



This course supports the assessments for Introduction to Sociology. The course covers 5 competencies and represents 3 competency units.

Introduction

Welcome to Introduction to Sociology. Sociology is the scientific study of patterns of human social behavior. Sociologists study human interaction at the micro-level (e.g., gender roles), the meso-level (e.g., social institutions, such as family) and the macro-level (e.g., population growth). This course will guide you in seeing and understanding the social norms, or unwritten rules, by which people live, and how they enable and constrain behavior. You will learn about socializing institutions, such as schools and families. Finally, you will understand some large scale social trends such as urbanization.

Watch the following video for an introduction to this course:

Note: To download this video, right-click the following link and choose "Save as...": [download video](#).

The Introduction to Sociology course prepares you to demonstrate competency in the following 5 areas:

- **133.1.1: Foundation of Sociology**
The graduate explains the approach of those who observed society in the past including European and American thinkers.
- **133.1.2: Culture and Socialization**
The graduate evaluates the social forces that produce one's identity.
- **133.1.3: Groups and Deviance**
The graduate analyzes the impact of conformity and resistance to society's norms.
- **133.1.4: Social Inequality**
The graduate assesses where one resides within the broader context of a stratified society.
- **133.1.5: Social Institutions**
The graduate analyzes the impact of major social institutions on society.

Learning

The information in this section will help you succeed in this course.

Learning Resource

VitalSource E-text

Introduction to Sociology uses the following VitalSource e-text:

- Henslin, J. M. (2014). [Essential of Sociology: A Down-to-Earth Approach, 11th](#). Pearson.

Note: This e-text is available to you as part of your program tuition and fees, but you may



purchase a hard copy at your own expense through VitalSource or a retailer of your choice. If you choose to do so, please use the ISBN listed to ensure that you receive the correct edition. The following sites provide instruction on how to create a VitalSource account, use features such as downloading your e-texts for offline use, and purchase a print-on-demand option, if available.

- [VitalSource Navigational Video](#)
- [Print-On-Demand Option](#)

MySocLab

MySocLab is not used in this course.

Your textbook occasionally references MySocLab. Please disregard notes in the e-text directing you to MySocLab.

Pearson CourseConnect

CourseConnect is an interactive tool to enhance your learning experience.

If you need assistance using the CourseConnect platform, consult the following help article:

- [CourseConnect Help](#)

Getting Started Guides

Pacing Guide

This [pacing guide](#) suggests a weekly structure to complete the learning activities. It is provided as a suggestion and does not represent a mandatory schedule.

The Study Guide

Use this [study guide](#) to help you work through the course material and study for the assessment. The course faculty are available and happy to help if you have questions.

FAQ

This frequently asked question ([FAQ](#)) document offers assistance with general questions about the course.

Live Events

[C273 Live Events](#)

The Introduction to Sociology course instructors host several live events, including webinars with your course instructors and open, drop-in sessions. The events are listed in the Mountain Time zone.



Click on the calendar title (C273 Live Events) to open the calendar in a new window.



Course Work

Follow the studies outlined within the following topics to best succeed in this course.

Origins: Sociology versus Philosophy/History

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Explain the primary contributions of key thought leaders in the field of sociology.
- Differentiate between sociological perspectives.

Learning Activities

Read

Read pages 1–20 of [chapter 1: \("The Sociological Perspective"\)](#) in *Essentials of Sociology*.

Watch

- "[Sociology in Focus: What is Sociology](#)"
- "[The Basics: A Sociological Theory and Research](#)"
- "[Thinking like a Sociologist: Sociological Theory and Research](#)"

Complete

Complete topics 00, 01, and 02 of [lesson 1: "The Field of Sociology"](#) in CourseConnect.

Sociological Research

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Explain the primary sociological research methods.
- Explain ethical issues involved in sociological research.

Learning Activities

Read

Read pages 20–36 of [chapter 1: \("The Sociological Perspective"\)](#) in *Essentials of Sociology*.

Watch

- "[Thinking like a Sociologist: Sociological Theory and Research](#)"

Complete

Complete topics 03, 04, and 05 of [lesson 1: "The Field of Sociology"](#) in CourseConnect.

Analysis of Culture

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Explain key elements of culture.
- Differentiate between cultures, subcultures, and countercultures.
- Explain the role of culture in a variety of social interactions.

Learning Activities



Read

Read [chapter 2: \("Culture"\)](#) and pages 65–77 of [chapter 3: \("Socialization"\)](#) in *Essentials of Sociology*.

Complete

Complete [lesson 2: "Culture"](#) in CourseConnect.

Gender Roles

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Compare and contrast differences in socialization based on gender.
- Explain the influence of media on identity and behavior.

Learning Activities

Read

Read pages 78–83 of [chapter 3: \("Socialization"\)](#) and [chapter 4: \("Social Structure and Social Interaction"\)](#) in *Essentials of Sociology*.

Complete

Complete [lesson 3: "Socialization"](#) in CourseConnect.

Socialization

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Identify social structures and interactions.
- Identify the different agents of socialization.
- Identify factors that affect sociological interactions in everyday life.
- Differentiate sociological and psychological approaches to the study of the "self."

Learning Activities

Read

Read [chapter 3: \("Socialization"\)](#) in *Essentials of Sociology*.

Review

Review [chapter 4: \("Social Structure and Social Interaction"\)](#) in *Essentials of Sociology*.

Review [lesson 3: "Socialization"](#) in CourseConnect.

Deviance

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Differentiate between sociological perspectives on deviance.
- Explain the reasons for deviant behaviors from various scientific perspectives.

Learning Activities

Read

Complete [chapter 6: \("Deviance and Social Control"\)](#) in *Essentials of Sociology*.



