

SOC 204 - Introduction to Sociology (3 CR) Winter 2021 Syllabus

Instructor: Rob Molinar

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Virtual/Zoom Office Hours: = Mondays (2:00–3:30); Tuesdays (9:00–9:45)

Web: Moodle Shell + McGraw-Hill Connect Tools

NOTE: *This course is online-remote or asynchronous, meaning there are no set times required to show up to class, either in-person OR online.* However, office hours provide the ability to meet during regular times, and in some cases, by appointment.

Course Description, from Course Catalog:

We focus on the development and application of sociological concepts and perspectives concerning human groups. This includes attention to concepts like socialization, culture, organization, stratification and societies. We will also consider theories and research methodology. It is strongly recommended that students possess college-level reading and writing skills when taking this course.

Learning Objectives, from Course Catalog:

1. Demonstrate a sociological understanding of historical and cultural contexts of social events.
2. Describe core sociological theories and processes
3. Find applications for sociological theories and concepts in your own lives.
4. Use the scientific method to examine our social world.
5. Demonstrate a critical perspective of social conditions.

The Textbook (referred to in our **course calendar** below as *C&H*)

Croteau, David, and William Hoynes. 2020. *Experience Sociology* (4th Ed). New York: McGraw-Hill. ISBN: 9781260482430.

Direct Digital Access (DDA), & How to Access Your eBook:

Access our book near the top of our Moodle Home Page by clicking the link called “eBook Experience Sociology (4th Ed): McGraw Hill = Publisher”. You should now be at the McGraw-Hill Connect login screen. Register for Connect, or if already registered, use email and password to sign in. You will see a picture of our textbook cover. **BELOW THAT click the CONNECT button. Find our textbook icon again and click on it.** This should open up the textbook. After clicking CONNECT above, this is also the place where you will see various Assignments, including the Smartbook quizzes for each chapter that you are required to take. **NOTE:** Also in Assignments, at the top you will see “Connect Orientation Videos”. There are five videos, all of them short, which will help you navigate Connect.

If you require alternate means to access your course materials based on accessibility concerns, please contact LBCC's Center for Accessibility Resources at <https://linnbenton.edu/cfar>

GRADING:**

****NOTE: There are 100 points total in this class. Each point is worth 1 percent of your overall grade. Also, I plan to grade assignments within one week after the due date. I will let you know in cases when I cannot meet that deadline.**

Scale **A= 90-100 %**
 B= 80-89 %
 C= 70-79 %
 D= 60-69%
 F= 59% or below

WEIGHT OF GRADING:

- Smartbook 2.0: Weekly Chapter Quizzes + Another Quiz.....	10%
- Reflection or Application Writings / Assignments (Eight @ 5-6% each)....	45%
- Exams (First: 20%; Second: 25%).....	45%
TOTAL	100%

ASSIGNMENTS BREAKDOWN – Also see Course Calendar on pp. 4-6.

Smartbook 2.0 in McGraw-Hill Connect - Due Thursdays. Earn one point or % for each Smartbook Assignment / interactive quiz that you complete on the **McGraw-Hill Connect** site (use **Chrome** or **Firefox** when you access Connect). Nine points are for Smartbook quizzes that cover C&H chapters 1 through 9. One more point (10 points total) is earned by completing a short quiz I create on either the Collins reading during Week 6 or another quiz to be announced. You earn maximum points for completing all of the Smartbook quizzes, rather than on how “well” you do. You can open the assignments on January 4 and start working on them. Each assignment has a due date shown in Connect, which will also be listed in Moodle.

Reflection or Application Writings / Activities – Due Fridays. There are eight of these—almost one for every chapter—each worth between 5-6% of your overall grade. You will know the specifics of each assignment at least five days in advance. I pose a question or set of questions and you answer them by writing **about one page, single-spaced**. Some of these also involve posting your answers in a discussion forum and responding to two other posts. One assignment is a group activity in Week 6 (“Jigsaw”), where each group will summarize one part of an outside reading, and “present” it for the class, creating a collective understanding of that reading.

