



**KENNEBEC VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
FAIRFIELD & HINCKLEY, MAINE**

**Approval Date: 1/17/97  
Rotation: Spring  
Year: 2018**

**COURSE NUMBER:** SOC101  
**COURSE TITLE:** Introduction to Sociology  
**CREDIT HOURS:** 3  
**CLOCK HOURS:** 45

**PREREQUISITES:** None  
**CO-REQUISITES:** None

**INSTRUCTOR:** Samuel R. Brown, Ph.D.  
**VOICE MAIL:** (203) 597-7181  
**E-MAIL ADDRESS:** sbrown@kvcc.me.edu  
**OFFICE:** Cheshire, CT  
**OFFICE HOURS:** 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Monday - Friday

**TEXTS:**  
OpenStax College. (2015). Sociology (2nd Ed). Houston, TX: OpenStax CNX.  
<<http://cnx.org/content/col11407/latest/>>.

**OTHER MATERIALS:**  
N/A

**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. Identify and describe social change and how it manifests itself in society.

## **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: An Introduction to Sociology
- Lesson 2: Sociological Research
- Lesson 3: Culture
- Lesson 4: Society and Social Interaction
- Lesson 5: Socialization
- Lesson 6: Groups and Organizations
- Lesson 7: Deviance, Crime, and Social Control
- Lesson 8: Media and Technology
- Lesson 9: Social Stratification in the United States
- Lesson 10: Global Inequality
- Lesson 11: Race and Ethnicity
- Lesson 12: Gender, Sex, and Sexuality
- Lesson 13; Aging and the Elderly
- Lesson 14: Marriage and Family
- Lesson 15: Religion
- Lesson 16: Education
- Lesson 17: Government and Politics
- Lesson 18: Work and the Economy
- Lesson 19: Health and Medicine
- Lesson 20: Population, Urbanization, and the Environment
- Lesson 21: Social Movements and Social Change

## **COURSE ACTIVITIES:**

### Participation

It is expected that students will participate in the class each week by contributing to the threaded discussion questions, completing assignments in a timely fashion, and asking questions of your classmates and the facilitator. Participation will be monitored. Please be respectful of your classmates in these discussions. Derogatory comments, inflammatory remarks, violent references, etc. will not be tolerated.

### Discussion Boards

There are three graded discussion board forums for the class—Lecture Questions (LQ) based on the text, Discussion Questions (DQ) based on the articles found at the Weekly Content link, and the Research paper forum where you will post your topic, bibliography, outline and first paragraph. You should respond to the posts of at least two other students each week. **For example, you could respond to someone's Lecture Question response and to someone's Discussion Question response, you could respond to the Lecture Question responses of two other students, or you could respond to the Discussion Question responses of two other students.** Please note that participation points are only given for the current week.

Your responses are due by 11:59pm on Sunday of each week. There is no length requirement for the LQ's. The length requirement for DQ's is 1,600 characters/letters (that is about two paragraphs).

There is one ungraded discussion board entitled Sam's Speakeasy. Please use this section to post questions you have about how to complete an assignment, something about the course you do not understand, or use it as a place to ask questions in general of each other. If you would like to ask the Instructor a question please put Question for Sam in the subject line. Responses and questions posted here will NOT count toward weekly

participation points.

### Quizzes

There are three quizzes -- each is worth 15 points. Students will read an assigned article and then take a three question quiz that deals with critical thinking, ethical reasoning or intercultural knowledge.

### Service Learning assignment

On the Blackboard course shell click on Special Assignments and then Service Learning Project to find out about the Service Learning Assignment.

### Research paper

For your research paper you will argue for or against any of the following topics:

Abortion, affirmative action, capital punishment, euthanasia, right to privacy, same-sex marriage, school choice, welfare reform

Requirements: The research paper must be typewritten (Times New Roman font, size 12), double-spaced and 4-5 pages. A title page is not necessary. If you have posted the outline and bibliography to the Discussion Board they do not need to be included with your paper. However, if you have added or deleted sources from your bibliography since it was posted please include the revised bibliography with your paper.

