



# SOCI 1301.088 INTRODUCTORY TO SOCIOLOGY ONLINE

Course Syllabus: SUMMER 2022

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*“Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide personal, dynamic learning experiences empowering students to succeed.”*

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Office Hours	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Online
	Online 4:00-6:00					By appointment

***This syllabus serves as the documentation for all course policies and requirements, assignments, and instructor/student responsibilities.***

*Information relative to the delivery of the content contained in this syllabus is subject to change. Should that happen, the student will be notified.*

**Course Description:** The scientific study of human society, including ways in which groups, social institutions, and individuals affect each other. Causes of social stability and social change are explored through the application of various theoretical perspectives, key concepts, and related research methods of sociology. Analysis of social issues in their institutional context may include topics such as social stratification, gender, race/ethnicity, and deviance. Three credit hours.

**Prerequisite(s):** None

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. Compare and contrast the basic theoretical perspectives of sociology.
2. Identify the various methodological approaches to the collection and analysis of data in sociology.
3. Describe key concepts in sociology.
4. Describe the empirical findings of various subfields of sociology.
5. Explain the complex links between individual experiences and broader institutional forces.

### **Evaluation/Grading Policy:**

Assignment #1/Social Issue Presentation	100 points
Assignment #2/Social Experiment	100 points
Assignment #3/Diversity Activity	100 points
Discussions 10 @ 10 points	100 points

Mid-term	100 points
Final	100 points
Total Possible	600 points

Grading and evaluation--In general, a course grade of a "C" represents an acceptable level of work. A course grade of "B" represents a substantial effort and achievement. It is clearly a grade for the better than average product and effort. An "A" is awarded only in the case of both outstanding efforts and quality in the required products. The grades will be awarded on the following basis:

- A = 90% to 100% of possible points
- B = 80% to 89% of possible points
- C = 70% to 79% of possible points
- D = 60% to 69% of possible points
- F = 59% and below of possible points

Tests/Exams: There will be two tests (100 points each). Everyone must take the final exam. Exams will consist of multiple choice, matching or definitions, and short essay questions. Make-up examinations, as a rule, will not be permitted, unless the student's absence is excused in advance. A grade of incomplete ("X") will not be given unless the student contacts the instructor to make special arrangements for making up required work. Only emergency situation that prohibit the student from completing the course as planned will warrant consideration of the grade of "X". Mid-term: October 8th Final: December 10<sup>th</sup>

**Required Textbook(s):**

The Real World; An Introduction to Sociology 7th ed. Kerry Ferris. Jill Stein. W.W. Norton and Company, 2016. Publisher: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.

**ISBN Number:** 978-0-393-41933-7

**Minimum Technology Requirements:**

Below are some technical requirements for using Blackboard that will help your experience in this course.

You will see the NTCC Tech Support email address and phone number below. Please contact them if you run into any technical problems during the semester. Please let your instructor know you are having difficulties as well.

If you need further NTCC technical support services please contact IT at [IT@ntcc.edu](mailto:IT@ntcc.edu) or 903.434.8140.

Blackboard will work on both a Mac and a PC. (Chrome Books are known to have issues with Blackboard.) It is best to access Blackboard through Fire-Fox or Chrome as your web browser. If you have trouble with any of the activities working improperly, you might change your web browser as your first solution. The Default Browser in Windows 10 in Edge. This browser does not do well with Blackboard! If you will go to Windows Accessories you will find Internet Explorer still on your computer, but is not your default browser. If you have any difficulties navigating with Edge, close it and go to Internet Explorer. You can download Blackboard Student for your smart phone from the Play store or the App store. More information is available for Technology Requirements and Support under the Student Resources – Technical Support Tab in Blackboard.

## **Required Computer Literacy Skills:**

Communicate via email including sending attachments. Navigate the World Wide Web using a Web browser such as Internet Explorer. Use office applications such as Microsoft Office (or similar) to create documents. Be willing to learn how to communicate using a discussion board and upload assignments to a classroom Web site. Be comfortable uploading and downloading saved files. Have easy access to the Internet. Navigate Blackboard, including using the email component within Blackboard. Instructions and tutorials for this are provided in your course.

For more information or technical assistance on using the Learning Management System, please refer to the Home Page, Orientation Module, in the important technical requirement, information and support folder in Blackboard.

## **Course Structure and Overview:**

Course Structure and Overview: This is a sixteen-week online course where students are required to access graded activities on the Blackboard Learning Management System. A typical class involves general participation by all members in discussions. Students are required to complete online homework, discussion forums, assignments and exams. Students are expected to watch instructional videos, read course textbook, and complete online assignments located in the Learning Management System, Blackboard by due dates.

