Master Course Syllabus

For additional course information, including prerequisites, corequisites, and course fees, please refer to the Catalog: https://catalog.uvu.edu/

Semester: Spring
Course Prefix: Soc 1010
Course Title: Introduction to Sociology

Year: 2025
Course and Section #: 151
Credits: 3

Course Description

Introduces basic sociological concepts, including theories and research methods. Explores major sociological topics, such as culture, globalization, socialization, groups, organizations, social institutions, social change, and social inequality. Challenges students to think critically about social issues on global and local scales and reflect on their life experiences from a sociological perspective.

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Course Attributes

This course has the following attributes:

☒ General Education Requirements
☐ Global/Intercultural Graduation Requirements
☐ Writing Enriched Graduation Requirements
☒ Discipline Core Requirements in Program
☐ Elective Core Requirements in Program
☐ Open Elective
Other: *Click here to enter text.*

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Rob Line

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Analyze global or intercultural issues.
2. Recognize the complexity and variety of different cultural groups.
3. Evaluate how one's own cultural rules and biases compare and contrast with those from different cultures.
4. Interrelate respectfully with individuals representing cultures and perspectives other than one's own.
5. Investigate social issues from a sociological perspective.
6. Explain how social forces affect individuals' life chances and community-level outcomes.
7. Develop basic research skill sets to identify social problems and explore research questions.
8. Apply sociological theories and concepts to real life experiences.

Course Materials and Texts

- **Eglitis, Daina, S. et al. Discover Sociology. Available from: VitalSource Bookshelf, (5th Edition). SAGE Publications, Inc. (US), 2021.**

Course Requirements

Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

Quizzes

Most quizzes are chapter quizzes; however, on occasion, at random times, we may have an attendance or participation quiz. Chapter quizzes are to be taken on Canvas and are due during the week assigned by Sunday night by 11:59 p.m. Quizzes measure factual knowledge and will be based on information presented in the lectures and the readings. There will typically be 10 questions. Quizzes are open note, open book. The intent is that these quizzes help you to assess and solidify your own learning. Utilize these quizzes as a means of discerning which topics and concepts require more intense study. Utilize your book and notes between quizzes to clarify your understanding of topics. All quizzes (apart from attendance or participation quizzes) will be taken on Canvas and no submissions will be accepted after the deadline. Quizzes will account for 25% of your final grade.

Exams

One mid-term and one cumulative final exam will collectively account for another 25% of your total grade. Like the quizzes, the exams will test your understanding of concepts found in the textbook and other course resources. Exams must be completed on Canvas (unless otherwise stated by the professor) by the due dates.

Course Project

A project of your choice should be chosen, developed, and completed by the end of the term. I will give further instruction on this project later in the semester. If in doubt of what might constitute an acceptable project, please consult with your instructor. This project may be done in conjunction with another student and will provide opportunities for you to demonstrate your engagement and to make connections with each other. There is much you can teach and learn from your classmates. Projects will determine 25% of your final grade.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Course credit will be distributed as follows:

- 25%   Quizzes (approximately 15-20 quizzes)
- 25%   Exam (Midterm)
- 25%   Exam (Final)
- 25%   Course Project

   100%   Total Grade

GRADING SCALE

- A   93+%
- A-   90-92.9%
- B+   87-89.9%
- B   83-86.9%
- B-   80-82.9%
- C+   77-79.9%
- C   73-76.9%
- C-   70–72.9%
- D+   67-69.9%
- D   63-66.9%
- D-   60–62.9%
- F (E)   < 60%

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General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion

Date	Class Discussion	Readings and Assignments
Week 1	Course Syllabus; Introduction to Sociology	1
Week 2	Discover Sociological Research	2
Week 3	Culture, Socialization and Mass Media	3
Week 4	Socialization and Social Interaction	4
Week 5	Groups, Organizations, and Bureaucracies	5
Week 6	Deviance and Social Control; War & Terror	6, 14
Week 7	Social Class and Inequality in the United States	7
Week 8	Global Wealth, Poverty, and Inequality; Work & Economy	8, 15
Week 9	Race and Ethnicity	9
Week 10	MIDTERM EXAM / SPRING BREAK	NO CLASS
Week 11	Families, Gender, Sexuality and Society	10, 11
Week 12	Education and Society	12

Week 13	Religion and Society	13
Week 14	Health and Medicine	16
Week 15	Population, Urbanization, and the Environment	17
Week 16	Presentations / Final Exam Prep /Course Review	--
Finals Week	Final Exam	Finals

Required Course Syllabus Statements

Generative AI

As outlined in UVU's Student Rights and Accountabilities, all students are expected "to maintain absolute integrity and high standards of individual honesty in academic work, and to observe a high standard of conduct within the academic environment." Plagiarism is considered a serious offense that is inconsistent with the university's mission and values. Every student is expected to produce original work and to use outside sources in a manner that consistently gives proper credit through established academic conventions.

