

UNITED STATES ECCLESIASTICAL SOCIETY AND SEMINARY

SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology

I. Rationale

This course offers an overview of identity development, socialization, culture, social institutions and inequality. As this is a foundational course, it is a required course in the Humanities.

Aim

Students will respond to social inequality with creative solutions for a more equitable society.

II. Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students will:

1. Compare and contrast the sociological perspective to other social sciences.
2. Evaluate the major methods of sociological research.
3. Identify the components of culture.
4. Analyze how culture influences individuals.
5. Evaluate how important social institutions respond to social needs.
6. Describe the process of socialization.
7. Explain identity formation and the social construction of the self.
8. Examine social construction of groups and their impact on individual development.
9. Analyze the effects of social inequality on groups, individuals and its relationship to institutions.
10. Respond to social inequality with a solution for a more equitable society.

III. Format and Procedures

This course includes lectures, discussion, group presentations, essays and exams. Classes will often begin with a quiz from the assigned reading. Next there will be a short lecture followed by discussions based on your questions extracted from reading assignments.

IV. Course Requirements

1. Class Attendance Please contact me at least 24 hours before an expected absence. Without contact, you will not be excused and earn 0 for quizzes and participation assignments of that day.

2. Course Readings

(a) **Required Text** Tischler, Henry L. Introduction to Sociology.
Belmont: Cengage, 2013. 11th Edition.

3. Course Credit Assignments based on the number of credits for which the learner is enrolled (This option is available only to evaluation-eligible students).

(a) One credit – Students who will modify this course to earn one credit must complete the presentation.

(b) Two credits – In addition to those activities for one credit, students electing for two credits will complete daily participation, quizzes and 2 essays.

(c) Three credits – Those selecting three credits must complete the work for the first two credits and complete the midterm and final exam.

V. Grading

Participation	10%	Essays	25%
Quizzes	15%	Exams	30%
Presentation	20%		

Your grade is divided into 5 components. Participation includes your attendance and a quote and question from the reading. At times, I will offer quizzes that ask comprehension questions based on the reading assignment. You will be required to complete a presentation and can work with another student on this assignment. It includes the presentation, as well as an annotated bibliography and an outline. Finally your essays and exams are demonstrations of your mastery of the learning objectives.

VI. Academic Integrity

Each student in this course is expected to abide by the USESS Code of Academic Integrity. Any work submitted by a student in this course for academic credit will be the student's own work. Collaboration is allowed. You are encouraged to study together and discuss information and concepts covered in class with other students. However, these informal study groups should never involve one student having possession of a copy of work completed by another. Should copying occur, both students will earn a zero for the assignment. Penalty for violation of this Code can also be extended to include failure of the course and disciplinary action.

VII. Values

USESS is a non-denominational evangelical college with the highest Christian values. We value excellence in academics of higher education and practical ministry centered around a relationship with Jesus Christ. We value the development of Christian faith, thought and practice in the world to advance the work of God and impact the society at large.

VIII. Positive Participation

USESS is committed to providing an atmosphere for learning that respects diversity. While working together to build this community I ask all members to:

- share unique experiences, values and beliefs related to the text or topic
- use discussions as an opportunity to create a more compassionate world with attentive listening
- refrain from sharing confidential information that will reveal the privacy of others

IX. Tentative Course Schedule

Week 1 The Sociological Perspective	Tischler pp.1 -25
Week 2 Research Methods	Tischler pp. 26-48
Week 3 Culture	Tischler pp. 49-72 Essay Due
Week 4 Society & Self	Tischler pp. 100-122 Annotated Bibliography Due
Week 5 Social Institutions	Tischler pp. 123-141
Week 6	Study Guide & Review
Week 7	Midterm
Week 8 Socialization	Tischler pp. 73-99 Outline Due
Week 9 Identity	Tischler pp. 227-277
Week 10 Social Construction	Tischler pp.180-20; 278-305 Essay Due
Week 11 Social Inequality	Tischler pp. 202-226; 334-354; 378-401
Week 12 Social Equality	Tischler pp. 355-377
Week 13	Presentations
Week 14	Study Guide & Review
Week 15	Final

Rubric	
Compare and contrast the sociological perspective to other social sciences.	
1.0	Understands that sociology is a discipline of the social sciences.
2.0	Identifies the sociological perspective.
3.0	Compare and contrast the sociological perspective to other social sciences.
4.0	Compare and contrast the sociological perspective to other social sciences. Identifies which method is best used to evaluate data.
Evaluate the major methods of sociological research.	
1.0	Understands the purpose of research.
2.0	Identifies a method of sociological research.
3.0	Evaluate the major methods of sociological research.
4.0	Applies 3 major methods of sociological research to project.
Identify the components of culture.	
1.0	Defines culture.
2.0	Understands there are unique components of culture.
3.0	Identifies the components of culture.
4.0	Identifies the components of a national, regional or ethnic culture.
Analyze how culture influences individuals.	
1.0	Defines self, society and culture.
2.0	Understands identity development.
3.0	Analyze how culture influences individuals.
4.0	Analyze how culture influences individuals. Evaluates impact of culture on individual's choices across the life cycle.
Evaluate how important social institutions respond to social needs.	
1.0	Identifies Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs
2.0	Explains the history of social institutions.
3.0	Evaluate how important social institutions respond to social needs.
4.0	Evaluate how a social institution responded to a social need after a disaster.
Describe the process of socialization.	
1.0	Defines socialization.
2.0	Understands culture is transferred through socialization.
3.0	Describe the process of socialization.
4.0	Describe the process of socialization and how it changes over time.
Explain identity formation and the social construction of the self.	
1.0	Understands the self is a construction of socialization.
2.0	Defines the process of identity formation.
3.0	Explain identity formation and the social construction of the self.
4.0	Explain identity formation and the social construction of the self. Analyze how identity changes impact social group and social interaction.

Examine social construction of groups and their impact on individual development.	
1.0	Define norms, mores, ethics and values.
2.0	Define social construction.
3.0	Examine social construction of groups and their impact on individual development.
4.0	Examine social construction of groups and their impact on individual development. Profile a culture in which the group identity is more salient than the individual.
Analyze the effects of social inequality on groups, individuals and its relationship to institutions.	
1.0	Define social inequality.
2.0	Understands types of social inequality across nationality, race, sex, gender identity, class, religion, ethnicity and ability.
3.0	Analyze the effects of social inequality on groups, individuals and its relationship to institutions.
4.0	Analyze the effects of social inequality on groups, individuals and its relationship to institutions. Profile an institution with a history of inequality that sought to move toward a more equitable distribution.
Respond to social inequality with a solution for a more equitable society.	
1.0	Understands that social inequalities are globally stratified.
2.0	Understands that social inequalities are supported by institutions composed of people that are open to change and innovation.
3.0	Respond to social inequality with a solution for a more equitable society.
4.0	Respond to social inequality with a solution for a more equitable society. Participate in an event or join an organization that works towards a similar solution.