

Sociology II: Your Social Life

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Sociology II: Your Social Life

Sociology is the study of people, social life and society. By developing a “sociological imagination” students will be able to examine how society itself shapes human action and beliefs...and how in turn these factors re-shape society itself! Fascinating online videos journeys will not only inform students, but motivate them to still seek more knowledge on their own.

COURSE METHODOLOGY

- This is an inquiry-based course. Students will generate knowledge through online readings, asynchronous discussions with students and their instructor, interactions with online tutorials, and online and hands-on simulations.
- The instructor will act as a guide, a facilitator, an events planner, and a resource advisor. He/she will always be available through course message.
- The student must actively construct and acquire knowledge by being intrinsically motivated to succeed. To succeed, students must participate and complete all readings and activities. This course requires the student’s active participation.
- Both formal and informal assessment methods will be used in the course. Informal assessment will include an evaluation of the quality and timeliness of participation in class activities. Formal assessment may include multiple-choice quizzes, tests, discussion board participation, and written assignments. A final exam will be given at the end of the course.

COURSE PARTICIPATION OBJECTIVES

This course for which you are registered is a college preparatory, academically rigorous course that covers an entire semester's worth of material. As such, it is important that you adhere to the following guidelines as you manage your time and commit to successfully completing all required coursework:

1. The requirements for this course are equivalent to completion of minimum of 90+ hours of class instruction at a traditional on-site high school
2. Assignments must be submitted for each unit as they are completed so that the teacher may review and assess your performance. Do not hold your work, you must submit each unit's homework as it is completed, demonstrating weekly assignment completions
3. You must log in regularly to your course to demonstrate continued participation, and completion of all course requirements, including assignments, assessments and discussion forums
4. You must complete your individual work and any incident of suspected cheating, plagiarism or collaboration on assignments violates the academic integrity expectations outlined at the time of your enrollment and can result in failure of the course or further action as deemed appropriate

Citizenship

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a responsible manner that reflects sound ethics, honor, and good citizenship. It is the student's responsibility to maintain academic honesty and integrity and to manifest their commitment to the goals of NUVHS through their conduct and behavior. Students are expected to abide by all NUVHS policies and regulations. Any form of academic dishonesty, or inappropriate conduct by students or applicants may result in penalties ranging from warning to dismissal, as deemed appropriate by NUVHS.

Communication

Throughout this course students will need to be in close contact with their instructor and fellow students. Students are expected to communicate via course message and electronic discussion boards. Therefore, students should plan on checking their course messages at least three times a week and participate in the discussion boards during the weeks they are live.

Instructors strongly encourage and welcome open communication. Clear, consistent, and proactive communication will ensure a successful experience in this course. It is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor immediately if and when a personal situation occurs that affects his/her performance in this class. Being proactive with communication will result in a quick solution to any problems that may occur.

COURSE OUTLINE

Unit 1 – Marriage and Family

In this unit, we will discuss the social institution of the family. We will examine different family arrangements around the world and the functions that families provide for individuals and society. We will also discuss different patterns in marriage and mate selection as well as look at how factors like race and class affect families. Finally, we will investigate the increase in divorce in North America and what factors may contribute to this rate.

Learning Objectives

- Learn about different family arrangements around the world.
- Think about the different functions that families provide for individuals and society.
- Examine patterns in mate selection for marriage.
- Investigate the factors that have led to an increase in divorce.

Activities

Unit 1 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 1 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 1 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 1 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 1 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

Unit 2: Religion and Education

This unit focuses on the social institutions of religion and education. We will discuss what religion is and what functions it provides to individuals and society. In addition, we will examine several different types of religious organizations. We will also discuss what functions the educational system provides to society and how this social institution can reinforce social inequalities in society. Finally, we will look at the growth of online education and its benefits and issues for society.

Learning Objectives

- Learn what functions religion provides for individuals and society.
- Examine different types of religious organizations.
- Investigate the functions of education in society.
- Examine the relationship between education and social inequality.
- Discuss the growth of online education.

