

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

SOCI 200

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of social theories, their histories, social structures, functions, and conflict emphasizing human, institutional, and group interactions. The course provides an overview of political, economic and other cultural phenomena and methodologies of the results of scientific social research. In addition, it seeks to expand ideas, concepts, theoretical, and practical orientations by utilizing a comparative perspective.

RATIONALE

Sociology offers a perspective view of the work that stresses that people's social experiences underlie their behavior; its focus is increasingly on the growing global context of social life. Social institutions were created by God and provide the framework for societal living. As Christians, we need to understand the structures and dynamics of all societies in order to have a positive impact on our fellow man as we bear witness and follow the calling of Jesus Christ.

I. PREREQUISITES

None

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. RECOMMENDED RESOURCE

Barisco, L. A., Cashion, B. G., & Eshleman, J. R. (2012). *Study guide to accompany introduction to sociology* (5th ed.). Redding, CA: BVT.
ISBN: 9781602297791.

IV. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Word
(Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)

V. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Contrast various topics from a sociological perspective with perspectives from similar disciplines (e.g. Anthropology).
- B. Apply sociological terms and definitions in appropriate contexts.
- C. Identify the three major sociological theories.
- D. Interpret societal phenomena using each of the major sociological theories.
- E. Analyze the world from a micro and macro perspective.
- F. Evaluate a personal value system and the resulting implications on a personal worldview.
- G. Distinguish between empirical data, secular observation, and the Christian worldview.
- H. Examine social science using the scientific method to support and draw conclusions on societal trends.
- I. Analyze various forms of communication from a sociological perspective.
- J. Explain the impact of race, class, gender, culture, and political systems on individuals and communities.
- K. Appraise the impact of social stratification, societal injustices, and inequality on individuals and communities.

VI. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations
- B. Discussion Board forums (4)

There will be four Discussion Board forums throughout the course. The purpose of Discussion Board forums is to generate interaction among students in regard to relevant current course topics. The student is required to post one thread of at least 300 words by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Thursday of the assigned module/week. In addition, the student must post two replies of at least 50 words each by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of the same module/week. For each thread, the student should support his/her assertions with at least one citation using APA format. Each reply should cite at least one source using APA format. Acceptable sources include the textbook, the Bible, and research articles.
- C. Current Events (2)

Two current event papers will be completed for this course. For each paper, the student will write an essay of at least 750 words, relating to one of the Sociology theories reviewed in the course, including: Symbolic Interactionism, Class Conflict Theory, or Functional Analysis. Each essay will be graded based upon the Current Event Rubrics. These assignments are due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of Modules/Weeks 3 & 5.
- D. Community Observation Paper

The student will take an active part in a community outreach activity of his/her choosing, which will affiliate the student with the needs of the community. Examples of such activities are: volunteering at a shelter, a camp, a recreation center, or tutoring young children. This activity can be purely voluntary or can be an activity related to the student's employment. The student will then write three full pages of content explaining the experience and what was learned from the project. Along with the three pages, there should also be an APA cover page. This assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of Module/Week 7.

E. Exams (4)

There are four exams for this course that will cover the material presented in the textbook readings and presentations. The exams consist of 50 multiple-choice questions, and the student will have 90 minutes to complete each exam. Exams 1-3 must be completed by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of the assigned module/week, and Exam 4 must be completed by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday of Module/Week 8.

VII. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Discussion Board forums	(4 at 70 pts ea)	280
Current Events	(2 at 100 pts ea)	200
Community Observation Paper		120
Exams	(4 at 100 pts ea)	400
	Total	1000

B. Scale

A = 900–1000 B = 800–899 C = 700–799 D = 600–699 F = 0–599

C. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations.

COURSE SCHEDULE

SOCI 200

Textbook: Basirico et al., *Introduction to Sociology* (2012).

WEEK/ MODULE	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Basirico et al.: chs. 1 & 2 Bible Readings 3 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist	0
		Class Introductions	0
		DB Forum 1	70
2	Basirico et al.: chs. 3 & 4 2 presentations	Exam 1	100
3	Basirico et al.: chs. 5 & 6 2 presentations	DB Forum 2	70
		Current Event 1	100
4	Basirico et al.: chs. 7 & 8 2 presentations	Exam 2	100
5	Basirico et al.: chs. 9 & 10 2 presentations	DB Forum 3	70
		Current Event 2	100
6	Basirico et al.: chs. 12 & 13 2 presentations	Exam 3	100
7	Basirico et al.: chs. 14 & 17 2 presentations	DB Forum 4	70
		Community Observation Paper	120
8	Basirico et al.: chs. 18 & 21 2 presentations	Exam 4	100
TOTAL			1000

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course week (except week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.