Listen and Watch

Listen to "[NPR: Crime Study Challenges Past Assumptions](#)".

Watch:

- "[Justice and Privilege](#)"
- "[The Basics: Deviance](#)"

Complete

Complete [lesson 4: "Deviance and Social Control"](#) in CourseConnect.

Social Groups and Formal Organizations

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Explain types of groups and organizations.
- Recognize characteristics of bureaucracies.
- Explain the role of social structures in a group or organization.
- Identify the effects of group dynamics on social interactions.

Learning Activities

Read

Read [chapter 5: \("Social Groups and Formal Organizations"\)](#) in *Essentials of Sociology*.

Watch

- "[The Stanford Prison Experiment](#)"
- "[The Basics: Societies, Groups and Organizations](#)"

Global Stratification

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Explain global stratification.
- Interpret trends of social stratification in the world.
- Differentiate universal from country-specific social stratification.

Learning Activities

Read

Read [chapter 7: \("Global Stratification"\)](#) in *Essentials of Sociology*.

Watch

- "[The Basics: Social Stratification](#)"
- "[Poverty in Mumbai](#)"

Complete



Complete [lesson 5: "Global Stratification and Racial Discrimination"](#) in CourseConnect.

Social Class

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Describe social class.
- Explain the global consequences for individuals of dividing society into classes.
- Explain the determinants of social class.
- Identify the effects of social class on lifestyle.
- Explain the concept of poverty.

Learning Activities

Read

Read [chapter 8: \("Social Class in the United States"\)](#) in *Essentials of Sociology*.

Watch

- "[Thinking Like a Sociologist: Social Class in the U.S.](#)"

Review

Review [lesson 7: "Social Class and Decision Making"](#) in CourseConnect.

Race and Ethnicity

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Explain the difference between race and ethnicity.
- Explain the effects of historical instances of racial discrimination on societies.
- Explain the impact of discrimination on daily social interactions.
- Explain the theories of prejudice.

Learning Activities

Read

Read [chapter 9: \("Race and Ethnicity"\)](#) in *Essentials of Sociology*.

Watch

- "[Social Inequalities: Race and Ethnicity](#)"
- "[The Social Construction of Race](#)"

Review

Review topic 03 of [lesson 5: "Global Stratification and Racial Discrimination"](#) in CourseConnect.

Gender and Age

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Identify gender inequalities across cultures.
- Distinguish conditions in social organizations that are a result of gender.
- Identify the demographics of aging in different countries.



- Differentiate between various theoretical perspectives on aging.

Learning Activities

Read

Read [chapter 10: \("Gender and Age"\)](#) in *Essentials of Sociology*.

Watch

- ["The Basics: Gender"](#)
- ["The Basics: Aging and the Elderly"](#)

Complete

Complete [lesson 6: "Inequalities of Gender and Age"](#) in CourseConnect.

Marriage and Families

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Explain the cross-cultural themes and theoretical perspectives on marriage and family.
- Outline the family life cycle.
- Analyze the impact family structure and class has on the raising of a child.
- Identify key aspects of diversity in U.S. families and marriages.
- Identify trends in divorce and remarriage in the United States.

Learning Activities

Read

Read [chapter 12: \("Marriage and Family"\)](#) in *Essentials of Sociology*.

Complete

Complete [lesson 9: "Marriage and Family"](#) in CourseConnect.

Education and Religion

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Distinguish between various perspectives on education.
- Identify strategies to alleviate problems in education in the United States.
- Explain the relationship between religion, core values, and the educational system in the United States.
- Identify norms and values encouraged or discouraged by the U.S. educational system.
- Identify the different types of religious groups in the world.

Learning Activities

Read

Read [chapter 13: \("Education and Religion"\)](#) in *Essentials of Sociology*.

Watch

- ["The Basics: Education"](#)



- ["The Basics: Religion"](#)

Complete

Complete [lesson 10: "Education and Religion"](#) in CourseConnect.

Population and Urbanization

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Identify problems resulting from population growth.
- Identify common problems caused by urban expansion.
- Compare the evolution of various cities and populations.
- Compare and contrast the new and anti-Malthusian perspectives on population growth.

Learning Activities

Read

Read [chapter 14: \("Population and Urbanization"\)](#) in *Essentials of Sociology*.

Watch

- ["Thinking Like a Sociologist: Population, Urbanization and Environment"](#).

Complete

Complete [lesson 11: "Population and Urbanization"](#) in CourseConnect.

Assessment Prep

Preassessment

Students with a strong sociology background may wish to take the preassessment early to help them identify the specific areas to focus on in their studying. Students without a strong sociology background are typically more successful if they work through the course content first, before taking the preassessment. The preassessment can then be used to determine readiness for the objective assessment.

Objective Assessment

As you prepare for your assessments, please keep in mind that the objectives for the course provide a very helpful guide to direct your studies. Review the objectives for each topic as you prepare for your objective exam.

First Attempt Checklist

To make sure you have the best chance possible to pass the exam on your first attempt, the following should be completed before you schedule to take it:

1. Read all of the assigned content in the learning resource.
2. Complete the activities associated with each section.
3. Make sure you can answer all of the study guide questions associated with each objective in the course.
4. Watch the videos for additional help with any learning objective you are struggling with.



5. Pass the preassessment with the goal of demonstrating competency in each area of the course, demonstrated by a green bar.
6. Contact a course instructor for additional resources and valuable test-taking strategies. This is very important, as a course instructor can provide valuable advice and save you time on exam preparation.

If the first attempt is failed, you will be required to get in contact with the course instructor to see what went wrong and how you can prepare to make sure your second attempt is a success. Once the course instructor feels you are ready to refer for the second attempt of the exam, he or she will approve your second exam attempt.