Exams – Both are timed. The first exam during Week 5 is Multiple-Choice (MC) only, with 40-60 questions. It is to be taken between Feb. 3 and Feb. 6. Our second exam, which is not cumulative and serves as your final, consists of 40 MC questions and includes a couple of essays. It is to be taken between March 15 and March 18. Study guides will be given one week ahead of time in order to focus your preparation.

IDEAL for SUCCESS: Having success in this class comes with setting aside approximately six hours for every week of class, which means regulating our time. I do not assume that comes easy for everyone, and having access to resources is real. My expectation, still, is that you will engage as much as possible in this course. Engagement not only means completing assignments and interacting with fellow classmates and me, but communicating where you are struggling as soon as possible or letting me know how the course is (or is not) going for you.

Expectations of Students / Online Classroom Environment:

(1) Plan to *finish all assigned reading and Smartbook interactive quizzes for each week by or before Thursday nights.*

(2) *Try to understand the material, but you do not need to comprehend “everything”.*

Trust your unique insights and give the reading a chance for your own interpretation. Keep notes of your reactions and write down questions to ask as you read (ask me, post in Q&A Forum, etc.). In addition to old-fashioned pen and paper, you can highlight and create notes in your eBook. To help make sense of the material, utilize lectures, the process of doing your assignments, and each other as resources. I will post weekly video lectures, sometimes in Parts I and II.

(3) *Your experiences and perspectives are inherently valuable,* and as resources for collective learning. In places like occasional discussion forums, share what you can. Sharing personal experiences can be more intense for some people than others. Practice being an active learner; ask for what you need. This class is about individual participation, yet it can also be a shared experience of inquiry.

(4) *On Time or Late Assignments:* I expect you to turn in assignments by due dates shown on this syllabus and in Moodle, which should match. However, I have tried to structure some flexibility with deadlines (e.g. by offering a range of days in which to take the exams). If you miss the time range for the exam OR are **over three days late** on a graded assignment, you could earn a zero or very low grade. Unforeseen or harsh circumstances will be taken into consideration. Communicate with me as early as possible if an assignment will be late.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Students at Linn-Benton Community College are responsible for pursuing their studies with honesty and fairness, and in a manner that respects the rights and dignity of others. Students must not engage in acts of dishonesty or cheating. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, such acts as forgery, changing or misuse of college documents and records of identification, cheating, plagiarism, aiding or abetting cheating or plagiarism, knowingly furnishing false information to the college or copying college software. A

student who violates academic honesty will be subject to disciplinary action according to Students Rights and Responsibilities.

ACCOMMODATIONS / ABILITIES: Please speak with me during the first week of class, if possible, if you may need accommodations due to documented* disabilities, have medical information that I should be aware of, or need special arrangements in an emergency. If you believe you might need accommodations but are not yet registered with the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR), please visit the CFAR website at www.linnbenton.edu/cfar for steps on how to apply for services or call 541-917-4789.

*Linn-Benton CC takes a “social model” approach to disability, which for you means that a disability is “documented” if you provide a detailed self-report of what barrier(s) you are feeling and how long this has gone on.

OTHER HELPFUL STUDENT RESOURCES (All available remotely): Besides your instructor, some helpful resources offered to help students succeed are: Writing Support, Math Support, Academic Coaching, First Resort, the Student Help Desk, Advising Center and Counseling Services, Library Services, and the International Student Office. Please reach out if you are struggling in this or any of your classes.

NO SHOW DROP: I can drop students who do not attend or contact me by the start of the second-class session (for our purposes, by the evening of Jan. 6th). If you are dropped, you automatically receive an e-mail with information about this change to your schedule. If a student is here on a visa or receiving veteran assistance or financial aid, then those offices will be notified as well.

