



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/>).

## **SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology**

**Course CRN: 20323 Class meets: MWF 1-1:50pm Admin 300**

**20325 Class meets: TR 2-3:15pm Admin 310**

**Semester Taught: Spring 2019**

**Professor: Katie Nutter-Pridgen**

**Credit Hours: 3**

**Office Location: Admin 215**

**Prerequisites: None**

**Office Hours: TBD (See Blackboard)**

**Email: [kpridgen@concord.edu](mailto:kpridgen@concord.edu)**

**College/Department Website: <https://www.concord.edu/sws/node/45>**

### **Course Description**

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. This can also help you to place information and experiences within larger contexts.

**Course Management System:** Blackboard

**Hardware/Software Needed:** PC access with internet capabilities

### **Text requirements:**

Conley, Dalton. 2017. *You May Ask Yourself: An introduction to thinking like a sociologist*, 5th edition. New York: W.W. Norton. WITH ACCESS CODE TO INQUIZITIVE.

<https://digital.wwnorton.com/youmayask5>

eBook with InQuizitive: \$35

Paperback (new, with InQuizitive): ISBN 978-0-393-60238-8 \$75

InQuizitive only (in case you decide to buy a used copy of the text, which does not have the code): \$25

## Concord University Educational Goals:

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.

## 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 Expectations

### A) Communication

Check the Blackboard course website and your Concord email address frequently. Announcements about changes to the course schedule, syllabus, or class meeting time will be posted there. Review course materials on Blackboard for information BEFORE contacting me with questions – I will not respond to emails asking questions that are directly addressed in course materials.

Email is the best way to get in touch with me – in most circumstances, I will respond to emails within 24 hours on weekdays. You may call my office during office hours, but I still have some problems with my voicemail.

ALL communication in the course – in-class, online, or by phone; between students and myself; among students – will be respectful. Deliberately disrespectful behaviors may mean you are ‘called out,’ ignored, penalized, or dismissed from class.

### B) Due Dates and Late Work

*Out of class assignments* must be completed BEFORE the due date and submitted on Blackboard by 11:59pm. Late work can be submitted up to one week late and will be penalized at follows:

Late less than 24 hours	10% penalty	Late 48 hours to one week	50% penalty
Late 24-48 hours	20% penalty	Late more than one week	Not accepted
Late more than 48 hours	25% penalty		

If you have any problems with the course website or submission of assignments, contact the IT Help Desk at 304-384-5291 or [cuhelpdesk@concord.edu](mailto:cuhelpdesk@concord.edu). Computer problems are **NOT** an acceptable excuse for missing a due date, so I suggest you complete and submit each one as early as possible.

*In-class assignments*, INCLUDING TESTS, must be made up (completed) within 2 weeks of original due date and:

1. Absence is due to serious (physical or mental) illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements (ie: field trips, professional conferences), military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays or participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic competition or debate. Court-imposed legal obligations (ie: jury duty, appearance, or subpoena) will also be excused. Other reasons may also be approved, please talk to me directly.
2. You contacted me before your absence if possible and *no later* than 24 hours after the in-class assessment happens.

### **C) Cheating**

No cheating. This includes – but is not limited to – plagiarism (the use of any work from books, articles, other students, the Internet, or other sources that are incorrectly cited). All written work must be your own original content and written in your own words. If you have questions about citations, plagiarism, or cheating, please ask me. All work will be scanned by TurnItIn and checked by the instructor.

## **Course Details**

### **A) Course Overview**

As this is an introductory course, there is a LOT of information to cover. My goal is to introduce you to the sociological perspective and wide range of topics studied by sociologists to give you some idea of your possible interests. To capture this breadth, we will typically cover one topic per week. To prepare for the topic, you will complete an online activity each week called InQuizitive (out of class, due Monday nights). These lessons will provide essential vocabulary and introduce key concepts, giving us the chance to discuss, analyze, and synthesize information during class (versus lecture every day). We will complete assignments (in and out of class) to bring depth to the topics and figure out how we might use our new sociological knowledge in the future. Comprehension of the topic will be measured by a multiple-choice quiz at the end of each week (out of class, due Friday nights). There will be a comprehensive final exam and attendance will be taken each class day. Opportunities for extra credit will be posted on Blackboard.

### **B) Grade Calculation**

13 Quizzes (lowest dropped)	20 points each	(12x20)= 240 points
11 InQuizitive lessons (lowest dropped)	20 points each	(10x20)= 200 points
5 Assignments	10 points each	(5x10) = 50 points
1 Sociological Biography	20 points	= 20 points
1 Final Exam	50 points	= 50 points
Daily attendance and participation		= 50 points
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Total Points Possible		= 600 points*

\*There are 610 total points possible, but I have included a 10 point “curve”

### C) Grading Scale

Total Points	Grade	Total Points	Grade
540-600	A	360-419	D
480-539	B	Less than 359	F
420-479	C		

### D) Quizzes - due Fridays 11:59pm

Quizzes will cover information from the topic that week, focusing on vocabulary and main points from the text and class lecture/discussion.