You are required to use at least four articles that are in one of the databases available on the KVCC library website. You are not permitted to use articles outside of these databases. For help in accessing the databases or for general searching techniques please call the KVCC library at (207) 453-5004. APA or MLA style may be used for in-text citations and the bibliography. No abstract is required for the research paper. Please see this link for sociology-related journals: [[www.kvccdocs.com/resources-page/Sociology-Journals.html](http://www.kvccdocs.com/resources-page/Sociology-Journals.html)].

You are not permitted to use books for the research paper unless the complete book is in electronic form, in which case put [e-book] next to the citation in your bibliography. A bibliography is a listing of the bibliographic citations of the sources that you will use for the research paper. For each source list the author of the article, title of the article, title of the journal, date, etc.—an example appears below.

### APA format

Authors last name, Authors initials (Year of publication). Article title. Journal title, Volume number (Issue number), page of article. Retrieved from Name of the database.

### Sample citation using APA format

Curley, A. M. (2005). Theories of urban poverty and implications for public housing policy. *Journal of Sociology & Social Welfare*, 32 (2). Retrieved from Academic Search Premier database.

The outline should contain headings for the major points in the paper and subheadings for the minor ones. Headings may be ordered by indentation, numerals and/or letters.

You may use footnotes, endnotes or include (author, date) in the text.

The research paper will be evaluated on content, grammar, and composition. Points will be deducted if you include paper books, Internet sites or sources other than what is found in databases that are part of the library website.

Please submit the paper using the Research Paper link. All other parts of the paper (topic, bibliography, outline, first paragraph) should be submitted to the Research Paper forum on the Discussion Board.

**GRADING:**

- \*Lecture Questions (160 points)
  - \*Discussion Questions (225 points)
  - \*Participation (160 points)
  - \*Quizzes (45 points--each of the three quizzes is worth 15 points)
  - \*Service-Learning proposal quiz (100 points)
  - \*Service-Learning reflection paper (100 points)
  - \*Research paper (160 points)
    - Choice of topic (10 points)
    - Bibliography (10 points)
    - Outline (10 points)
    - First paragraph (20 points)
- Total points = 1,000 points

**GRADING SCALE:**

- A (950-1000 points)
- A- (900-949 points)
- B+ (870-899 points)
- B (830-869 points)
- B- (800-829 points)
- C+ (770-799 points)
- C (730-769 points)
- C- (700-729 points)
- D+ (650-699 points)
- D (600-649 points)
- F (Less than 600 points)

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

The class will not meet in person. All work will be conducted with the aid of e-mail, electronic databases and discussion boards on Blackboard. Attendance is made up of participation in online discussions and the completion of assignments. A student will be considered "in attendance" if he or she has addressed at least one of the required activities during a given week. Attendance will be reported to the college based on this policy. Please also review the online document titled "Course Expectations and Policies"

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:****1. Lecture Questions**

Lecture Questions are worth two points each.

**2. Discussion Questions**

Discussion Questions are worth fifteen points each.

**3. Participation**

Participation is worth twenty points each week. Students will participate in online discussions posted on the Discussion Board, responding to the posts of at least two other students per week.

**4. Quizzes**

Quizzes are worth 15 points each

**5. Service-Learning assignment**

On the Blackboard course shell click on Special Assignments and then Service Learning Project to find out about the Service Learning Assignment.

Service-Learning proposal quiz (100 points)

Service-Learning reflection paper (100 points)

#### 6. Research paper

The Research paper is worth a total of 150 points – Choosing a topic: 10 points; Bibliography: 10 points; Outline: 10 points; First paragraph: 20 points; Final paper: 100 points

Please also review the online document titled “Course Expectations and Policies”

#### **INSTRUCTOR POLICIES:**

Please review the online document titled “Course Expectations and Policies”

#### **OTHER INFORMATION:**

Receiving extra credit and credit for late assignments

I will grade your assignments as receiving zeroes, for administrative purposes, if they are not posted by the deadline of 11:59pm each Sunday. Post late assignments to the Discussion Board. They will be graded the week after they are posted. You will receive the grades that you would normally have received and will not be penalized for lateness. Please note that participation credit may NOT be made up—it is only given for the current week. For extra credit you may revise any DQ or LQ responses for which you did not receive full credit. The deadline for all late assignments and extra credit is the last day of class as noted on the syllabus.

