I. General Information
Course: SOCI 1010: Introduction to Sociology – 3 Credit Hours
Contact Information: Email in eLearn through “Classlist” and select instructor's name. Your professor has also provided contact information on the “Course Home” page.

II. Course Description
Introduction to Sociology is an introduction to the scientific study of human society. This course provides a foundation of basic theories and research methods that influence the study of culture, socialization, stratification, deviance, and social institutions.

III. Learning Outcomes
1. Identify the core concepts of sociology (culture, socialization, status & role, groups, social control, social institutions, social stratification, etc.).
2. Evaluate how the individual’s behavior is shaped by social and cultural factors.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of culturally diverse populations and societies.
4. Apply the concepts of the sociological perspectives to understand the benefits of a multi-dimensional approach in the study of social events and issues.
5. Identify scientific research methods applied within the discipline of sociology.

IV. Required Text and Resources

Important textbook information – The textbook listed below can be purchased online; however, the JSCC bookstore has this same textbook printed as a “custom” textbook which will significantly reduce the cost. Please check out the JSCC bookstore first. It may actually save you some money.


Daily access to a computer and high speed internet is expected and required. Basic computer skills such as attaching a file to the Dropbox, posting a discussion, accessing emails, and using Microsoft WORD to type papers is required. If you are new to eLearn and/or online courses, the Office of Distance Education provides an orientation and training for students. For more information on the Office of Distance Education -http://www.jscc.edu/academics/distance-education/online-courses.html

V. Methods of Instruction
Required Reading, Recorded Lectures, Discussion, Film

VI. Policies
A. Attendance Policy: The class will not meet in person. All work will be conducted online with the aid of e-mail, electronic databases, and discussion boards.

B. Academic Conduct: As stated in the JSCC Catalog and Student handbook, “Academic honesty is central to the educational process. Acts of academic dishonesty are serious offenses at Jackson State and can result in suspension from the college”. Students found guilty of Academic Dishonesty will automatically receive a zero on the assignment and further penalties may be sanctioned. Please consult the Jackson State College Catalog and Student Handbook, (under the heading-Academic Honesty), for the complete policy including definitions on what specific actions are considered dishonest.

C. Americans with Disability Act Considerations: In the interest of providing full and appropriate services under the guidelines of the Americans with Disabilities Act, students in need of individualized consideration as a result of physical impairment are urged to make their needs known to the professor immediately. To request accommodations in and/or outside of class, it is the student’s responsibility to contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) inside the Counseling and Career Office in the Student Center Building. Students confidentially disclose information regarding the nature of their disability and provide documentation of the diagnosis. For more information, contact Annette Deaton at (731) 424-3520, ext. 50315. Accommodation forms must be submitted to the instructor before any accommodations can be arranged.

D. Make-up Policy: Contact the instructor PRIOR to the assignment deadline if you are unable to complete an assignment on time. Extensions may be provided in extenuating circumstances.

E. Online Etiquette: Taking an online course and corresponding via the web presents communicators with the task of overcoming the lack of nonverbal communication. When taking a course online, it is important to remember several points of etiquette that will be expected in this course:

- **Avoid language that may come across as strong or offensive.** Language can be easily misinterpreted in written communication. If a point must be stressed, review the statement to make sure that it would not offend anyone, then post the statement. Humor and sarcasm may easily be misinterpreted, so try to be as matter-of-fact and professional as possible.
- **It is unacceptable to use racist, ageist, sexist, homophobic, or otherwise oppressive language, actions, or behavior at any time.** We will have opportunities to discuss such issues within our society, but these types of comments directed at another student will not be tolerated. To violate this general rule of human decency is intolerable and will result in disciplinary action, which will result in a meeting with the Dean of Students.
- **Keep writing to a point and stay on topic.** When writing, keep sentences to the point and brief so that readers do not get lost in wordy paragraphs.
- **Read first, write later.** It is important to read all posts or comments of students and instructors within the course discussion before personally commenting to
prevent repeating commentary or asking questions that have already been answered.

- **Review, review, then send.** There’s no taking back a comment that has already been sent, so it is important to double-check all writing to make sure that it clearly conveys the intended message.