You will complete one quiz per week (not including Spring Break or the last week of classes) on Blackboard. There are 13 quizzes total, with the lowest quiz grade being dropped. Each quiz is worth 20 points and will consist of multiple choice and matching questions. You may use any course materials you wish during the quiz but will be limited to 30 minutes to complete it.

Quizzes are due Fridays before 11:59pm and will be assessed late penalties as detailed above under “Due Dates and Late Work.”

### E) InQuizitive Lessons ()- due Mondays 11:59pm

In each chapter section, there is a link to the learning program InQuizitive. This program helps students to get the most out of studying for the class, by assisting in the review of the chapter material and providing opportunities to apply/practice their new found sociological knowledge.

Grades will be assigned based on the percentage of each unit completed (100% - 20pts, 90% - 18pts, etc.).

To access InQuizitive: Go to the chapter/topic title in the left-hand menu on Blackboard and click on the link provided. DO NOT access through a bookmark or the Norton page.

After you complete a lesson: Make sure your grade shows up correctly on Blackboard (under the “Grades” tab). Contact me if it does not.

Additional details about InQuizitive lessons (including first-time set up) can be found on Blackboard.

### F) Assignments – due dates vary

There will be 5 assignments this semester, each worth 10 points. Some will be completed in class, others will be finished outside of class. Details about assignments will be given in class and posted on Blackboard.

### G) Sociological Biography – due Monday, April 15

You will choose a well-known person (real or fictional) and explain how sociological issues may have played a role in their lives. Details will be discussed in class and posted on Blackboard

### H) Final Exam – Fri 5/10 11:30am (MWF class) / Tues 5/7 2pm (TR class)

The comprehensive final exam will be completed in-class, during our scheduled final exam time. It contains 50 multiple choice questions and is worth a total of 50 points. It will focus on main ideas and key terms from the course – a study guide will be provided.

### I) Attendance and Participation – each class day

Everyone will start class with 50/50 points for their attendance and participation grade. For each day you are absent, I will subtract 2 points. Points may also be deducted for arriving late, leaving early, sleeping/texting/or being otherwise distracted, or coming to class unprepared. You may earn additional points for especially meaningful contributions to class discussions. Excused absences are available ONLY with appropriate documentation.

## **University Policies/Required Notices to Students** **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.

## **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).

## Tentative Course Schedule

### Syllabus Disclaimer

The schedule of topics will likely be edited throughout the semester, especially due to inclement weather. The most up-to-date course schedule can be found on Blackboard. (IQ = InQuizitive lesson)

Week of	Topic	Assigned Reading	Assessments(Due)
Jan 14-Jan18	Introduction to Course	Syllabus	Practice Quiz (Fri)
Jan 22-Jan 25 (Jan 21 No Classes)	Sociological Perspective	Ch 1	Quiz 1 (Fri)
Jan 28-Feb 1	History of Sociology	Ch 1	IQ 1 (Mon); Quiz 2 (Fri)
Feb 4-Feb 8	Research Methods	Ch 2	IQ 2 (Mon); Quiz 3 (Fri)
Feb 11-Feb 15	Research Methods	Ch 2	No IQ; Quiz 4 (Fri)
Feb 18-Feb 22	Culture and Media	Ch 3	IQ 3 (Mon); Quiz 5 (Fri)
Feb 25-Mar 1	Socialization and Interaction	Ch 4	IQ 4 (Mon); Quiz 6 (Fri)
Mar 4-Mar 8	Deviance and Social Control	Ch 6	IQ 5(Mon); Quiz 7 (Fri)
Mar 11-Mar 15	Spring Break	---	---
Mar 18-Mar 22	Social Stratification	Ch 7	IQ 6 (Mon); Quiz 8 (Fri)
Mar 25-Mar 29	Poverty	Ch 10	IQ 7 (Mon); Quiz 9 (Fri)
Apr 1-Apr 5	Gender and Sexuality	Ch 8	IQ 8 (Mon); Quiz 10 (Fri)
Apr 8-Apr 12	Race and Ethnicity	Ch 9	IQ 9 (Mon); Quiz 11 (Fri)
Apr 15-Apr 19	Social Institutions	tbd	No IQ; Quiz 12 (Fri)
Apr 22-Apr 26	Social Change	Ch 18	IQ 10 (Mon); Quiz 13 (Fri)
Apr 29-May 3	Review for final	--	IQ 11 (your choice, Mon); No Quiz
May 6-May 10	Finals		