

Sociology II

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Sociology is the study of people, social life and society. The development of a sociological imagination will enable students to examine how society shapes human actions and beliefs, and how such actions and beliefs in turn shape society. Exciting online video journeys to different areas of the sociological world are also presented in the course.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Learn about different family arrangements around the world.
- Think about the different functions that families provide for individuals and society.
- Examine the patterns in mate selection for marriage.
- Investigate the factors that have led to an increase in divorce.
- Learn what functions religion provides for individuals and society.
- Examine different types of religious organizations.
- Investigate the functions of education in society.
- Examine the relationship between education and social inequality.
- Discuss the growth on online education.
- Learn the differences between capitalism and socialism.
- Discuss several recent trends in the economy.
- Examine the three types of authority.
- Investigate the differences between totalitarianism, authoritarianism, and democracy.
- Discuss several models of power to explain the political system.
- Learn how sports reinforce social inequality in society.
- Discuss how sports contribute to socialization into North American culture.
- Investigate the functions that the mass media provide.
- Consider how the concentration of the media and gate-keeping activities influence what we are exposed to.
- Examine the controversy over violence in the media and how individuals receive messages in the media.
- Understand the basic concepts used in the study of population.
- Investigate several theories of population growth.
- Examine some trends in population growth and the effects that these may have on society and the environment.
- Discuss how the culture of North America contributes to environmental problems.

- Understand what environmental racism is and how it reinforces social inequality.
- Understand some of the factors that led to the development of cities.
- Learn what urbanization is and how it affects society, individuals, and the environment.
- Examine how cities may affect those who live in them.
- Investigate the trends of urban decline, the growth of Sunbelt cities, and sprawl.
- Understand some of the effects that urban decline and sprawl have on society, cities, and individuals.
- Understand the forms of collective behavior.
- Examine explanations for collective behavior in society.
- Investigate the difference categories of social movements and how they change society.
- Discuss why social movements develop and the stages that they go through.
- Understand what social change in society is and what causes it.
- Examine how theorists have explained social change.
- Discuss how society has changed since the Industrial Revolution.
- Learn the common characteristics of postmodern societies.

PREREQUISITES: None

COURSE LENGTH: One Semester

REQUIRED TEXT: No required textbook for this course.

MATERIALS LIST: No required materials for this course.

COURSE OUTLINE:

Unit 1: Marriage & Family

Unit 2: Religion & Education

Unit 3: The Economy & Politics

Unit 4: Sport & Entertainment

Sociology II Midterm Exam

Unit 5: Population & Environment

Unit 6: Cities & Urban Life

Unit 7: Collective Behavior & Social Movements

Unit 8: Social Change

Sociology II Final Exam