

Framingham State University
Department of Sociology
SOCI 101: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY (02)
Summer 2018

General Information:

Semester: Summer 2018 (July 2nd, 2018–August 3rd, 2018)

Credit: 4

Teaching Hours: 50 Hours

Time: 2 hours/day, Mon.–Fri.

Professor Name: Joann Gu

Home Institution: Framingham State University

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COURSE DESCRIPTION: This is an introductory course to Sociology – a discipline that studies human behavior and the organizations of society. Sociology is a field of study that examines social, political, and economic phenomena in terms of social structures, social forces, and group relations. The course will cover several important sociological topics, including socialization, culture, the social construction of knowledge, social inequality, and how sociologists carry out research. Credit: 4-hrs.

The Goal of this course is to convey the distinctive features of the sociological imagination to our students from different disciplinary areas via introducing the basic concepts, methods and theoretical approaches of sociology.

The Objectives By the end of the course, the students should be able to:

- Describe the sociological perspective and explain its improvement over common-sense reasoning;
- Describe the major sociological theories and the historical context of their creation;
- Apply these concepts and theories to explain contemporary social problems;
- Apply the key concepts highlighted in the course;
- Exercise independent and critical thinking skills;
- Understand of how society shapes us and how we shape our society.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: This course consists a range of activities including group learning, lectures, discussions, and video/audio presentations. The concept of team-based learning will be emphasized in this class. With this approach, students take a more active role in creating a meaningful and positive learning environment for themselves. Students will be assigned into groups of 4-5 at the beginning of the semester and they work together as a “team” on various assignments throughout the term. The course also utilizes different tools and forms of media; hence, it is essential that students have regular access to the internet, and a printer.

EVALUATION OF PERFORMANCE: Grades will be determined through the following major performance areas:

Class Participation and Discussion. This will consider students' readiness to participate in class discussion (read and process the text materials before class), their active engagement in the learning

process, and attendance - of course, you cannot participate without being there.

Term Paper. Each student will select one topic of her/his own choice as the theme of their research work for the course. Detailed step-by-step instruction will be given as we move through the term.

In-class Assignments and Homework: Class exercises and homework will be given at the end of each subject (just about every day). Students are encouraged to do the assignment/homework in groups to further the discussions and help with each other. However individual learning is the goal for doing these exercises. We will go over the outcome of these assignments and homework at the end of each week (Q&A) along with discussion of any questions and issues. Credit is given based on the effort not the number of correct answers.

Exams: There will be a midterm and a final exam. They will be in-class, closed-book, and individual work. All information from the readings and all material covered during lectures are fair game for the exams. The two exams are not "cumulative". Make-up exams will only be given in the cases of documented serious illness or serious personal emergency.

Grades will be determined by the performance of in class participation, assignments, and the two exams. All the graded work will be scored out of a total of 100, and the final evaluation for the course work will be weighed as follows:

- Class participation including class exercises & attendance: 30%
- Term Paper: 20%
- Midterm exam: 25%
- Final exam: 25%

Grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

A 94 – 100 points	C 73 – 76
A- 90 - 93	C- 70 - 72
B+ 87 – 89	D+ 67 – 69
B 83 – 86	D 63 – 66
B- 80 - 82	D- 60 - 62
C+ 77 - 79	F 59 or lower

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK :

Sociology: The Essentials
Author: Yvonne Vissing (2018)

Where to get it: Free for downloading the digital version (draft). Courtesy of my colleague Dr. Yvonne Vissing, Professor of Sociology of Salem State University.

CLASS SCHEDULE (subject to adjustment)

Last updated: 6/16/2018 SOCI 101-02

Week	Date	Class Topics	Reading
1	Jul 2	Course introduction and Syllabus Overview of Sociology Team assignment	Vissing Chapter 1
1	Jul 3	History and development of sociology Classical Sociological Theories Sociological Perspectives	Vissing Chapter 1
1	Jul 4	Culture and Society	Vissing Chapter 1
1	Jul 5	Social Research Methodology	Vissing Chapter 1
1	Jul 6	Q&A CH1	
2	Jul 9	Socialization Agents of Socialization	Vissing Chapter 2
2	Jul 10	Social interaction Theories	Vissing Chapter 2
2	Jul 11	Groups and Organizations	Vissing Chapter 2
2	Jul 12	Sociology of the Family	Vissing Chapter 2
2	Jul 13	Family and Q&A CH2	Vissing Chapter 2
3	Jul 16	Midterm Exam	
3	Jul 17	Social Problems Crime and Deviance the CJ System	Vissing Chapter 3
3	Jul 18	Social inequality: Class & Social Stratification	Vissing Chapter 3
3	Jul 19	Social Inequality: Race & Ethnicity	Vissing Chapter 3
3	Jul 20	Q&A CH3	
4	Jul 23	Social Inequality: Gender and Sex, Marriage & Work	Vissing Chapter 3
4	Jul 24	Social Institutions Political and Economic Institutions	Vissing Chapter 4
4	Jul 25	Educational Institutions Religious Institutions	Vissing Chapter 4
4	Jul 26	Health Care Systems & Media/Sports	Vissing Chapter 4
4	Jul 27	Q&A CH4	
5	Jul 30	Population Urbanization Environment	Vissing Chapter 5
5	Jul 31	Globalization and Theories	Vissing Chapter 5
5	Aug 1	Global Growth and Inequality	Vissing Chapter 5
5	Aug 2	Social Movements War and Peace	Vissing Chapter 5
5	Aug 3	Final Exam; End of the Course	

CLASS POLICIES:

All students are expected to be familiar with the academic regulations, including those regarding Academic Integrity, as published in the university catalog.

Academic Integrity

The University assumes that all students come to Framingham State University with serious educational intent and expects them to be mature, responsible individuals who will exhibit high standards of honesty and personal conduct in their academic life. All members of the Framingham State University academic community have a responsibility to ensure that scholastic honesty and academic integrity are safeguarded and maintained. Cheating and plagiarism are unfair, demoralizing, and demeaning to all of us. Cheating, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities are serious acts which erode the University's educational role and cheapen and diminish the learning experience not only for the perpetrators, but also for the entire community. It is expected that Framingham State University students will understand and subscribe to the ideal of academic integrity and that they will be willing to bear individual responsibility for their work. Materials (written or otherwise) submitted to fulfill academic requirements must represent a student's own efforts.

Please refer to definition of plagiarism and cheating found on the FSU website:

http://catalog.framinghamstat.edu/content.php?catoid=19&navoid=2098#Academic_Integrity

Critical Emergencies

In the event of a critical emergency, please refer to the alternative educational plans for this course. Students should review the plans and gather all required materials before an emergency is declared.

Equal Access

Framingham State University is committed to providing equal access to the educational experience for all students in compliance with Section 504 of The Rehabilitation Act and The Americans with Disabilities Act and to providing all reasonable academic accommodations, aids and adjustments. Any student who has a documented disability requiring an accommodation, aid or adjustment should speak with the instructor immediately. Students with disabilities who have not previously done so should provide documentation to and schedule an appointment with Disability Services and obtain appropriate services.

Statement of Inclusivity

This class respects and welcomes students of all backgrounds, identities, and abilities. If there are circumstances that make our learning environment and activities difficult, if you have medical information that you need to share with me, or if you need specific arrangements, please let me know. I am committed to creating an effective learning environment for all students, but I can only do so if you discuss your needs with me as early as possible. I promise to maintain the confidentiality of these discussions.