GROSSMONT COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

Curriculum Committee Approval: 04/20/2021

GCCCD Governing Board Approval: 05/18/2021

SOCIOLOGY 120 – INTRODUCTORY SOCIOLOGY

1. Course Number Course Title Semester Units

SOC 120 Introductory Sociology 3

Semester Hours

3 hours lecture: 48-54 hours 96-108 outside-of-class hours 144-162 total hours

2. Course Prerequisites

None

Corequisite

None

Recommended Preparation

None

3. Catalog Description

Introduction to major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and methods in the study of society. Topics include social structure, culture, social control, deviance, social stratification, globalization, ethnic and racial relations, gender, sexuality, complex organizations, social institutions, the material and symbolic dimensions of human social interactions, socialization, the social construction of the self and social change.

4. Course Objectives

The student will:

a. Identify, compare and contrast several sociological theoretical perspectives.

b. Identify and explain the principles of scientific research methodology.

c. Appraise the range of cultural variability in human societies.

d. Analyze the social class structure of modern and pre-modern societies.

e. Review and synthesize the scientific literature on racial and ethnic relations.

f. Analyze gender from several sociological perspectives.

g. Explain global stratification and globalization using sociological theories.

h. Describe the general structure, functions and conflicts within and between major social institutions.

i. Explain the social construction of the self, the process of socialization and the dynamics of social control and deviance.

j. Develop critical thinking and writing skills that demonstrate the ability to understand and analyze social phenomena.

5. Instructional Facilities

Standard Classroom

6. Special Materials Required of Student

None

7. Course Content

1. Sociology and the social sciences.
2. Social theory*.*
3. Scientific research methods.
4. Societies, social structure and culture.
5. Social classes and social stratification.
6. Globalization and economic inequality.
7. Racial and ethnic relations.
8. Gender, sex and sexuality.
9. Social Institutions: economy, government, family, religion, education, and health care system.
10. Population, urbanization and the environment.
11. Socialization and the social construction of the self.
12. Social interaction, group behavior, organizations and mass communication.
13. Social control, deviance, policing and the criminal justice system.
14. Social movements and social change.

8. Method of Instruction

Lecture

Group discussion

1. Cooperative learning structured exercises
2. Films, tapes, slides, multimedia presentations, guest speakers
3. Discussion of library materials and textbook readings
4. Discussion of written assignments

9. Methods of Evaluating Student Performance

A grading system will be established by the instructor and implemented uniformly. Grades will be based on student proficiency in the subject matter determined by multiple measurements for evaluation, at least one of which must be a written essay. Evaluation methods may include:

* 1. One or more midterm exams which may include both objective and essay questions.
  2. A comprehensive written final exam which may include both objective and essay questions.
  3. Small-group or individual oral presentations. Example: Interview a person that has experienced
  4. homelessness. Report to the class the factors that lead that specific individual to be homeless.
  5. Written assignments Example: Write three paragraphs answering the following questions:

1) Construct a definition of the terms "white privilege" and "white supremacy. “

2) Provide an example of each, if different.

3) Do white privilege and/or white supremacy shape the lives of Americans today? How?

* 1. Research/term paper: may include analyzing a topic covered in class, such as the experiences of discrimination within the criminal justice system, for different class, gender racial and ethnic groups in the U.S. Students will be required to conduct a library search of empirical research-based sources to support their research topic.
  2. Students are expected to write a minimum of 2,500 words as part of the writing requirement in the course.

10. Outside Class Assignments

1. Weekly required readings before class meetings.
2. Written assignments may include a research paper where students analyze a topic presented in class, such as the role social institutions play in perpetuating gender, class or racial inequality. The student must review peer-reviewed research-based sources.
3. Other written assignments: may include journals or reflection papers in which students are asked to examine particular lectures, discussions, films, or class presentation/guest speaker.
4. Interviews with peers, community members and/or professionals in the field.
5. Library, Internet, and field research projects on topics such as income inequality in today’s USA, or housing and educational racial segregation in the USA, or contrasting the gendered wage gap in different post-industrial societies, or poverty among women in less developed nations, or contrasting how gender shapes the health care systems in several societies.

11. Representative Texts

a. Representative Text(s):

1) Andersen, Margaret L. and Howard F. Taylor. *Sociology: The Essentials*. 10th edition. Belmont, CA. Wadsworth. 2020.

2) Macionis, John. *Sociology*. 17th edition. Upper Saddle River, NJ. Pearson, 2018.

1. Supplementary texts and workbooks:

None

Addendum: Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, our students will be able to do the following:

* 1. Apply the major theoretical perspectives in sociology to information and real experiences.
  2. Identify, explain and apply the principles of social scientific research methodology.
  3. Appraise the range of cultural variability in human societies.
  4. Explain sociologically inequalities of class, race, ethnicity, gender, and age in modern and pre-modern societies.