

Sociology

Credit – 1/2

Term(s)—1 Semester

Text: Sociology: The Study of Human Relationships by W. LaVerne Thomas

Prerequisites: Sociology is an introductory course, thus there are no prerequisites. However, it is recommended for the college-bound student.

Course Description:

This course is an introductory study of the role of groups in our society. We will examine various groups that play a major part in shaping the personality of the individual. As these groups are discussed, we will examine many of the problems facing our society today. This study will include such topics as alcoholism, crime, alienation, poverty, overcrowding and discrimination. Students will be expected to keep informed about current events and to make presentations to the class on these topics when assigned.

Course Content:

Includes the possibility of the following topics:

- Sociological Basics and Theoretical Perspectives
- The Sociological Point of View and Cultural Diversity
- Values, Norms, and Sanctions
- Cultural Conformity, Adaptation, and Social Structure
- Socializing the Individual, Adolescent, and Adult in Society
- Deviance and Social Control
- Social Stratification
- Racial/Ethnic Relations
- Gender, Age and Health

Course Format:

The course material will be presented using a variety of methods. Students can expect lecture/discussion, small group work/projects, class presentations, library/computer lab research, and current event research. Students will be expected to participate and discuss often in class. The course is presented in a directed and open discussion format. Students will engage in several group activities that are designed to enhance and supplement sociological interpretation and application of various information. Students will develop a semester project on an issue of social concern or a social problem culminating in an in-class presentation on their findings towards the end of the term.

Course Expectations: It is expected that each student will complete all in-class and homework assignments. Much of the homework will revolve around individual research. Each student will be expected to not only complete their research, but also share that information with the class as a whole. It is also expected that students will regularly involve themselves in class discussions about the topic at hand. Students will be expected to read assigned textbook selections and/or handouts from news publications or online sources. Students will also complete tests that include both objective and writing questions. The writing sections will challenge students to analyze learned information and applicability of sociological concepts.

Grades: The following activities will be used to assess student progress during the course of the semester: homework assignments, webquests, unit tests, unit folder grades, semester project, and PEA grades (participation, effort and attitude).