Welcome to Sociology 101: Introduction to Sociology Online

Welcome to class! I am very excited to get started...it's going to be a great session! We have so much amazing content to cover, in a relatively short period of time, so we'll definitely be starting off strong.

I love this course because it gives an opportunity to explore so many key aspects of sociology—exposing you to main theories, key concepts, and to me, the most exciting: central questions. Please feel comfortable in this course exploring the challenging questions that will arise, as so many in sociology will push your boundaries and intellectually excite you. We be covering main societal institutions like family, work, media, politics, and religion and will explore socialization processes by which we learn our genders and cultures. I encourage you to share and reflect upon your own experiences in your personal and professional lives in order to make connections to our classroom discussions. I definitely believe this is how the best learning takes place!

This course will enable you to see how everyday life looks different if you come at it sociologically. We will approach American society through a lens of critical analysis, which will arouse some productive discomfort and compel dialogue. Thinking sociologically means viewing social arrangements as a product of history and collective action and evaluating how society is structured to disadvantage some while privileging others. You will seek to understand our own roles in these systems and arrangements. This Introductory course presents basic concepts, theories, and research in sociology.

Student Learning Outcomes:

- Analyze contemporary social issues.

Textbook (this is required for the course):


ISBN: 9781133592129

Available in the COC Bookstore- For online access to the COC bookstore, visit http://www.canyons.edu/bookstore.

Contact: Emily Frydrych: Emily.Frydrych@canyons.edu

Office: Virtual Office hours: Monday- Friday 9:00- 5:00 PST email preferred
1. **Late Work Policy** All unit assignments are due by midnight (PST) on Sunday of each week. Late assignments will be accepted for three days following the due date. There is a 10% penalty for each day the assignment is late. After the 3rd day, the assignment will be given a zero. However, *no credit* will be given for late discussion board posts or final assignments. Since student participation is so central to the pulse of the class, participation is required during the current week of each lesson. Thus, students must post their reply to the threaded discussion questions and reply to at least two classmates during the relevant week in order to be eligible for credit (initial post by **Wednesday** 11:59 pm, and 2 additional responses by **Sunday** 11:59 pm). In addition, there is no flexibility allowed concerning submission of late final assignments.

2. **Communication** I am available Monday- Friday from around 9:00 am to 5:00 pm PST. I try to reserve weekends for my family but check in online for pressing matters. Email is always the best way to reach me. If need be, you may reach me by phone during these hours at 818 389 5426. Please feel free to email me anytime with questions or concerns and allow 48 hours for a response. I will answer all questions within 48 hours. It is very important and helpful that you put your name and both course number AND section in the subject line of your email when contacting me (for example SOC 101 Section 86546). This will help expedite our communication greatly. Personal information and questions about grades will be handled via email to protect student’s privacy rights.

3. **Etiquette and Discussion Board Threads** You will be required to respond to 3 discussion board posts each week (1 initial post to the question, and 2 responses to classmates and/or me). Please make sure you are familiar with standards of “Online Etiquette”. As you communicate with one another, make sure to maintain a comfortable environment where differing perspectives are respected. I encourage you to challenge one another and openly share disagreements, provided you are considerate of one another. It is always important to avoid inflammatory language, and to support your perspective by using our course material and other academic information, rather than pure emotion. And, please remember, push yourselves, challenge yourselves, and enjoy yourselves!

This is the opportunity to connect our course material to our practical daily lives and to share connections and insights with one another. You are encouraged to use personal experience, evaluate arguments in concepts in the readings, and bring new insights to the conversation by moving the discussion further. I suggest a minimum of 200 words for your initial posts.

To ensure the integrity of discussions, students are not allowed to post all 3 responses on one day. The purpose of the threaded discussions is to solicit feedback from others in the course in addition to responding to other students. Posting throughout the week enables you all to have a richer experience. Again, please post your initial full response to the question by **Wednesday** 11:59 pm of each week, and 2 responses to classmates and/or me by **Sunday** 11:59 pm of each week.

4. **Plagiarism** Please make sure you read and understand the contents of the “Plagiarism” section of COC handbook. Plagiarism is student’s submission of word-for-word passages
of others’ work without proper citation. Plagiarism will not be tolerated in any form and action will be taken to investigate all suspected cases. I will follow all specified administrative procedures. It is perfectly acceptable (and encouraged!) to use information from outside sources… you just need to make sure that you are properly citing all of your sources.

5. Grades I will post all grades within one week after the scheduled due dates. Please refrain from asking grade-related questions within the one-week window.

6. Announcements It’s extremely important that you continue to read carefully my Weekly Announcements throughout the entire course. Critical information will be included each week, and answers to most questions that you may have can probably be found within them. Of course get in touch with me if you still have questions after you’ve read them!

Please note, prior to emailing me with questions, it’s your responsibility to search for the relevant information within the course syllabus or weekly announcement. It’s very common for me to simply direct you there when I’ve already provided the information.

7. Student Expectations of the Instructor Discussion board grades will be posted within 4 days after the end of each week, i.e. 11:59 pm Thursday.

Written assignment grades will be posted within 5 days of due date, i.e. 11:59 pm on Friday.

Final grades will be posted within 7 days after the course ends, i.e. 11:59 pm on Sunday.
This course is an online course. You may login to the class website starting on the first day of class http://bb.canyons.edu. When you do login you will find the syllabus and all the details on how to succeed in this course. One important piece of advice for this class in particular is that I am very firm about deadlines and following all directions (including how to submit assignments on Blackboard). Therefore, if you are not good at turning in work on time (or via Blackboard) then this may not be a good course fit for you.

If you are enrolled in this course, you should certainly obtain the textbook prior to the start of the course but you should also complete the Blackboard Tutorial at the COC Distance Learning page http://www.canyons.edu/offices/distance_learning/OnlineOrientation/. Being successful in this or any other online class will require you to be very self-directed in your learning. Unlike a traditional classroom setting where we meet face to face regularly, the time you invest in this course must go beyond the classroom walls. You must ensure that you are the type of student who can work independently, can correspond in writing easily, and are technologically savvy with regard to blackboard, word processing, and the internet at the very least. Part of being successful in an online class is learning the material and the other part is being comfortable with the format so that you can access the material.

If you have any trouble logging in, you can visit the TLC (I-209) on campus for assistance (go to http://www.canyons.edu/offices/TLC for hours and contact information). You may also contact Blackboard technical support at (661) 362-3344 or bbsupport@canyons.edu (M-TH 8am-8pm, F 8am-1pm, S 9am-1pm: please allow up to 24 business hours for an email response).

**Other Important Links: Blackboard Login help:**

http://www.canyons.edu/offices/distance_learning/BBSupport/Bbtechsupport2.asp

This link provides useful log on information for the student. Distance Learning Home Page: http://www.canyons.edu/distancelearning

Online Learning Readiness assessments:

http://www.canyons.edu/offices/distance_learning/info/Assessments.asp

Counseling 070 information:

http://www.canyons.edu/offices/distance_learning/info/COUNS070.asp

This link gives beneficial information to students contemplating online learning for the first time.