

**Sociology 101-001**  
**Introduction to Sociology**

**Contact Information:**

Colin Olson

Fall 2009

Classroom: Kiva 8:00 am-9:15 T/Th

Office: Social Sciences #1094

Office hours: W. 1:00-2:00 and by appointment

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**Course Description:** This course will introduce the student to the basic concepts and theories of sociology and to the methods utilized in sociological research. The course will address how sociological concepts and theories can be utilized to analyze and interpret our social world. We will examine how profoundly our society and the groups to which we belong influence us. Students will be given the opportunity to challenge their “taken-for-granted” or “common sense” understandings about society, social institutions, and social issues. Special attention will be paid to the intimate connection between our personal lives and the larger structural features of social life.

We will look closely at the relationship between social structures and cultural systems, with particular attention paid to the ties we create to build both the social structures and the cultures that influence our lives.

**Course Objectives:**

1. Define culture and explain some important elements of culture, including beliefs, values, norms and language.
2. Define social structure and explain some important elements of social structure, including status, role, and social stratification as represented in inequalities such as class, power, ethnicity and gender.
3. Explain the socialization process as represented in behavioral and symbolic interactionist theories. Also, explain the nature of the debate between nature and nurture approaches to individual development.

**Course Readings:** There is one required text for this class. It is Rodney Stark’s *Sociology 10<sup>th</sup> edition*, although any 101 textbook will work. I have put 3 copies of Stark’s book on reserve at Zimmerman library.

**Course Web Page:** We will use vista.unm.edu in this course. You can refer to it to make sure that your grades are correctly recorded. The grades that are posted to vista are the grades of record for the course. If you do not have a UNM email account you will need to get one.

**Attendance:** Attendance is not required but *strongly* recommended. You are responsible for what goes on in class (information covered, scheduling announcements, in-class writing, etc.) whether you choose to attend or not.

**Class Etiquette:** Please turn off cell phones and pagers. Please be on time to class. If you are 15 minutes late please do not come in. It is disruptive to the flow of the class. Also, if you are disruptive during class time—reading a newspaper or other inappropriate material, talking, text messaging, snoring, getting up and walking around, leaving early, and any other behavior that is disruptive to me or other students—you will be dropped from the class. Our teaching assistant will be watching for this disruptive behavior and will not hesitate to drop you. If for any reason you need to leave early, please let me know at the beginning of class.

**Grading:** All grades are final grades are final, unless a calculation error was made.

You will have 2 exams this semester. Extra credit may be given so be sure to attend all classes. Be sure to take good notes and review them before coming to class. Ask a lot of questions. If you feel uncomfortable asking questions in the classroom setting, PLEASE come and talk to me. If you have something you would like to say but feel uncomfortable asking it during lecture, write it on a piece of paper or in your notes. Then ask me when you feel more comfortable.

Percentage	Letter Grade
98-100	A+
93-97.99	A
90-92.99	A-
87-89.99	B+
83-86.99	B
80-82.99	B-
77-79.99	C+
73-76.99	C
70-72.99	C-
67-69.99	D+
63-66.99	D
60-62.99	D-
Below 60 %	F

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Policy on Academic Dishonesty from *The Pathfinder*:

The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, against any student who is found guilty of academic dishonesty or who otherwise fails to meet the expected standards. Any student judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in course work may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others; or hindering the academic work of other students.

Student Support Services

Any student who, because of a disability, may require some special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary accommodations. It is the responsibility of the student to request accommodation for individual learning needs. For further information, contact the Accessibility Resource Center at 277-3506. Also, please inform me as soon possible of any needs.

**Schedule:** Over the course of the semester we will cover the following material. Both exams will be during regular class time. **Dates and times of readings and exams are subject to change.**

**August 2009**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
23	24	25 Introduction to course	26	27 Chapter 1: Groups and Relationships	28	29
30	31					

### September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Chapter 1: Groups and Relationships	2	3 Chapter 1: Groups and Relationships	4	5
6	7 <b>Labor Day</b>	8 Chapter 2: Concepts of Social & Cultural theories	9	10 Chapter 2: Concepts of Social & Cultural theories	11	12
13	14	15 Chapter 2: Concepts of Social & Cultural theories	16	17 Chapter 2: Concepts of Social & Cultural theories	18	19
20	21	22 Chapter 2: Concepts of Social & Cultural theories	23	24 Chapter 3: Microsociology	25	26
27	28	29 Chapter 3: Microsociology	30			

### October 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Chapter 4: Macrosociology	2	3
4	5	6 Chapter 4: Macrosociology	7	8 Review for Exam 1	9	10
11	12	<b>Exam 1</b>	14	15 Fall Break—No classes	16	17
18	19	20 Chapter 5 & 6 Socialization & Social Roles	21	22 Chapter 5 & 6 Socialization & Social Roles	23	24
25	26	27 Chapter 5 and 6 Socialization and Social Roles	28	29 Chapter 5 and 6 Socialization and Social Roles	30	31

**November 2009**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Chapter 7: Crime and Deviance	4	5 Chapter 7: Crime and Deviance	6	7
8	9	10 Watch Fight Club	11	12 Watch Fight Club	13	14
15	16	17 White-Collar Crime	18	19 Watch The Corporation	20	21
22	23	24 Watch The Corporation	25	26 Thanksgiving holiday—No class	27	28
29	30					

**December 2009**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Discuss The Corporation	2	3 Catch up	4	5
6	7	8 Review for Exam 2	9	10 <b>Exam 2</b>	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		