



**KENNEBEC VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
FAIRFIELD, MAINE**

**Social Sciences Department
Approval Date: 5/15/00
Semester: Fall 2015**

COURSE NUMBER:	SOC 101	CREDIT HOURS:	3
COURSE TITLE:	Introduction to Sociology	CLOCK HOURS:	45
PREREQUISITES:	None		
CO-REQUISITES:	None		

INSTRUCTOR	VOICE MAIL	OFFICE	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Nicholas Runco	207 – 453 - 5196	130 King Hall Fairfield Campus	Nrunco@kvcc.me.edu

OFFICE HOURS: By Appointment

TEXTS & OTHER MATERIALS:
Benokraitis, N.V. (2014). SOC (3rd Ed.). Cengage. Belmont, CA.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
A general scientific study of people and the dynamics of society, with emphasis upon the nature of culture, social institutions, social interaction, social units, and their influence on the individual. An overview of sociological concepts and perspectives is also presented.

- COURSE OBJECTIVES:**
Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:
1. Identify and apply the three major theoretical sociological perspectives.
 2. Identify the effects of culture and socialization on the diverse nature of people.
 3. Describe the social structures within our society, how they interact, and the effect of deviance on society.
 4. Identify and describe aspects of class, race, ethnicity, and gender on social inequality.
 5. Describe the dominant social institutions within our society such as the family, education, religion, politics, and medicine.
 6. 6. Identify and describe social change and how it manifests itself in society.

- GENERAL EDUCATION OUTCOMES:**
Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:
1. Communicate clearly, effectively, and persuasively in both the written and spoken word
 2. Utilize resources and technology as lifelong learners in pursuit of both their personal and professional goals.
 3. Solve problems and make decisions based upon logical thinking and analytical skills.
 4. Respect cultural, ethnic and intellectual diversity as involved members of their communities.

COURSE CONTENT:

Within the online course in Blackboard you will find a highly detailed document called “Course Navigator.” This document provides additional detail related to all course activities for each week.

- Introduction to the Course, Syllabus, and Expectations
- Lesson 1: What is Sociology?
- Lesson 2: The Perspectives
- Lesson 3: Sociology and the Scientific Method
- Lesson 4: Introduction to Culture
- Lesson 5: Diversity
- Lesson 6: Culture and Technology
- Lesson 7: Socialization
- Lesson 8: Social Status and Roles
- Lesson 9: Online Socialization
- Lesson 10: My Social Groups
- Lesson 11: Personal Social Control
- Lesson 12: Guilty or Insane?
- Lesson 13: The Criminal Justice System
- Lesson 14: The Have’s and the Have Not’s
- Lesson 15: Social Mobility
- Lesson 16: Gender and Sex
- Lesson 17: Sexuality and Sexual Orientation
- Lesson 18: Immigration
- Lesson 19: Racial and Ethnic Minorities
- Lesson 20: Economic Theories
- Lesson 21: Perspectives on the Economy
- Lesson 22: Local Politics
- Lesson 23: Family Structure
- Lesson 24: Domestic Violence
- Lesson 25: Education
- Lesson 26: Religion
- Lesson 27: Healthcare and Technology
- Lesson 28: An Exploration of Global Healthcare Coverage
- Lesson 29: Global Warming
- Lesson 30: Social Change

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Within the online course in Blackboard you will find a highly detailed document called “Course Navigator.” This document provides additional detail related to all course activities for each week.

COURSE ACTIVITIES:

For each week in this class you will be assigned specific activities. These activities may include reading in the textbook, reading outside material, participation in discussions, quizzes on the text content, and reflection quizzes.

Lesson Plans

The entire course is divided into “Lessons” that cover specific topics and learning objectives in the class. The Lessons are listed in the Course Outline above. Each Lesson introduces you to specific subject matter and asks you to engage in a number of activities. These may include reading, exploring the web, researching, participating in online discussions, quizzes (multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions), and assignments (written work submitted as an attached document in a “drop box”)

Each Lesson consists of:

- A Lesson Plan that outlines the content and provides detailed instructions as to any assignments
- Direct links to any Discussions, Assignments, or Quizzes that go along with that Lesson.

All the Lessons are located in the “Lessons” folder. Click on the Lessons link in the course Menu.

Chapter Quizzes

For each chapter in the book there will be a quiz that you will take online. Each quiz will consist of 20 multiple choice questions that will be randomly selected from a database each time you take the quiz. You can take the quizzes as many times as you wish, but understand that each time you take the quiz you may get different questions. The HIGHEST of all your attempts will be the one that counts so there is no risk in taking the quiz over and over. The quizzes will be available from the beginning of the class but they must be completed by the end of the week in which the reading is assigned. Feel free to work ahead on these quizzes.

Links to these quizzes are located in the corresponding Chapter Quizzes link.

Extensions on the due dates for Module Quizzes may be allowed with sufficient reason, however, I reserve the judgment to not grant an extension. If you anticipate needing extra time it is best to get in touch with me PRIOR to the due date.