## **Tests/Exams (SLO 3)(CT1)**

**Mid-term: July 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Final: August 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Grading: 100 points per exam**

There will be two tests (100 points each). Everyone must take the final exam. Exams will consist of multiple-choice, matching or definitions, and short essay questions. Make-up examinations, as a rule, will not be permitted, unless the student's absence is excused in advance. A grade of incomplete ("X") will not be given unless the student contacts the instructor to make special arrangements for making up the required work. An only emergency situation that prohibits the student from completing the course as planned will warrant consideration of the grade of "X".

## **Assignments:**

All written assignments should be typed (12-point font), double-spaced, with one inch margins, a title page and stapled. Students are encouraged to submit written work that has been spell-checked and is free of grammatical errors. Students are expected to use APA style when citing reference materials. Please refer to the APA manual or a use [www.apastyle.org](http://www.apastyle.org) for guidelines on writing in APA format. Students are advised that points will be deducted if these criteria are not met.

## **Online Discussions Boards**

**Due Date: varies**

Discussion Board is where we will assess your participation as if you were in a regular in-person class. You are expected to be an active and engaged member of the class throughout the semester. The discussion board is the way to exchange ideas and learn from your peers. Each student is expected to fully participate in the discussion boards. Discussion posts take numerous forms. It could involve summarizing articles, responding to questions from the text, or viewing and commenting on streaming videos. After posting your answer to the question, you are expected to respond to a minimum of one other peer in the class.

In order to receive credit, you must post your response to the posted discussion board questions by Thursday at midnight. In addition, you must post a response to another peer's post by Sunday at midnight. Your grade on the discussion board is based on participation. Each discussion board assignment is worth 10 points. However, in order to receive full credit for these posts, you must fulfill some basic requirements: - Initial posts should be a minimum of 75 words and response at a minimum of 50 words. All posts should be relevant to the topic being discussed, but should also attempt to introduce a new point of view or piece of information or otherwise further the discussion - Posts should use correct grammar, punctuation and vocabulary appropriate for a college level course. Misuse of the discussion boards will not be accepted.

### **Assignment #1**

#### **Social Issue Oral Presentation (SLO1)( CT2 & EQS3) Due**

**Date: varies**

This assignment I would ask each student to pick any social issue that interests them and apply one of our 3 major theories (Functional, Conflict, Symbolic Interaction) to explain the issue/event. I'm not expecting a comprehensive explanation of any given social issue, but rather that each student attempt to apply a given theory to some social issue. There is no right or wrong application of theory in evaluating your submissions, but you will be graded on how well you understand and attempt to use a specific theoretical perspective. Some social issues you may chose could be: The recent economic problems and bailouts, Climate change and the various political perspectives, Gender inequality in (fill in issue), Gay marriage, Moving the Utah State Prison, Political Gridlock, The recent police shootings and protests, Oil exploration and the environment, or any other issue you find interesting. This is a group activity and team work are essential. A rubric is provided in the start here folder in blackboard.

**Rubric provided in the start here folder.**

**Points as follows:**

Organization: 20 points

Content: 30 points

Theory: 30 points

Engagement: 20 points

**Total Points: 100 points**

### **Assignment #2**

#### **Social Experiment (SLO 5)(SR2)**

**Grading: 100 points**

**Due Date: July 1<sup>st</sup>**

Conduct a non-intrusive breaching experiment, wherein you attempt to validate the existence of a particular norm. This may include singing on the bus, singing in an elevator, not talking to anyone for a day, or any other unusual activity. In writing describe your experiment, and report people's reactions to your behavior. Refer to your text on The Sociological Perspective, Social Interaction and Structure.

Write a **two-page** reflection paper and answer the following questions:

What activity did you do (20pts)?

What behavior or norm did you test(15pts)?

What were people's reaction(10pts)?

Did anything make your feel uncomfortable (10pts)?

What did you learn from the experience (15pts)?

**Did one's individual experiences affect other systems in society(30pts)?**

**Assignment #3/Diversity Activity (SLO 4)(CS1, SR 1 & SR3)**

**Grading: 100 points**

**Due Date: July 29<sup>th</sup>**

Participate and observe in an ethnic event outside your own ethnicity. Observe at least two hours but more time is strongly encouraged. Events could include but are not limited to:

Church functions; LGBT awareness or equality event; powwow, ethnic or cultural festival, event in solely in another language, political event raising awareness of an ethnic issue.

Write a **two-page** reflection paper and answer the following questions:

What event did you attend (30pts)?

What were your before and after feelings(10pts)?

Did anything make your feel uncomfortable(10pts)?

What did you learn from the experience(20pts)?