Activities

Unit 2 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 2 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 2 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 2 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 2 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

Unit 3: The Economy and Politics

In this unit, we will examine the two social institutions known as the economy and politics. We will discuss the characteristics of capitalism and socialism and look at how the economy is changing in recent years. We will also investigate several different types of government structures and ways that people gain authority in society. Finally, we will look at several models of power and how government policies affect our everyday lives.

Learning Objectives

- Learn the differences between capitalism and socialism.
- Discuss several recent trends in the economy.
- Examine the three types of authority.
- Investigate the differences between totalitarianism, authoritarianism, and democracy.
- Discuss several models of power to explain the political system.

Activities

Unit 3 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 3 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 3 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 3 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 3 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

Unit 4: Sport and Entertainment

In this unit, we will examine the role and effects of sports and entertainment, particularly the mass media, on society. We will look at how sports are used to socialize children and how they reinforce assumptions of gender and race. We will also discuss the functions that the mass media provide to individuals and society and how the mass media reinforces traditional assumptions of social class and other inequalities. Finally, we will investigate the controversy over violence in the media.

Learning Objectives

- Learn how sports reinforce social inequality in society.
- Discuss how sports contribute to socialization into North American culture.
- Investigate the functions that the mass media provide.
- Consider how the concentration of the media and gatekeeping activities influence what we are exposed to.
- Examine the controversy over violence in the media and how individuals receive messages in the media.

Activities

Unit 4 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 4 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 4 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 4 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 4 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

Unit 4: Sport and Entertainment (Continued)

Midterm Exam Objectives

- Review information acquired and mastered from this course up to this point.
- Take a course exam based on material from the first four units in this course (Note: You will be able to open this exam only one time.)

Midterm Exam Activities

Midterm Discussion	Discussion	5 points
Midterm Exam	Exam	50 points

Unit 5: Population and the Environment

In this unit, we will examine the study of population or demography. We will learn the basic concepts of demography and discuss some of the theories of population growth. In addition, we will discuss some of the trends in population from around the globe. In doing so, we will examine some of the effects that population growth has had on the environment and how the culture of North America contributes to environmental problems. Finally, we will discuss what human society can do to minimize environmental harm through culture.

Learning Objectives

- Understand the basic concepts used in the study of population.
- Investigate several theories of population growth.
- Examine some trends in population growth and the effects that these may have on society and the environment.
- Discuss how the culture of North America contributes to environmental problems.
- Understand what environmental racism is and how it reinforces social inequality.

Activities

Unit 5 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 5 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 5 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 5 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 5 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

Unit 6: Cities and Urban Life

In this unit, we will discuss the history and development of cities, including the recent increase in the size and number of cities. We will examine the structure of modern cities and some of the trends and patterns that can currently be seen in the world today, including urban decline, the growth of the Sunbelt, and sprawl. Finally, we will examine the patterns of behaviors and attitudes for city dwellers.

Learning Objectives

- Understand some of the factors that led to the development of cities.
- Learn what urbanization is and how it affects society, individuals, and the environment.
- Examine how cities may affect those who live in them.
- Investigate the trends of urban decline, the growth of Sunbelt cities, and sprawl.
- Understand some of the effects that urban decline and sprawl have on society, cities, and individuals.

Activities

Unit 6 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 6 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 6 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 6 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 6 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

Unit 7: Collective Behavior and Social Movements

In this unit, we will examine collective behavior, including crowds, mobs, riots, fads, crazes, and panics. We will discuss theories about why these types of situations happen and some examples of each type. We will also investigate what social movements are, what types of social movements exist in society, and why they develop in society. Finally, we will look at the lifecycle of social movements to learn more about what makes them fail or succeed.

Learning Objectives

- Understand the forms of collective behavior.
- Examine explanations for collective behavior in society.
- Investigate the different categories of social movements and how they change society.
- Discuss why social movements develop and the stages that they go through.

Activities

Unit 7 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 7 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 7 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 7 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 7 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

Unit 8: Social Change

In this unit, we will examine social change in society. In doing so, we will discuss some common causes of social change, look at how scholars have explained the patterns of social change, and explore why some people resist social change in society. We will also discuss the concept of modernity and examine what changes have occurred since the Industrial Revolution. Finally, we will examine theories of modernization in developing nations and the characteristics and issues of postmodern societies.

