- 16) describe examples of institutional discrimination. **(CLO 3)**
- 17) summarize the debate over whether Affirmative Action is still necessary. **(CLO 3)**
- 18) define key terms associated with family and religion. **(CLO 2 & CLO 3)**
- 19) describe how family and religion are linked to social inequality. **(CLO 2, CLO 3)**
- 20) explain why both family and religion are changing in today's world. **(CLO 2, CLO 3)**

VIII. Course Policies: Technology and Media

Email:

Arkansas Northeastern College has partnered with Google to host email addresses for ANC students. myANCMail accounts are created for each student enrolled in the current semester and is the email address your instructor will use to communicate with you. Access your email account by going to <http://mail.google.com/a/smail.anc.edu> and using your first and last names, separated by a period for your username. Your default password is the last six digits of your Student ID. If you cannot access your student email, contact the MITS department at 762-1020 ext 1150 or ext 1207 or send an email to ANChelp@smail.anc.edu.

Instructor will use email to communicate with class members on issues relevant to the class. Students are also encouraged to use email to communicate with the instructor and each other. Students can expect the instructor to respond to their emails within 24 hours. When possible, instructor does check and respond to emails on weekends.

Internet: This course has a webpage on myANC.

Instructor will use the course webpage to post PowerPoint lectures, keep students apprised of important announcements and dates, and receive video reports via electronic submissions. In addition, students will be able to access scores on all coursework through the Gradebook tab.

Laptop Usage:

The use of laptops during class is prohibited.

Classroom Devices:

Students who wish to use tape recorders during lectures must receive permission from the instructor.

The use of cell phones, mp3 players, and iPods is strictly prohibited during class.

Computer Labs:

In addition to general-purpose classrooms, a number of computer laboratories are provided for instructional and student use. These networked laboratories are state-of-the-art and fully equipped with computers, printers, Internet connections and the latest software. The labs are open to students enrolled in one or more credit hours at the College.

Technology Support:

A lab assistant is generally present in the computer lab in B202 for assistance in using the College computers. These assistants cannot help you with course assignments; specific questions regarding the technology

requirements for each course should be directed to the instructor of the course. Problems with myANC or College email accounts should be addressed by email to ANCHelp@smail.anc.edu.

IX. Course Policies: Student Expectations

Disability Access:

Arkansas Northeastern College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This First Day Handout is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the instructor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Dr. Blanche Sanders or Suzanne Robinson at the Learning Assistance Center, Room L104.

Attendance Policy:

Instructor will take roll each class session. While no points are specifically assigned for attendance, it is imperative that students make every effort to be in class on a regular basis.

If a student must miss a class, he/she should contact the instructor via email to explain what happened and to determine what was missed. The student must get lecture notes that were missed from a classmate.

Professionalism Policy:

Please arrive on time and prepared for all class meetings. If you must come in late, do so without disrupting the instructor or other students. Instructor will not tolerate repeated instances of tardiness.

Academic Integrity Policy: Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. Students are expected to do their own work. Plagiarism, using the words of others without express permission or proper citation, will not be tolerated. Any cheating (giving or receiving) or other dishonest activity will, at a minimum, result in a zero on that test or assignment and may be referred, at the discretion of the instructor, to the Department Chair and/or Vice President of Instruction for further action. If you are uncertain as to what constitutes academic dishonesty, please consult the Academic Integrity Policy for further details. (http://www.anc.edu/docs/Academic_Integrity_Policy.pdf)
Should a second incident of cheating occur, I reserve the right to give the student an F for the entire semester!

Academic & Career Enrichment Advising Center: The Academic & Career Enrichment (ACE) Advising Center is located in Statehouse Hall in Room S145. The ACE Advising Center advises all new ANC students. Once a student is progressing through his/her program of study the student will be assigned an advisor in the field of study. Prospective students are provided test prep assistance through the computerized Skills Tutor system for Compass test placement. The ACE Advising Center also houses a Virtual Career Center including career placement services, as well as academic tutoring services for enrolled students. The tutoring services offered are one-on-one tutoring, group tutoring, and group labs for specific classes.

Other Student Support Services: Many departments are ready to assist you reach your educational goals. Be sure to check with your advisor; the ACE Advising Center, Room S145 and Student Support Services, Room W207; to find the right type of support for you.