**Describe empirical findings related to sociology (30 pts).**

### **Communications:**

Emails will be responded to with 24 hours. If you do not receive a response within 24 hours, then the email was not received. The college's official means of communication is via your campus email address. I will use your campus email address Remind App, and Blackboard to communicate with you outside of class. Make sure you keep your campus email cleaned out and below the limit so you can receive important messages. In addition, Microsoft TEAMS will be used a tool to improve communication between student and instructor. Please make sure you download the app on your cell phone or your computer.

All students are strongly encouraged to download the Microsoft team's app on their personal phones or computer. This will be my primary communication tool for this course. To download the Teams mobile app, go to your mobile device's IOS App Store or Google Play Store and download the app. Once downloaded, use your NTCC email and password to log in. You can access Microsoft teams from any internet browser by going to the following link: <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-teams/log-in>. You can also download teams to your personal computer by using the link above. Be sure and turn on notifications in your setting to avoid missing any notifications or important announcements for this course. **Please note if you use the internet browser only, you will not receive notifications. I**

typically respond within one hour to messages; however, I may take up to 24 hours to reply. If you need additional help, please reach out to me via my email, [cshurtleff@ntcc.edu](mailto:cshurtleff@ntcc.edu).

Look for this app:



### **Institutional/Course Policy:**

No late work will be accepted without prior approval by the instructor. Students are always expected to be respectful toward classmates and professor! Review Student Conduct in the Student Handbook. It is the student's responsibility to check Blackboard for important information/announcements regarding the course. Students should be working on course material via Blackboard every week. Do not wait until the last minute to complete and submit assignments in case of technology issues.

**Alternate Operations During Campus Closure and/or Alternate Course Delivery Requirements** In the event of an emergency or announced campus closure due to a natural disaster or pandemic, it may be

necessary for Northeast Texas Community College to move to altered operations. During this time, Northeast Texas Community College may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include, but are not limited to, online through the Blackboard Learning Management System, online conferencing, email messaging, and/or an alternate schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor NTCC's website (<http://www.ntcc.edu/>) for instructions about continuing courses remotely, Blackboard for each class for course-specific communication, and NTCC email for important general information.

Additionally, there may be instances where a course may not be able to be continued in the same delivery format as it originates (face-to-face, fully online, live remote, or hybrid). Should this be the case, every effort will be made to continue instruction in an alternative delivery format. Students will be informed of any changes of this nature through email messaging and/or the Blackboard course site.

### **NTCC Academic Honesty/Ethics Statement:**

NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. The college expects all students to engage in their academic pursuits in an honest manner that is beyond reproach using their intellect and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty and Academic Ethics policies stated in the Student Handbook. Refer to the student handbook for more information on these subjects.

### **ADA Statement:**

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodations. An appointment can be made with the Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in Student Services and can be reached at 903-434-8264. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the special populations page on the NTCC website.

### **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

## Tentative Course Schedule

<b>Week</b>	<b>Topic/Assignments</b>	<b>Activities</b>
Week 1	Class introduction Review of course syllabus and assignments Chapter 1- Sociology in the Real World	<b>Review Syllabus and Assignments</b> <b>Assign chapters for oral presentation</b> <b>Read Text, Chapter 1</b>
Week 2	Chapter 2 – Studying Social Life	<b>Read Text, Chapters 2</b>
Week 3	Chapter 3—Culture Chapter 4 – Socialization, Interaction and the Self	<b>Read Text, Chapters 3-4</b>
Week 4	Chapter 5 – Separate and Together	<b>Read Text, Chapter 5</b>
Week 5	Chapter 6- Deviance and Crime	<b>Read Text, Chapter 6</b>
Week 6	Chapter 7 – Social Class	<b>Read Text, Chapters 7</b>
Week 7	Continue Chapter 7 – Social Class  Chapter 8 – Race and Ethnicity	<b>Read Text, Chapters 7-8</b>
Week 8	Continue Chapter 8 – Race and Ethnicity <b>Mid-term</b>	<b>Read Text, Chapter 8</b>
Week 9	Chapter 9 – Gender and Sexuality	<b>Read Text, Chapter 9</b>
Week 10	Ch 10 – Politics, Education, and Religion	<b>Read Text, Chapter 10</b>
Week 11	Ch 11- Economy and Work	<b>Read Text, Chapter 11</b>

Week 12	Chapter 12- Life at Home	<b>Read Text, <i>Chapter 12</i></b>
Week 13	Chapter 13 – Leisure and Media	<b>Read Text, Chapter 13</b>
Week 14	Chapter 14- Health and Illness	<b>Read Text, Chapter 14</b>
Week 15	Chapter 15 – Populations, Cities and Environment Chapter 16 – Social Change	<b>Read Text, Chapters 15- 16</b>
Week 16	<b>Finals week</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>