



The mission of Concord University is to provide quality, liberal arts based education, to foster scholarly and creative activities and to serve the regional community (<http://www.concord.edu/academics/>).

## **Course Prefix, Number and Title: SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology**

**Course CRN # and Section: CRN 20318 (1HW)**

**Semester Taught (including year): Spring 2019**

**Credit Hours: 3**

**Prerequisites: N/A**

**Course Time (if applicable): MW 1000-1050**

**Building and Room Number (if applicable): Admin 309**

**Professor: Dr. Tracy Luff**

**Office Location: Marsh Hall, A209**

**Office Hours: MW 11-12, T 2-4, TH 3-4**

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**Phone: 304-384-5242**

**Office Fax: 304-384-6091**

**College/Department Website: [www.concord.edu/sws](http://www.concord.edu/sws)**

### **Course Description/Rationale:**

This course introduces students to the perspective and discipline of sociology. Sociology, commonly defined as “the scientific study of society,” focuses on the patterns, trends, or rates of behavior within human groups. The groups studied can be as small as two people or as large as entire societies. The guiding assumption of sociology is the groups to which we belong have a powerful influence on our behavior. In fact, this influence is so strong that most of us do not realize how much our individual preferences, opinions, choices, and habits have been shaped by our group memberships. Sociology can raise your awareness of these influences and, as a result, can help you to think for yourself and make decisions that work in the best interest of the groups you care about.

### **Course Management System:**

You are required to use Blackboard for this course. As a hybrid web course, approximately 75% of the course will be completed face-to-face and the other 25% will be completed online using the Blackboard Learning Management System. Weekly assignments will be completed and submitted through Blackboard. Additionally, handouts, readings and other course materials will be available on Blackboard and grades will be posted to Blackboard.

**Hardware/Software Needed:**

You must have access to a computer with software that allows you to type documents and access the internet. You must have access to Blackboard.

**Text requirements:**

Conley, Dalton. 2015. *You May Ask Yourself: An introduction to thinking like a sociologist*, 4th edition. New York: W.W. Norton.

Other readings on Blackboard

**Concord University Educational Goal(s):**

1. Skill 1: Effective inter-communication skills and literacy adapted as needed for the demands of various kinds of discourse.
2. Skill 2: An ability to employ appropriate observational, logical, analytical, computational, creative, and critical thinking skills within and across disciplines; and to apply these skills in problem-solving.
3. Knowledge 1: An ability to discern the reciprocal influences of environments, cultural beliefs and attitudes, and societal institutions and practices.
4. Attitudes 1: Habitual reflection on ethical/moral implications of actions when weighing decisions and evaluating outcomes.
5. Attitudes 3: Respectful attentiveness to differing perspectives and willingness to engage in dialogue across differences in order to seek mutual understanding and equitable conflict resolution.

**National Standards:** N/A

**Specific Learning Outcomes:**

1. Identify, explain, and apply basic concepts and theories that make up the sociological perspective.
2. Identify the basic principles of the scientific method upon which sociological research is based.
3. Identify a range of topics studied by sociologists.
4. Reflect upon the impact of your cultural background on your values, beliefs and opinions.
5. Distinguish between ethnocentrism and cultural relativism when examining cultures other than your own.
6. Identify the impact of social location, determined by factors such as race, ethnicity, social class, gender, sexual orientation and physical ability, on life chances and experiences.
7. Apply the sociological perspective on social inequality to a contemporary example or social issue of your choice.

## Course Requirements:

Your grade in this course will be determined by your performance on exams, attendance and a visual essay assignment.

Exam 1	100 points (20%)
Exam 2	100 points (20%)
Exam 3	100 points (20%)
Cumulative Assessment Quiz	50 points (10%)
Online assignments	120 points (24%)
<u>Attendance:</u>	<u>30 points (6%)</u>
Total Points Possible:	500 points

## Grading Policy and Scale, Make-up Policy, Late Work:

### Grading Scale:

450 and above = A	350-399 = C	299 or less = F
400-449 = B	300-349 = D	

**Exams:** You will take three exams. Each exam will cover the section of material just covered. You will also take a 25 question cumulative assessment quiz. Exams will consist of multiple-choice and short answer questions. Cellphones or other electronic devices may NOT be used during an exam for any reason. Use of these during an exam will be considered an instance of academic dishonesty.

**Make-up exams:** will only be offered under the following circumstances:

1. If you know in advance you will be absent (E.g., athletic team travel or other university-sanctioned absence) and you have notified me in advance that you will miss the exam
2. If unforeseen circumstances cause you to miss an exam
  - You notify me by voicemail, e-mail or in person as soon as you know you will miss the exam, and no later than the day of the exam unless you are physically unable to use a phone or computer
  - You provide documentation for the absence if requested

**Online Assignments:** You will have weekly assignments on blackboard that will be due by midnight every Sunday. These assignments will require you to either watch a video or read an article, and either write a short paper or post to the class discussion board. All assignments will be completed and submitted through Blackboard.

**Late assignments** will be accepted up to one week past the due date with a 5% penalty for each day late.

**Attendance:** I will take attendance at each class meeting. You may miss 2 classes without penalty. At the end of the semester I will determine the percentage of classes you attended and you will receive that percentage of attendance points. In other words, if you attended 80% of class meetings you will receive 80% of the 30 points possible for attendance – which would be 24 points. Being late to class twice counts as 1 absence.

