



INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

A. Course Description

- **Credits:** 3.00
- **Lecture Hours/Week:** 3.00
- **Lab Hours/Week:** 0.00
- **OJT Hours/Week:** 0
- **Prerequisites:** None
- **Corequisites:** None
- **MnTC Goals:**
 - 05 – Hist/Soc/Behav Sci
 - 09 – Ethical/Civic Resp

This course covers the basic concepts and terminology used in sociological studies. Sociology is broadly defined as the study of human social organization and social behavior including its forms and consequences. It will focus on the characteristics of human group life as they relate to the structure of the social environment and its influence on the individual. This course is designed to introduce students to the theories, concepts and areas of inquiry that typically characterize sociological analyses. Students will have the opportunity to examine the ethical/dimensions and issues facing political, social, and personal life as it relates to the topics in Sociology. Students will explore their own citizenship and find ways to apply their ideas and goals to civic learning and service learning through embracing facets of human society and the human condition. Meets MnTC Goal 5 and MnTC Goal 9

B. Course Effective Dates: 4/5/99 – Present

C. Outline of Major Content Areas

As noted on course syllabus

D. Learning Outcomes

1. differentiate between nature and nurture
2. apply contemporary theory as it relates to all areas of our pluralistic society
3. assess the impact of technology on culture
4. assess the theoretical perspectives of politics
5. categorize the functions of social stratification
6. compare power and politics
7. compare sex and gender

8. compare social groups within environment
9. compare socialization theorists
10. contrast formal and informal organizations
11. contrast race and ethnicity
12. contrast the paradigms within sociology
13. correlate gender and socialization
14. correlate religion and social change
15. critique research practices in sociology
16. critique the functions of education
17. critique theories of gender and feminism
18. define and apply standards related to civic engagement and service learning
19. define and apply the American Democracy Project as it relates to course objectives and assignments while satisfying civic engagement and service learning initiatives
20. define change
21. define culture
22. define demography
23. define deviance
24. define education
25. define family
26. define perspectives on current social trends/problems and be able to defend ethical view point and analysis
27. define religion
28. define social groups
29. define social stratification
30. define status
31. describe cultural diversity
32. describe the criminal justice system and deviance
33. describe the theory of class society
34. describe urbanization
35. differentiate between ascribed and achieved status
36. differentiate between majority and minority
37. differentiate the stages of family life
38. discuss poverty
39. discuss the contemporary issues with education
40. distinguish among alternative family forms
41. distinguish among the functions of deviance
42. examine current issues in society and apply core concepts in sociology to these issues in order to offer solutions

43. examine the ethical dimensions that exist in our society as they relate to understanding human behavior and social institutions-politics, economics, government, churches, healthcare, etc.
44. outline causes of social change
45. outline the history and theory of population growth
46. outline the inequalities in the United States
47. predict modernity
48. research global development and poverty
49. structure the components of culture
50. understand change and sociology
51. understand economy and politics of people
52. understand social mobility
53. understand social significance of race and ethnicity

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 05 — Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

1. Employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
2. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
3. Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
4. Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.

Goal 09 — Ethical/Civic Resp

1. Examine, articulate, and apply their own ethical views.
2. Understand and apply core concepts (e.g. politics, rights and obligations, justice, liberty) to specific issues.
3. Analyze and reflect on the ethical dimensions of legal, social, and scientific issues.
4. Recognize the diversity of political motivations and interests of others.
5. Identify ways to exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

F. Learner Outcomes Assessment

As noted on course syllabus

G. Special Information

None noted