- **An online classroom is still a classroom.** Though the course is online, appropriate classroom behavior is still mandatory. Respect for fellow classmates and the instructor is demanded.

- **The language of the Internet.** Do not write using all capital letters, because it will appear as shouting. Also, the use of emoticons can be helpful when used to convey nonverbal feelings (example: :-) or :-( ), but avoid overusing them.

F. **Electronic Communication Etiquette:** E-mails to faculty and staff members should include a relevant subject line, a greeting, a body (the message), a closing, and a signature. Communication with faculty and staff should be professional. Spell-check is recommended. “Text” lingo is considered disrespectful. Communication with faculty and staff members should be done via the student’s JSCC eLearn e-mail account, which can be accessed through eLearn. Given faculty and staff schedules, students should anticipate a 24-hour wait for responses.

G. **Technical Issues:** If students encounter technical issues or problems within the course, they are to contact eLearn Technical Support at 731-425-2623 or submit a ticket via [https://helpme.jscc.edu/](https://helpme.jscc.edu/) Your professor is only able to answer questions related to our class, they are not able to provide technical assistance.

**VII. Methods of Evaluating Student Progress**

Students should understand what constitutes a grade of A, B, C, D, or F at the college level. According to the JSCC Catalog & Student Handbook, “the following grade system is used at Jackson State: A . . . Outstanding; B . . . Above average; C . . . Average; D . . . Passing but below average; F . . . Failing; I . . . Incomplete” (p. 19). A student cannot expect to earn an A in a course unless his/her work is exemplary and “outstanding.” Asking a professor to change a grade the student finds unsatisfactory is a violation of academic integrity. If the student feels his/her grade assignment is a result of discrimination or unfair treatment, s/he can appeal the grade as outlined in the Student Handbook (p. 20).

A. **Exams:** There will be 3 exams this semester. Exams may consist of multiple choice, true/false, and essay questions. Students are not allowed to use any notes, textbooks, online resources, or additional help when testing as this would be a violation of academic honesty. Study guides are provided to help prepare students for each exam. Exams are available during a scheduled timeframe for 72 hours (3 days). Exams are timed and each exam has a pre-determined amount of time in which it must be completed. Taking more than the allotted time will result in a deduction of points. **For every 1 minute late, the student will lose 1 point. Please note that if you are unable to take the exam during the 72 hour period when the exam is available, the**
student must contact the instructor PRIOR to the exam deadline in order to schedule a different testing time.

B. Quizzes: This course contains 16 quizzes. Dates for the quizzes are stated on the course syllabus schedule and course calendar. Quizzes are available for an entire week, and they are intended to review major terms and concepts from current chapters. Students may take the quiz once, at any time during the week, up until the deadline. Students will have a pre-determined amount of time to complete quizzes. Taking more than the allotted time will result in a deduction of points. **For every 1 minute late, the student will lose 1 point. Students have an entire week to complete each quiz; therefore, no make-ups will be granted.**

C. Writing Assignments and Discussions: This course includes 2 writing assignments and 4 course discussions. Writing assignments address relevant sociological issues and concepts connecting material being covered within the course. Discussions utilize our classroom discussion board and will allow students to communicate the various ways sociology and sociological concepts relate to own life experiences. Deadlines are stated on the course calendar. Guidelines for the assignments will be provided. **Late Writing Assignments will be deducted 1 point for each day past the deadline. Discussions can NOT be submitted late or made-up if missed.**

D. Journal Article Review: Students will complete a journal article review during the semester. The journal article review is a formal academic writing which introduces the student to scholarly sociological research. The review is a summary of a scholarly journal article, and requires the student to identify basic research methods and findings. Formatting and submission guidelines will be provided in detail during the semester. Assignments will be graded on content, grammar, and proper APA citation. **Late assignments will be deducted 3 points for each day past the deadline.**

Grades will be based on cumulative points through the completion of all assigned work.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing Assignments</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussions</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal Article Review</td>
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<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL POINTS</strong></td>
<td>400</td>
<td>100%</td>
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**TOTAL POINTS**

- 358-400 (90-100) A
- 318-357 (80-89) B
- 278-317 (70-79) C
- 238-277 (60-69) D
- Below 238 (Below 60%) F