Learning Objectives

- Understand what social change in society is and what causes it.
- Examine how theorists have explained social change.
- Discuss how society has changed since the Industrial Revolution.
- Learn the common characteristics of postmodern societies.

Activities

Unit 8 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 8 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 8 Discussion 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 8 Discussion 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 8 Quiz	Quiz	15 points

Unit 8: Social Change (Continued)

Final Exam Objectives

- Review information acquired and mastered from this course up to this point.
- Take a course exam based on material from units five to eight in this course – the last four units.
(Note: You will be able to open this exam only one time.)

Final Exam Activities

Class Reflection Discussion	Discussion	10 points
Final Exam	Exam	50 points

HOW YOU WILL BE GRADED

For critical thinking questions, there are no right or wrong answers. For example, a question on your thoughts on why you think people are shy is a pretty open-ended type of question. Grades will be based on the depth of personal insight you present. **Do not simply agree or disagree** with an insight question. We are looking for critical thinking and possibly a related personal experience with the question.

It is important to provide detailed answers for insight/opinion questions.

For review questions, you should produce a more academic answer. For example, "What two categories are norms divided into?" This type of direct question requires a specific answer. Please use full sentences and proper grammar.

When submitting paragraphs, use these guidelines.

1. The first, second or last sentence contains the main idea and key words from the question or assigned topic.
2. Paragraph contains one to three explanatory sentences.
3. Paragraph contains two to four sentences about specific details related to question.
4. Details are colorful, interesting and appropriate.
5. Paragraph ends with a good closing sentence that refers to the main idea without repeating it.
6. Free of spelling and grammatical errors.

GRADE SCALE

The following grading scale will be used to determine your final letter grade.

Letter Grade	Percentage Earned
A	95%+
A-	90% - 94.9%
B+	87% - 89.9%
B	84% - 86.9%
B-	80% - 83.9%
C+	77% - 79.9%
C	74% - 76.9%
C-	70% - 73.9%
D+	67% - 69.9%
D	64% - 66.9%
D -	60% - 63.9%
F	59% and lower

SUPPORT

At NUVHS you will have access to multiple support teams. Who you contact will depend on the questions you have. Always start by contacting your teacher through the Message Center in the course. Your teacher should be able to answer your question, but if they can't, then they will direct you to another support team. If you have questions about any of the course content, your grades, or course policies, you should contact your instructor.

For questions about your enrollment, transcripts, or general school-wide policies, you can contact **NUVHS Student Services** at info@nuvhs.org or by phone at 866.366.8847. For example, if you would like to withdraw from your course, you should contact Student Services. Please note that a refund for your course can only be obtained if you drop within the first seven days of enrolling in the course.

For help with login/password issues, or other technical issues specific to the Blackboard website, you can contact the team at [National University Blackboard Learn](#). They can also be reached by phone at (888) 892-9095.

EXPECTED SCHOOL-WIDE LEARNING RESULTS (ESLRs)

Engaged Learners

- Demonstrate self-directed learning skills such as time management, and personal responsibility through the completion of course requirements
- Develop an understanding of their own preferred learning styles to enhance their overall academic potential
- Incorporate effective and relevant internet and multimedia resources in their learning process to broaden their knowledge base

Critical Thinkers

- Effectively analyze and articulate sound opinions on a variety of complex concepts
- Illustrate a variety of problem-solving strategies that strengthen college preparation and workforce readiness
- Formulate a framework for applying a variety of technology and internet-based research to enhance information literacy and collaborative thinking

Effective Communicators

- Demonstrate awareness and sensitivity to tone and voice in multiple forms of communication
- Express concepts and ideas in a variety of forms
- Enhance communication skills through the use of media rich or other technology resources

Global Citizens

- Appreciate the value of diversity
- Understand the range of local and international issues facing today's global community
- Demonstrate awareness of the importance of cultural sensitivity and social responsibility in the 21st century