

**WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
COURSE INFORMATION AND SCHEDULE**

FACULTY MEMBER:

TERM:

COURSE TITLE: Introduction to Sociology

COURSE NUMBER: SOC 101

OFFICE HOURS/METHOD OF CONTACT:

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Why are people part of groups? This course introduces students to the scientific study of group behavior in terms of social interactions and processes. By developing their sociological imagination, students will understand the ways in which we interact with each other in the various groups to which we belong and how those interactions influence our behavior. Students will consider diverse topic areas such as culture, socialization, social institutions, social inequality, social psychology, and social change. Students role as global citizens is examined through the lens of global stratification. Students will apply theoretical approaches, such as functional-analysis, symbolic interactionism, and conflict theory, to an examination of institutions and social processes in the United States and globally. Students will also consider how sociologists do research and how that research can help to solve real world problems.

II. COURSE RATIONALE:

The world is a complex multi-cultural environment. During their lifetimes, people will interact with many different cultures both in this country and in an increasingly global world. By applying a sociological perspective, students can understand themselves and their own culture in a more global way, recognizing the advantages and disadvantages of each culture and thereby seeing the broader context. This knowledge will be useful in both other courses and in direct application to life and work. Moreover, students will be able to look at important economic, business, political, and personal issues in new ways, seeing how culture, institutions, and social processes directly interconnect from the micro (personal and interpersonal) to the macro (national and global) level.

III. INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS:

GOAL A:

Students will demonstrate an understanding of human behavior as a function of/influenced by social context.

Learning Outcomes: Students will

- A-1 Identify individuals such as Comte, Spencer, Marx, Durkheim, and Weber, who were key in the formation of a sociological perspective
- A-2 Define culture and its relationship to human behavior
- A-3 Explain the socialization process through the lifespan
- A-4 Describe social structure and social interaction
- A-5 Demonstrate an awareness of self in relationship to others, including the ability to work in teams

GOAL B:

Students will examine the concepts of social groups and social control.

Learning Outcomes: Students will

- B-1 Define groups, distinguishing between sociological categories and face-to-face groups
- B-2 Explain social control
- B-3 Distinguish between sociological and psychological deviance

GOAL C:

Students will recognize the causes and effects of social inequality in society.

Learning Outcomes: The student will

- C-1 Describe social stratification
- C-2 Explain and define social class and status
- C-3 Evaluate inequalities related to race, ethnicity, gender, sex, religion, socio-economic status, sexual preference, and age

GOAL D:

Students will examine social institutions.

Learning Outcomes: Students will

- D-1 Define family from a global perspective
- D-2 Define social institutions
- D-3 Explain education and its relationship to social class
- D-4 Identify political systems and the sources of their power and authority
- D-5 Explain economic systems and their impact on societies

GOAL E:

Students will explore how social change occurs.

Learning Outcomes: Students will

- F-1 Explain how the research process is used in social science research
- F-2 Describe how different research methods are used to answer research questions
- F-3 Apply the language of research methods to answering research questions

GOAL G:

Students will demonstrate an awareness of their role as global citizens.

Learning Outcomes: Students will

- G-1 Identify how and why global societies are stratified
- G-2 Interpret the role population dynamics plays in global stratification
- G-3 Examine theories of population and how they can be applied to the current

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