## Course Timeline (Schedule of Assignments/Assessments/Presentations)

Week	Topic(s)	Reading
1	Course Introduction; Sociology and the Social Sciences; The Sociology Major	ch. 1
2	History of Sociology; Founding Sociologists	ch. 1
3	Sociological Research	ch. 2
4	Culture ; Media; The Yanomamo	ch. 3
5	<b>EXAM ONE</b>	
6	Socialization; total institutions; social construction of reality	ch. 4
7	Social Control; Deviance	ch. 6
8	Social Stratification	ch. 7
9	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	
10	Social Stratification	ch. 7
11	<b>EXAM TWO</b>	
12	Sex and Gender	ch. 8
13	Race and Ethnicity	ch. 9
14	Wealth and Poverty	ch. 10
15	Work and the Economy	ch. 14
16	<b>EXAM THREE; ASSESSEMENT QUIZ</b>	

### Accessibility/Accommodations:

Concord University is committed to responding to the needs of students with disabilities as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please inform your instructor at the beginning of the class semester if you have a disability and are requesting accommodations. It is your responsibility to self-disclose that you are requesting accommodations. The University and instructor will provide you with a reasonable accommodation. You should register with CU's Disability Services Office, located in the Athens campus Jerry and Jean Beasley Student Center, Bottom Floor, across from the Campus Post Office. The Disability Services Office phone is 304-384-6086 or you can email the Director, Nancy Ellison, at nellison@concord.edu for assistance.

### Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is morally unacceptable as well as destructive to the learning and teaching atmosphere. Academic dishonesty includes the giving or receiving of improper help on examinations or assignments, falsifying documents, and plagiarism (the act of stealing and using, as one's own, the ideas or the expression of the ideas of another). Such dishonesty can lead to a variety of penalties — including but not limited to failure of assignment, failure of course, loss of institutional privileges, or dismissal from the University. (See University Catalog Academic Policies and Procedures.)

### Concord University Honor Code

A Concord University Honor Code was approved by students, staff, faculty, administration, and the CU Board of Governors. The Code states:

*"As a member of the Concord University Community I will act with honesty and integrity in accordance with our fundamental principles and I will respect myself and others while challenging them to do the same."*

The Honor Code is intended to unite the Concord community behind a culture of honesty, integrity, and civility.

### **Class/Online Attendance Policy**

Regular class attendance is part of a student's academic obligation at Concord. Irregular attendance may affect academic performance adversely and is detrimental to the atmosphere of a class. (See University Catalog Academic Policies and Procedures.)

### **Emergency Alert System**

In an effort to increase safety and security on our campus, Concord University encourages everyone to register for instant text message alerts. Alerts will only be used for security and safety notices. All students, faculty, and staff are eligible to receive text message alerts on their cell phones or email alerts. Please contact the IT Help Desk for further assistance (304-384-5291).

### **Emergency Information**

Emergency/courtesy telephones are located at the main entrance of each residence hall and at various other locations on campus. Emergency telephones can be identified by the flashing blue light and will provide the user with a direct link to Public Safety at the press of a button. To report an on-campus emergency, call 304-384-5357 or 911. The Office of Public Safety is located on the bottom floor of the Rahall Technology Center. For further emergency information go to:

<http://www.concord.edu/administration/office-public-safety>.

### **Inclement Weather Policy**

As a general policy, the University will remain in normal operations during adverse weather conditions. In the event of severe weather conditions, the following may occur:

#### University Closure

No students or employees are to report.

#### Classes Cancelled

Students do NOT report BUT employees are expected to report to work at their normal time.

#### Operating on an Inclement Weather Delay

Under this schedule, all 8 a.m. classes will start at 10 a.m. Students and faculty will follow the Inclement Weather Schedule. (See <http://www.concord.edu/emergency-alerts> for Athens/Beckley Inclement Weather Schedules.)

*\*Announcements invoking the late schedule or other options referenced above are aired on area radio and television stations and are sent as text and email messages to those enrolled for this service.*

### **Student Conduct**

In classrooms, online, laboratories, and during any activities that are part of course requirements, students are expected to observe reasonable rules of conduct.

A typical class meeting will consist of a mixture of lecture and small and large group discussion related to the assigned readings for that day. At each class meeting you should be prepared to share your reactions

to the readings with the group. Therefore, it is extremely important that you have done the assigned reading prior to each class meeting. I will do my best to create a classroom environment that is not only conducive to learning, but relaxed and enjoyable. This environment can only be achieved if you do your part as well. Although you are free to disagree with the ideas of your classmates, the instructor and the reading material, you MUST express your disagreement in a respectful manner.

- Racist, sexist or homophobic comments will not be tolerated
- Electronic devices should not be used during class
- If your behavior becomes disruptive you will receive a warning. If your behavior continues to be disruptive you may be dropped from the class.

### **Sexual Harassment & Assault**

Federal law, Title IX, and Concord University policy prohibits discrimination, harassment, and violence based on sex and gender (Including sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, stalking, sexual exploitation, and retaliation). If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can receive confidential counseling support through the Concord University Counseling Center (304-384-5290). Alleged Violations can be reported non-confidentially to the Concord University Title IX Coordinator at 304-384-6327 or [titleix@concord.edu](mailto:titleix@concord.edu). Reports to Campus Security can be made at (304-384-5357). As an employee at Concord University, I am a mandatory reporter which means I must report any sexual misconduct I am made aware of. This includes verbal or written (such as in an assignment) disclosures of sexual harassment or sexual assault.

### **Technology Services**

Contact the CU Help Desk at extension 5291 from campus or 304-384-5291 off campus. You may also e-mail [cuhelpdesk@concord.edu](mailto:cuhelpdesk@concord.edu).

### **Syllabus Disclaimer**

**"This syllabus is subject to change based on the needs of the class. Please check it regularly."**