



Shanghai Jiao Tong University

SO900: Introduction to Sociology

Instructor:	Qingli Meng	Email:	ztmeng99@yahoo.com
Instructor's Home Institution:	University of Northern Iowa	Office:	TBD
Office Hours:	TBD		
Term:	July 15-August 9, 2019	Credits:	4 units
Classroom:	TBD	Teaching Assistant(s):	TBD
Class Hours:	Monday through Friday, 120 mins per teaching day		
Discussion Sessions:	2 hours each week, conducted by teaching assistant(s)		
Total Contact Hours:	66 contact hours (1 contact hour = 45 mins, 3000 mins in total)		
Required Texts (with ISBN):	Jeanne H. Ballantine, Keith A. Roberts, and Kathleen Odell Korgen. 2019. Our Social World: Introduction to Sociology, 7 th Edition. SAGE. ISBN: 978-1-5443-3353-3		
Prerequisite:	Competent in English (Oral and Written)		



Course Overview:

The objective of this course is to provide you with basic knowledge and understanding of concepts and content areas in the discipline of sociology. The course materials focus on understanding basic social processes, and how to apply sociological concepts to issues and topics concerning you and your relationships within various human groups anywhere in the world. This course explores sociological approaches to the study of society. It develops your ability to think critically about issues and topics affecting societies around the world, that is, the application of sociological perspectives to various sectors of social life and patterns of social relations as they vary by social location. Thinking critically means (a) understanding the strengths and weaknesses of different and/or opposing points of view (b) no matter how strongly you believe that you are right and everyone else is wrong.

Learning Outcomes / Course Goals

Goals:

Students understand the systematic study of human behavior and cognition; the structure of human societies, cultures, and institutions; and the processes by which individuals, groups, and societies interact, communicate, and use human, natural, and economic resources.

Expected Learning Outcomes:

1. Identify major sociological theories, and compare and contrast their key concepts and assumptions.
2. Apply sociological theories to explain social phenomena.
3. Apply sociological concepts and principles to the study of organizations and specific examples of behavior and interaction.
4. Identify basic methods used in building sociological knowledge.
5. Explain the formation and durability of political, economic, and social organizing principles and their differences and similarities across contexts.
6. Assess the nature and values of organizations and politics and their importance in social problem solving and policy making.
7. Analyze quantitative and qualitative data to test hypotheses or address research questions.
8. Evaluate an argument based on its thesis, assumptions and supporting evidence.

Grading Policy



Chapter Test	20%
Class Discussion	10%
Exams	70%

Grading Scale is as follows:

Number grade	Letter grade	GPA
90-100	A	4
85-89	A-	3.7
80-84	B+	3.3
75-79	B	3
70-74	B-	2.7
67-69	C+	2.3
65-66	C	2
62-64	C-	1.7
60-61	D	1
≤59	F (Failure)	0



Class Schedule (Subject to Change)

Date	Day	Lecture/Content/Topics/...	Readings/Chapter/...
July 15 Monday	1	Sociology: A Unique Way to View the World	<i>Chapter 1 Page 1 – 25</i>
July 16 Tuesday	2	Examining the Social World: How Do We Know?	<i>Chapter 2 Page 26-53</i>
July 17 Wednesday	3	Society and Culture: Hardware and Software of Our Social World	<i>Chapter 3 Page 55-89</i>
July 18 Thursday	4	Socialization : Becoming Human and Humane	<i>Chapter 4 Page 90-117</i>
July 19 Friday	5	Interaction, Groups, and Organizations: Connections That Work Exam 1 Review	<i>Chapter 5 Page 118-141</i>
July 22 Monday	6	Exam 1	
July 23 Tuesday	7	Deviance and Social Control: Sickos, Freaks, and Folks Like Us	<i>Chapter 6 Page 142-177</i>
July 24 Wednesday	8	Stratification: Rich and Famous-or Rags and Famine?	<i>Chapter 7 Page 180-214</i>
July 25 Thursday	9	Race and Ethnic Group Stratification: Beyond “Us” and “Them”	<i>Chapter 8 Page 216-250</i>
July 26 Friday	10	Gender Stratification: She/He-Who Goes First? Exam 2 Review	<i>Chapter 9 Page 252-285</i>
July 29	11	Exam 2	



Monday			
July 30 Tuesday	12	Family: Partner Taking, People Making, and Contract Breaking	<i>Chapter 10 Page 292-319</i>
July 31 Wednesday	13	Education: What Are We Learning	<i>Chapter 11 Page 320-349</i>
August 1 Thursday	14	Religion: The Social Meaning of Sacred Meaning	<i>Chapter 12 Page 350-384</i>
August 2 Friday	15	Politics and Economics: Probing Power, Dissecting Distribution Exam 3 Review	<i>Chapter 13 Page 386-418</i>
August 5 Monday	16	Exam 3	
August 6 Tuesday	17	Health Care: Anatomy of Health and Illness	<i>Chapter 14 Page 420-452</i>
August 7 Wednesday	18	Environmental Sociology: Population, Urbanization, and Climate Change	<i>Chapter 15 Page 456-490</i>
August 8 Thursday	19	Process of Change: We Can Make a Difference! Final Exam Review	<i>Chapter 16 Page 492-522</i>
August 9 Friday	20	Final Exam	