

Sociology - Honors will be provided with this perspective which they will then use to examine contemporary American society. A variety of source materials will be used to examine important social issues including the American class structure, deviance and conformity, the changing American family, and the relationship between economic and political power. As globalization increasingly shapes our lives, cross cultural data will be used for comparative and informative purposes.

III. Statement of Course Need

- A. The course provides students with an introduction to one of the social sciences, thereby satisfying a necessary or general program requirement. It also meets the State and College guidelines as a general education requirement. The course is part of the Honors College curriculum and will provide advanced students with a more rigorous overview than generally occurs in the standard course.
- B. No lab component.
- C. This course generally transfers as a Social Science General Education course.
- D. This course generally transfers as a required course in Sociology programs.
- E. This course generally transfers as a required or elective course in Social Science programs.
- F. This course generally transfers as a free elective.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

- A. Free Elective
- B. This course serves as a General Education course in Social Science
- C. This course meets a program requirement for the Honors College
- D. This course meets a program requirement for:
 - 1. AS Criminal Justice
 - 2. AAS Early Childhood Education
 - 3. AS Exercise Science
 - 4. AS Health Science
 - 5. Human Services Certificate
 - 6. AS Human Services/Pre-Social Work
 - 7. AA Liberal Arts
 - 8. AAS Nursing RN
 - 9. AAS Nursing PNAD
 - 10. AA Social Sciences
 - 11. Program elective for AA Education P-5 and AA Education 5-12
- E. The course is a prerequisite for other sociology courses.
- F. To see course transferability for New Jersey colleges and universities, go to the NJ Transfer website, www.njtransfer.org; for other colleges and universities, go to the individual college website.

V. Outline of Course Content

The course consists of five major subject groups.

- A. Theory and Research in Sociology
 - 1. The Sociological Perspective
 - 2. The Methods of Research in Sociology
- B. Individual and Group Behavior:
 - 1. Culture
 - 2. Socialization
 - 3. Social Groups and Social Interaction
- C. Stratification and Conflict
 - 1. Deviance and Social control
 - 2. Social Stratification in the United States
 - 3. Global Stratification
 - 4. Race and Ethnic Relations
 - 5. Gender Inequality
 - 6. Aging and Disabilities
- D. Social Institutions
 - 1. The Family and Sexuality
 - 2. Work and the Economy
 - 3. Politics and Government
 - 4. Religion
 - 5. Education
 - 6. Media
 - 7. Health and Medicine
- E. Social Change
 - 1. Population, Urbanization and the Environment
 - 2. Collective Behavior and Social Movements
 - 3. Social Change

VI. General Educational and Course Learning Outcomes

A. General Education Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

- 1. Apply sociology concepts and theories to everyday life. (GE – 1, 5)
- 2. Design a study using sociological methods of research to address a current societal issue. (GE – 1, 5, IL)
- 3. Identify and evaluate relationships between the individual and society. (GE – 1, 5)
- 4. Analyze factors contributing to social inequality and its consequences. (GE – 1, 5, 7, ER)

B. Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Compare, contrast, and apply the basic theoretical paradigms of sociology.
2. Define and apply the steps of the sociological research process.
3. Evaluate claims in terms of validity, reliability, appropriate research methodology, and practical application.
4. Define, identify, and explain culture, socialization, social interaction, groups, and social organization as basic building blocks of society and social experience.
5. Apply sociological knowledge to explain why people conform to or deviate from societal expectations.
6. Analyze economic, age, racial/ethnic, and gender stratification in a societal context using various theoretical perspectives.
7. Explain how important social institutions (such as family, religion, education, medicine, and others) shape society and social experience.
8. Identify and interpret the impact of basic demographic trends in society and discuss mechanisms of social change.
9. Integrate concepts and theories used in sociology to analyze a public policy or contemporary social issue.
10. Weigh arguments from experts in the field (including guest speakers).

C. Assessment Instruments

- A. Research projects (LO- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10)
- B. Presentations (LO- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10)
- C. Essays (LO- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10)
- D. Journals (LO- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10)
- E. Exams (LO- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10)
- F. Homework (LO- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10)

VII. Grade Determinants

- A. Research projects
- B. Presentations
- C. Essays
- D. Journals
- E. Exams
- F. Homework

Given the goals and outcomes described above, the primary modes of teaching and learning may be used in the course:

- A. Lecture/discussion
- B. Small-group work
- C. Guest speakers
- D. Student oral presentations

- E. Simulation/role playing
- F. Student collaboration
- G. Instructional media platforms

VIII. Textbook and Materials

- A. Society: The Basics (15th Edition). John Macionis.
- B. The Sociological Imagination. C. Wright Mills.
- C. The Division of Labour in Society. Emile Durkheim. Edited by Steven Lukes.
- D. The Marx-Engels Reader (2nd Edition). Edited by Robert C. Tucker.
- E. The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism. Max Weber. Edited by Peter Baehr and Gordon C. Wells.
- F. Mind, Self, and Society: From the Standpoint of a Social Behaviorist (volume 1). George Herbert Mead. Edited by Charles W. Morris.
- G. OER (Open Educational Resources)

Please note that the course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC bookstore is the sole source of information about textbooks.

IX. Resources

- A. Library with research tools
- B. Photocopy machine
- C. Wi-Fi
- D. Computer lab