South Central College

SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology

Course Outcome Summary

Course Information

Description

The world is a far more diverse place than you might think! This course is a broad survey of sociology and its practical uses for all of us. In this course, students are introduced to a variety of topics, emphasizing breadth rather than depth. After learning about the basic theories and methods of sociology, students will cover topics such as race, gender, education, religion, social class, work, family, the environment, government and politics, organizations and bureaucracy, and other topics. Students will learn about the nature of all of these areas and their effects on individuals and their broader implications for society. In the end, students will leave with a far greater understanding of how society is organized and what that means for where we have been, where we are, and where we are going as a people.

(Prerequisite: Completion of READ 0090 with a grade of C or higher or a score of 78 or above in Reading comprehension on the Accuplacer) (MNTC Goal Areas 5 & 8; History and Social Sciences, Global Perspective)

Total Credits 4
Total Hours 64

Types of Instruction

Instruction Type Credits/Hours
Lecture 4 / 64

Pre/Corequisites

Prerequisite: Completion of READ 0090 with a grade of C or higher or a score of 78 or above in Reading comprehension on the Accuplacer

Institutional Core Competencies

Civic Engagement and Social Responsibility - Students will be able to demonstrate the ability to engage in the social responsibilities expected of a community member.

Cultural Competence - Students will be able to demonstrate an attitude of personal curiosity, a rising knowledge of cultures, and an evolving range of skills for living and working among others with other worldviews and ways of life.

Course Competencies
1. **Explain the development of the discipline of Sociology**
   Learning Objectives
   - Discuss the social and political events that led to the rise of sociology
   - Describe who the primary contributors are and their theoretical perspectives

2. **Demonstrate an understanding of the various research methods employed in the analysis of the society by the discipline**
   Learning Objectives
   - Describe the various steps employed by researchers to conduct a Sociological study
   - Explain the differences between correlation and causation as well as the differences between quantitative and qualitative studies

3. **Explain the framework of culture and the important role this variable plays in defining the individual in relation the larger society**
   Learning Objectives
   - Describe the definition of culture and explain the differences between material and non-material culture
   - Explain the various elements (norms, values, ethnocentrism, relativism, etc.) of culture
   - Evaluate cultural relativism and the importance of cross-cultural understanding

4. **Explain the differences between micro and macro orientation by examining social structure and interaction**
   Learning Objectives
   - Compare and contrast micro and macro concepts and theoretical perspectives
   - Discuss the various elements of social structure and interaction
   - Discuss how the three theoretical perspectives view social structure

5. **Describe the important role the process of Socialization play in our society**
   Learning Objectives
   - Define socialization
   - Discuss the differences between nature and nurture in relation to socialization and culture
   - Explain the various agents of socialization
   - Discuss how the three theoretical perspectives view the process of socialization

6. **Explain the variables of groups and societies in human environments**
   Learning Objectives
   - Describe the various elements of groups in human societies
   - Identify the elements of a formal organization and describe their function in societies
   - Discuss how the three theoretical perspectives view social groups

7. **Describe stratification both at a local and global level**
   Learning Objectives
   - Compare and contrast local and global stratification
   - Identify the various elements of stratification - power, wealth, prestige
   - Discuss how the three theoretical perspectives view both global and local stratification

8. **Analyze the importance of the various social institutions that encompass human societies**
   Learning Objectives
   - Compare and contrast the various social institutions (religion, education, legal, etc.)
   - Identify the roles these institutions play in defining human societies
   - Discuss how the three theoretical perspectives view the various institutions

9. **Explain how societies change and its implications**
   Learning Objectives
   - Describe what brings about social change
   - Compare and contrast collective behaviors and other social movements
   - Discuss how the three theoretical perspectives view societal change brought about by collective behaviors and social movements
10. **Evaluate the implications of educational inequality**
   
   Learning Objectives
   Explain the basic structure of education as an institution
   Evaluate the implications of varied outcomes in education
   Analyze the implications of educational inequality on labor market outcomes

11. **Evaluate the implications of racial/ethnic inequality**
   
   Learning Objectives
   Describe the extent of racial/ethnic inequality
   Evaluate the ethical and societal implications of racial/ethnic inequality on a variety of outcomes

12. **Evaluate the implications of gender inequality**
   
   Learning Objectives
   Describe the nature and extent of gender inequality on a variety of outcomes
   Analyze and evaluate the ethical and societal implications of gender inequality

**SCC Accessibility Statement**

South Central College strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you have a disability and need accommodations for access to this class, contact the Academic Support Center to request and discuss accommodations. North Mankato: Room B-132, (507) 389-7222; Faribault: Room A-116, (507) 332-7222.

Additional information and forms can be found at: [www.southcentral.edu/disability](http://www.southcentral.edu/disability)

This material can be made available in alternative formats by contacting the Academic Support Center at 507-389-7222.