Completing assignments ahead of time

You will not be penalized for completing assignments before they are due. This includes commenting on the responses of other students.

#### **WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

Week 1. January 22 – 28, 2018.

Chapter 1: An Introduction to Sociology

Quiz 1

Go to Sam’s Speakeasy on the Discussion Board and post your biography so that classmates may have a chance to reply to it and become further acquainted with you. I would suggest that you cover these areas in your bio: work, education, family, pets, leisure interests, etc.

Week 2. January 29 – February 4, 2018.

Chapter 2: Sociological Research

Submit the topic you have chosen for your research paper to the Research paper forum on the Discussion Board.

Quiz 2

Week 3. February 5 – 11, 2018.

Chapter 3: Culture

Quiz 3

Week 4. February 12 – 18, 2018.

Chapter 4: Society and Social Interaction

Submit the bibliography for your research paper to the Research paper forum on the Discussion Board.

Week 5. February 19 – 25, 2018.

Chapter 5: Socialization

Week 6. February 26 – March 4, 2018.

Chapter 6: Groups and Organization

Submit the outline for your research paper to the Research paper forum on the Discussion Board

Week 7. March 5 – 11, 2018.

Chapter 7: Deviance, Crime, and Social Control

Spring break: March 12 – 18, 2018

Week 8. March 19 – 25, 2018.

Chapter 9: Social Stratification in the United States

Submit the first paragraph of your research paper to the Research paper forum on the Discussion Board

Week 9. March 26 – April 1, 2018.

Chapter 11: Race and Ethnicity

Week 10. April 2 – 8, 2018.

Chapter 12: Gender, Sex, and Sexuality

Week 11. April 9 – 15, 2018.

Chapter 14: Marriage and Family

Research paper is due. Submit using the Research Paper link.

Week 12. April 16 – 22, 2018.

Chapter 15: Religion; Chapter 16: Education

Week 13. April 23 – 29, 2018.

Chapter 17: Government and Politics; Chapter 18: Work and the Economy

Service Learning assignment is due. Submit using the Special Assignments link.

Week 14. April 30 – May 6, 2018.

Chapter 19: Health and Medicine

Week 15/16. May 7 – 12, 2018.

Chapter 20: Population, Urbanization and the Environment

Chapter 21: Social Movements and Social Change

## **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES (2016/2017)**

Kennebec Valley Community College welcomes students with disabilities, and in accordance with state and federal laws, KVCC is committed to assisting students with disabilities to achieve their educational goals.

### **In order to receive reasonable accommodations for this course:**

- Students must contact the Director of Learning Commons at 453.5084 or [cjohnson2@kvcc.me.edu](mailto:cjohnson2@kvcc.me.edu)

- Students must provide current, appropriate documentation of their disability
- Students must make a timely request for accommodation to the Director of Learning Commons
- Accommodations will not be provided until the faculty member receives a letter requesting accommodations. This letter is created with the director of learning commons and is supported by the documentation of stated disability
- Requests for accommodation(s) must be renewed each semester for each course

**To begin this process, please contact Christy Johnson, Director of Learning Commons at [cjohnson2@kvcc.me.edu](mailto:cjohnson2@kvcc.me.edu) or 207.453.5084**

**NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION (2017):**

Kennebec Valley Community College is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution and employer. KVCC 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 Director of the Learning Commons, Lunder Library, phone: 453-5084

Complaints about College decisions related to disability accommodations or discrimination must be forwarded to the Dean of Student Affairs, Enrollment Services Center, 92 Western Avenue, Fairfield, ME 04937, phone: 453-5822.