Special Assignments

The following assignments are those that have been incorporated into this class to not only teach you course content, but to also enable you to demonstrate learning associated with the KVCC General Education Outcomes. (See the section on General Education Outcomes in the Course Requirements section of this syllabus)

- Local Politics Special Assignment
- Ethics and Religion Special Assignment
- Academic Reading Special Assignment
- Public Service Announcement Project

It is critical that you review the information I have provided for each of these assignments in the course website. While the assignments are not particularly complicated, they are certainly complex, requiring planning and time management to complete them by their due dates.

GRADING:

Grading for the course will be accomplished in the following manner:

1. Attendance 25%
2. Lesson Quizzes 20%
3. Chapter Quizzes 15%
4. Public Service Announcement Project 25%
5. Special Assignments 15%

GRADING SCALE:

Letter Grades---Based on a final grade scale of 0-100, the following letter grades will be assigned:

95-100	A
90-94	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
Below 73	F

Please note that I will not be giving grades below a C. The rationale to this is that students who do not master more than 72% of the material in this class are not prepared to meet the expectations of future classes or programs that require this course. It simply means that you have not learned enough material to really say that you have “passed” the class.

INCOMPLETES:

Students who make arrangements for submitting work after the course is completed will be given a letter grade reflecting the work they HAVE done. I will not be submitting grades of “I” or “Incomplete”. When the student has completed the work that is missing I will then change the final grade accordingly. Considering the structure of this class I anticipate that I will be rarely making these sorts of accommodations and they will only be made under extreme circumstances...do not assume that a request for an incomplete will be approved.

LATE WORK:

One of the key skills that one learns through their college career is task and time management. You have to learn to balance your life obligations and your school commitments. Each of us has only 24 hours a day to do what we need to do, so the difference between success and failure often comes down to how well you manage your time.

While you have to manage your time to get your work done, we, as instructors, need to manage our time in order to get your work graded and to provide timely feedback (where the REAL learning happens!). It is important that you submit your work by the due dates provided in the class so that your instructor can grade this work in a timely fashion.

If, for some reason, you are not able to get your work done, you must contact your instructor as soon as possible. This means you have to contact your instructor BEFORE the work is due, not after the due date. It is the sole discretion of the instructor as to if they will provide you any extra time to do any work. We are NEVER obligated, outside of official accommodations for disability, to provide extra time for you to get your work done, so do not consider this a “right” that you have under whatever circumstances you have encountered.

Hint: If you have unintentionally overlooked a due date for an assignment, your best course of action is to complete the assignment and send it to your instructor right away. Explain your circumstances and simply request that the instructor look at your work and provide feedback even if they are not going to award you any grade for the work. It is STILL the sole discretion of the instructor to award credit or not, but this method will demonstrate more commitment on your part and may influence that decision.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance in this class is crucial for you to pass this class. Attendance in this class is monitored by your completion of the assigned weekly activities and your attendance in class (face-to-face classes) or participation in online discussions (online classes). If you fail to come to class and/or participate in the assigned activities for a given week you will receive an attendance warning, even if you have logged into the course. You are given credit for the WORK that you complete, not just logging in. Consistently missing class, discussions, and/or other assignments will devastate your grade.

Regardless if this is a face-to-face or online class, if you have inconsistent access to a computer or the Internet it is likely that taking this class is NOT a good idea. It is YOUR responsibility to assure that you have the computer, software, and Internet access to participate in the course. Keep this in mind...the vast majority of this class can be done from any public workstation...a library computer, a friend's computer, etc. There really is no excuse for not accessing the class to complete assignments.

If you anticipate that you will have difficulty meeting these requirements due to vacations, weddings, childbirth, alien abduction, or any other reason, you should consider taking the class at another time.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES (2014)

In accordance with state and federal law, this College is committed to assisting qualified students with disabilities achieve their educational goals.

If you are in need of an accommodation in this course:

- Students must contact the Dean of Students, Enrollment Services Center, Frye Building, 453-5019, knormandin@kvcc.me.edu
- Students must provide current, appropriate documentation of their disability.
- Students must make a timely request for accommodation to the Dean of Students.
- Accommodations will not be provided until the faculty member receives a letter requesting accommodations. This letter is created with the Dean of Students and is supported by the documentation of said disability.
- Requests for accommodation must be renewed each semester for each course.

This document is available in enlarged print and on audio tape. Please contact the Dean of Students at 453-5019 or knormandin@kvcc.me.edu

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION (2014):

Kennebec Valley Community College does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission to, access to, or operation of its programs, services or activities. Students requesting classroom accommodation should be forwarded to the Dean of Students, Enrollment Service Center, Frye Building, phone: 453-5019 or the Director of the Learning Commons, Lunder Library, phone: 453-5084

Complaints about College decisions related to disability accommodations or discrimination must be forwarded to Affirmative Action Officer and ADA Compliance Officer, Dean of Academic Affairs, Enrollment Services Center, 92 Western Avenue, Fairfield, ME 04937, phone: 453-5822.