Plagiarism is considered to have occurred if you:
•   Use the exact wording of another author or source in a way that makes it appear as your own, regardless of the form in which those words originally appeared (e.g., a book, article, lecture, website, speech, graphic, or AI text generator).
•   Paraphrase another author's wording in a manner where the language and/or syntax is too similar to the original passage without proper citation.
•   Fail to clearly acknowledge the partial or full authorship of someone else in your submitted work.
•   Fail to cite or quote textual resources properly, despite the instructor's efforts at educational intervention.
•   Fabricate false information that is not supported by the actual research used in your writing project.
•   Have someone else, paid or otherwise, write your paper or use a paper mill site with pre-written papers by other people.
•   Generate and submit a paper using artificial intelligence, such as ChatGPT.

While the actions described above may be done with the intention to deceive, plagiarism can also occur accidentally due to careless use of sources, improper citation methods, or misunderstanding the conventions of the chosen style guide. Although distinguishing between intentional and accidental plagiarism is often a judgment call for the instructor, it is important to note that accidental plagiarism is still considered plagiarism. Addressing the incident is crucial regardless of intent. While the resulting consequences may vary based on the degree of intentionality, all forms of plagiarism will be treated with equal seriousness.

It's important to understand both the strengths and limitations of AI. AI has proven useful in brainstorming writing ideas, simplifying complex topics, and performing basic research. We believe AI can be a valuable tool for writers. However, AI also has significant drawbacks. It often exhibits accuracy problems while appearing confident in its incorrect responses. Additionally, it frequently generates fake citations and quotations and lacks the ability to understand the nuances and contexts of human communication. Finally, the way AI is trained on other texts poses several ethical questions about copyright and intellectual theft of property (along with uncritically inheriting the biases of the texts it's trained on).

To be clear, copying the exact wording from an AI chatbot is considered plagiarism, and students will be held accountable for violating academic integrity. While citation guides are beginning to provide methods for citing AI, we currently believe that citing AI does not align with academic writing standards, which emphasize knowing the exact author(s) or sources that informed your work.

If you are suspected of plagiarism, the first step will be a conversation with your instructor, through emails, Teams, or in person. If the infraction is minor or clearly unintentional, there may be no sanctions. However, possible outcomes could include a lowered grade and/or the opportunity to revise the paper. In more serious cases, the assignment may receive an automatic zero.
The most serious infractions may lead to your instructor filing an incident report with the Student Conduct office. You have the right to appeal this report to the department chair. Regardless of the chair's decision, the incident report will remain a part of your permanent record. If you are dissatisfied with the chair's ruling, you may further appeal to the Dean. The Dean's decision will be final.

Using Remote Testing Software
☒ This course does not use remote testing software.

☐ This course uses remote testing software. Remote test-takers may choose their remote testing locations. Please note, however, that the testing software used for this may conduct a brief scan of remote test-takers' immediate surroundings, may require use of a webcam while taking an exam, may require the microphone be on while taking an exam, or may require other practices to confirm academic honesty. Test-takers therefore shall have no expectation of privacy in their test-taking location during, or immediately preceding, remote testing. If a student strongly objects to using test-taking software, the student should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to determine whether alternative testing arrangements are feasible. Alternatives are not guaranteed.

Required University Syllabus Statements

Accommodations/Students with Disabilities
Students needing accommodations due to a permanent or temporary disability, pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions may contact UVU [Accessibility Services](#) at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu or 801-863-8747.

Accessibility Services is located on the Orem Campus in BA 110.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing students requesting ASL interpreters or transcribers can contact Accessibility Services to set up accommodations. Deaf/Hard of Hearing services can be contacted at DHHservices@uvu.edu

DHH is located on the Orem Campus in BA 112.

Academic Integrity
At Utah Valley University, faculty and students operate in an atmosphere of mutual trust. Maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity allows for free exchange of ideas and enables all members of the community to achieve their highest potential. Our goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that produces scholars of integrity and imaginative thought. In all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged and UVU students are expected to produce their own original academic work.

Faculty and students share the responsibility of ensuring the honesty and fairness of the intellectual environment at UVU. Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the university by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in any act of academic dishonesty. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their rights and responsibilities. In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and writing, assessments, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Likewise, instructors are responsible to clearly state expectations and model best practices.

Further information on what constitutes academic dishonesty is detailed in UVU Policy 541: *Student Code of Conduct*.

Equity and Title IX
Utah Valley University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (40 and over), disability, veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related conditions, citizenship, genetic information, or other basis protected by applicable law, including Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. Inquiries about nondiscrimination at UVU may be directed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or UVU's Title IX Coordinator at 801-863-7999 – TitleIX@uvu.edu – 800 W University Pkwy, Orem, 84058, Suite BA 203.

Religious Accommodation
UVU values and acknowledges the array of worldviews, faiths, and religions represented in our student body, and as such provides supportive accommodations for students. Religious belief or conscience broadly includes religious, non-religious, theistic, or non-theistic moral or ethical beliefs as well as participation in religious holidays, observances, or activities. Accommodations may include scheduling or due-date modifications or make-up assignments for missed class work.
To seek a religious accommodation, a student must provide written notice to the instructor and the Director of Accessibility Services at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu. If the accommodation relates to a scheduling conflict, the notice should include the date, time, and brief description of the difficulty posed by the conflict. Such requests should be made as soon as the student is aware of the prospective scheduling conflict.

While religious expression is welcome throughout campus, UVU also has a specially dedicated space for meditation, prayer, reflection, or other forms of religious expression.