

## INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

Course Code: SOC1011

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to the scientific study of human social life, groups and societies. Students learn and apply the concepts commonly used by sociologists in framing their understanding of institutions, cultures, networks, organizations, and social relations in general. Students thus acquire the conceptual tools that enable them to give social context to individual human behavior, i.e., “to understand the subtle yet complex ways in which our individual lives reflect the contents of our social experience,” as our text authors put it. This really is the overarching goal of sociology. Major topics include sociological theory and method; culture and society; stratification, class, and inequality; gender inequality; ethnicity and race; families; education and religion; and political and economic life. In addition, these topics are all presented within the broader context of *globalization*, a many-faceted process which we can briefly define as the growth of world interdependence.

Class activities and discussions will regularly be supplemented with short film clips selected from award-winning documentaries; these clips are compiled on the Norton Sociology DVD, *Sociology in Practice*.

### REQUIRED TEXTS AND COURSE MATERIALS

**Textbook:** *Essentials of Sociology* (6<sup>th</sup> edition), Anthony Giddens et al., W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., New York, NY, Copyright 2017. (Textbook to be regularly supplemented with selected readings and related media.)

### TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS AND SKILLS

There are minimum technical recommendations for participating in online classes at Landmark College:

#### *Technical Requirements*

A productivity suite such as Microsoft Office, Microsoft Office 365, Google Workspace (formerly G-Suite), or Open Office is recommended and may be required for some Landmark College Online courses. Students also need the ability to access Landmark College’s online course content through a web browser running on a desktop or laptop computer with a webcam. An audio headset is recommended, but not required. All popular browsers are supported, but Landmark College recommends Chrome or Firefox.

Landmark College Online Dual Enrollment courses are optimally experienced through a full-featured web browser running on a desktop or laptop computer running Microsoft Windows or Apple Mac OS. Mobile phones and tablets may not be adequate or appropriate for completing certain aspects of your course work. However, when your laptop or desktop equipment is not available you can still access your courses through a mobile web browser such as Chrome or Safari. This allows you to keep up with your assignments, calendar, to-do list, and Inbox even when traveling. (The mobile app called "Canvas Student" is not compatible with our courses and should be avoided.)

If students access courses from school networks that use content filtering systems, which block access to public sites such as YouTube and Vimeo, students may have issues completing their assignments.

#### *Skills for Success*

To succeed in an online class, you should have the ability to:

- Navigate the WWW, including downloading and reading files from web sites;
- Download and install software or plug-ins such as Adobe Reader or Flash;

- Use the Learning Management System (Canvas) and be able to upload videos, files, and other materials as necessary. More about Canvas can be found in the Canvas Overview course located on your dashboard;
- Save files in commonly used word processing formats (.doc, .docx, .rtf);
- Copy and paste text and other items on a computer;
- Save and retrieve documents and files on your computer; and
- Locate information on the internet using search engines.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES & GOALS

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

- use the terminology, concepts, and theories of sociology to frame and understand real world phenomena
- demonstrate knowledge of the attributes, similarities, and differences of fundamental perspectives within sociology
- articulate how the scientific method is used in sociology and how it can be applied to ask key researchable questions
- describe the steps necessary in conducting research
- use personal experience, observation, reflection, and sociological knowledge to make inferences about course content
- generate examples that illustrate how the limits of human intuition and biases can compromise rational, reasonable thinking within the discipline of sociology
- display an understanding of how what people often take for granted—e.g., what they may think is good, bad, or inevitable—is strongly influenced by social and historical forces

## COURSE GRADING

### Assessment

Preparation & Participation 20%

Chapter Quizzes 25%

Discussion Boards 30%

Reflection Papers 15%

Presentation 10%

Total: 100%

## LANDMARK COLLEGE GRADING SCALE

Grade Range	Points	Definition
A 93-100	4.0	Excellent; distinguished achievement in all phases
A- 90-92	3.7	
B+ 87-89	3.3	Very good; high level of achievement in some phases
B 83-86	3.0	
B- 80-82	2.7	
C+ 77-79	2.3	Good; basic understanding of subject has been demonstrated
C 73-76	2.0	
C- 70-72	1.7	
D+ 67-69	1.3	Fair; minimal performance
D 63-66	1.0	
D- 60-62	0.7	
F 59 or below	0.0	

## HOMEWORK POLICY

In the computer industry, late projects are not accepted without some prior agreement with the client as well as some compensation for not meeting the deadline. In the real world, if you are late and don't communicate this with the client, you could get sued.

Therefore, late projects will not be accepted unless you communicate with me, and get approval, 48 hours in advance of the due date. Please note: this may not be accepted if the reason for the project being late is not valid. If the proposal is accepted, we will determine a reasonable new due date as well as the penalty that will be applied.

## ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

"Given the unique mission of Landmark College, many academic accommodations that might be customary or required at traditional institutions would not be appropriate at Landmark, because they would alter the College's academic program."

If you need individual accommodations to meet course objectives, please make an appointment with your professor to discuss your needs within the two weeks of the semester.

TO VIEW THE FULL ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY FOR LANDMARK COLLEGE PLEASE VISIT: [HTTPS://WWW.LANDMARK.EDU/STUDENT-LIFE/OUR-COMMUNITY/REQUEST-FOR-ACCOMMODATIONS](https://www.landmark.edu/student-life/our-community/request-for-accommodations).