COURSE CALENDAR

Your Moodle Shell follows this calendar as well. **Minor changes** to this syllabus, such as required reading, **will be communicated through Moodle.**

NOTE: *C&H* refers to readings in our textbook. We cover the first 9 chapters in SOC 204, and SOC 205 uses the same textbook for Chapters 10 through 17. Still, I will draw from relevant topics or information covered in C&H chapters on Race and Ethnicity (10) and Gender and Sexuality (11). Any outside reading in this calendar is shown with the author’s name and short title. These readings will be available in your Moodle Shell during the week in which they appear.

Jan. 6 at 6:00 p.m. = I can drop students for “No Show”

WEEK 1: Jan. 4 – 10:

Read: C&H Chapter 1, “Sociology in a Changing World”.

Due (Jan. 7 by 11:59 p.m.): Smartbook Ch. 1 Quiz.

Due (Jan. 8 by 11:59 p.m.): **Reflection Assignment #1.** “Sociological Imagination” -- Private Troubles and Public Issues (*See Moodle for specifics*)

Jan. 11 at 11:59 p.m.= Last day to add/drop this course.

WEEK 2: Jan. 11 – 17:

Read: C&H Chapter 2, “Understanding the Research Process.”

Due (Jan. 14): Smartbook Ch. 2 Quiz.

Due (Jan. 15): **Reflection Assignment #2.** On Applying Theory, or the Connection between Theory and Research.

Jan. 18 = School closed / MLK Jr. Birthday

WEEK 3: Jan. 18 – 24:

Read: C&H Chapter 3, “Culture”

Due (Jan. 21): Smartbook Ch. 3 Quiz.

Due (Jan. 22) **Reflection Assignment #3:** Specifics will be in Moodle.

Jan. 25 = First Exam Study Guide given

WEEK 4: Jan. 25 – 31:

Read: C&H Chapter 4, “Social Structure”

Due (Jan. 28): Smartbook Ch. 4 Quiz.

Due (Jan. 29) **Reflection Assignment #4:** Question for Discussion Forum **OR** Answer Critical Thinking Questions Two and Three on p .96.

WEEK 5: Feb. 1 – 7:

No Reading – Study for Exam. However...

Due (Feb. 4): Instructor’s mini-quiz

FIRST EXAM -- TIMED (to be taken between Feb. 3 and Feb. 6)

WEEK 6: Feb. 8 -14:

Read: C&H Chapter 5, “Power”

Read: P.H. Collins piece on Intersectionality.

Due (Feb. 11): Smartbook Ch. 5 Quiz.

Due (Feb. 12) **Reflection Assignment #5** (Jigsaw Activity, in Groups)

Feb. 15 = School closed for President’s Day
Sun. Feb. 21 = Last day to withdraw with “W”

WEEK 7: Feb 15 – 21:

Read: C&H Chapter 6, “Socialization”. (*Possible Outside Reading, Adler & Adler*)

Due (Feb. 18): Smartbook Ch. 6 Quiz.

Due (Feb. 19) **Reflection Assignment #6:** Specifics will be in Moodle.

WEEK 8: Feb. 22 - 28

Read: C&H Chapter 7, “Interaction, Groups, and Organizations”

Due (Feb. 25): Smartbook Ch. 7 Quiz.

Due (Feb. 26) Reflection Assignment #7: Applying Symbolic Interactionist Theory / Discussion Forum on 2 questions from “Through A Sociological Lens” box (p. 157).

WEEK 9: Mar. 1 - 7

Read: C&H Ch. 8, “Deviance and Social Control.”

Due (Mar. 4): Smartbook Ch. 8 Quiz.

Due (Mar. 5) Reflection Assignment #8: Specifics will be in Moodle.

March 8 = Second/Final Exam Study Guide given

WEEK 10: Mar. 8 - 14

Read: C&H Chapter 9, “Class and Global Inequality”

Due (Mar. 11): Smartbook Ch. 9 Quiz.

FINALS WEEK: Mar. 15 – 19 (Last Day of Term)

Timed MC Exam + Essays: (to be taken between Mar. 15 and Mar. 18)