

GENERAL SOCIOLOGY  
CREDIT HOURS – THREE

INSTRUCTOR: VALERIE MCCOY  
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REQUIRED TEXT: SOCIOLOGY IN OUR TIMES, THE ESSENTIALS (FIFTH EDITION) DIANA KENDALL

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This introductory course provides an overview of the fundamental concepts and basic principles in sociology; investigating social structures and interaction patterns, culture, institutions, social change, and global trends. The major topics covered in this course will include: culture, society, the individual and groups in society, deviance, inequality, sex and gender, family, education, religion, politics and social movements.

**COURSE COMPENTENCIES:**

The student will determine knowledge and understanding of the content and processes that characterize the nature of sociology as a social science discipline; examine the basic principles and methods of scientific inquiry that social scientist use to investigate and better understand individual and group behavior patterns; assess the diversities and complexities of the cultural and social world in which we live; assess the role of social structure and institutions in the socialization process; apply the sociological perspective to personal, social , and organizational issues; demonstrate the ability to collaborate effectively in groups;

**METHOD OF COURSE:**

The classroom experience will include lecture, discussion, small group exercises, guest speakers and audiovisuals designed to increase the student's awareness, theoretical base and application of the subject matter.

**EVALUATION:**

Grades will be based on points earned on exams, individual and small group assignments, inviting a speaker and attendance. The exams are worth 100 points each and are multiple choice. Points for other assignments will be given as each is assigned. The following grading scale will be used;

90-100=A  
80-89=B  
70-79=C  
60-69=D  
BELOW 60=F

**SPECIAL POLICIES:**

Students will be dropped for absences. Being absent from six day classes or two night classes will result in the student being dropped. Make up tests will be given only for valid reasons at the instructor's discretion. Late assignments and make up tests will not receive full credit. The grade will be deducted by 10%. Cheating and plagiarism won't be tolerated and will result in an F in the course. The academic dean will be notified. Every effort will be made to accommodate special needs students.

**HONORS OPTION:**

This course may be taken for honors credit.

**COURSE CONTENT:**

PART 1 STUDYING SOCIETY AND SOCIAL LIFE CHAPTERS 1-3  
PART 2 SOCIAL GROUPS AND SOCIAL CONTROL CHAPTERS 4-6  
PART 3 SOCIAL INEQUALITY CHAPTERS 7-10

PART 4 SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS CHAPTERS 11-14  
PART 5 SOCIAL DYNAMICS AND SOCIAL CHANGE CHAPTERS 15-16