

**SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology. Section 1
Three Credit Hours.**

Fall, 2023

**Department of Sociology and Social Work
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point**

Dr. Kay Mann

Online Asynchronous

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Office Hours: Office Hours: Monday-Wednesday, 2:00-3:00; Tuesday, 2:30-3:30;
and by appointment. Zoom meetings are possible as well.

Required book: *Introduction to Sociology*, Conerly, et al.

<https://openstax.org/details/books/introduction-sociology-3e>

Additional readings provided by instructor.

Last day to add or drop course without a "W": September 14.

Last day to withdraw from a class: November 10.

Assignments

40%: Essays

30%: Discussion Boards

30%: Quizzes (7@ 5% Lowest quiz grade not calculated in final grade).

* Quiz with lowest score not counted as part of final grade.

Grading Scale

A 93-100

A- 90-92

B+ 87-89

B 83-86

B- 80-82

C+ 77-79

C 73-76

C- 70-72

D+ 67-69

D 60-66

F 59 & below

Course description: Introduction to Sociology Context is designed to help students understand what twentieth century sociologist C. Wright Mills called the "sociological imagination." A sociological imagination allows us to think beyond ourselves and place ourselves in a larger ever-changing globalized world.

Online Format

Our course is asynchronous. We'll learn about sociology through reading, discussion and writing. The primary source of information is our textbook which is written by a team of sociologists each specializing in a different sub area. In fact, we'll see how sociology as an academic discipline is made up of sub disciplines. You'll see this in the structure of our syllabus and the table of contents (not identical) of the textbook. The book was chosen for its clear presentation of sociological concepts and theories. Discussion boards are designed to advance our understanding of course material through exchange of ideas and perspectives with class peers. A series of quizzes are designed to focus attention on concepts. Essays of various lengths give us an opportunity to apply concepts and theories. There are no "tests."

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Recognize sociology as a social science 2. Explain the sociological perspective 3. Identify the major concepts used by sociologists to investigate human behaviors and social phenomena, including theory, social interaction, social organization, and social inequality 4. Examine how personal life chances and choices are influenced by the larger social context including social, cultural, and/or political institutions 5. Recognize and appreciate the diversity of human groupings based on race/ethnicity, gender, class, national origin, religion, family status, etc. 6. Describe the various kinds of inequality and marginalization in human society; 7. Develop critical thinking skills to explain and predict various aspects of social phenomena.

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point occupies lands of Ho—Chunk and Menominee land and sacred land of all indigenous peoples.

Course Policies

Late papers may be penalized 3% of assignment grade per day late.

Disability Services

Consistent with the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, section 504, and the ADA act of 1990, any person enrolling in this course who may require alternative instructional and/or evaluative procedures due to a handicapping condition should feel free to contact Disability Services and Assistive Technology at 715-346-3365 in Room 609 Learning Resource Center at 900 Reserve Street. Staff will work to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. Please let me know if I can assist in any way.

Academic Integrity

All students are subject to university regulations concerning cheating and plagiarism. To ensure that the highest level of academic and personal integrity is upheld, it is important that you understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UWSP (see Academic Integrity: A Guide for Students). For a complete overview of UWSP academic standards and disciplinary procedures, please visit: the following website: <http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Academic-Misconduct.aspx>

Mandatory Reporting

We are deeply committed to finding ways to effectively prevent, reduce and respond to discrimination and harassment, including sexual misconduct and interpersonal violence. By asking all employees to report, we will be able to respond more effectively when a member of our community experiences such misconduct.

Themes, Readings, Due Dates *

Week I: Introduction: What is Sociology?

Readings: Conerly, chapter 1,4.

Discussion Board #1: Introduce yourself!

Week II: What is Sociology, cont'd; Basic Sociological Concepts, Theory, Research.

Readings: Conerly, chapter 2, 5.

Discussion Board #2: Sociology and Social Issues Today

Week III: Culture.

Readings: Conerly, chapter 3; *The Nacirema*, Horace Miner. On Canvas or download this essay at: <https://www.sfu.ca/~palys/Miner-1956-BodyRitualAmongTheNacirema.pdf>

Discussion Board #3 Gallery Walk on Culture.

Quiz #1. Due September 22.

Week IV: Groups, Organizations, Work

Readings: Conerly, chapter 6, On Canvas: excerpts from *McDonaldization*, by George Ritzer.

Movie excerpt from Charlie Chaplin and Lucy.

Discussion Board #4: Due. September 27. What does the great refusal to return to office etc. mean?

Paper 1 Due October 1: Nacirema and Social Theory

Week V: Social Inequality and Power

Readings: Conerly, chapter 9; C. Wright Mills, "The Sociology of Stratification," on canvas.

Weber and Marx on social class Compare and contrast?

Quiz #2. Friday, October 6.

Paper #2 Due, October 8. Bugs: Are they part of your diet?

Week VI: Social and Global Inequality

Readings: Conerly, chapter 10, On Canvas; Documentary: *Nike Sweatshops: Behind the Swoosh.*

Quiz #3. Friday, October 13.

Paper #3. October 15: Do bureaucracies accomplish their goals?

Week VII: The Sociology of Race and Ethnicity.

Readings: Conerly, chapter 11.

Essay # 4 Due Wednesday, October 8: How does the Nike documentary reflect globalization and global inequalities?

Quiz, #4. Friday, October 20.

Paper #4. Due Sunday, October 22. Nike movie analysis.

Week VIII:

The Sociology of Race and Ethnicity cont'd.

Readings: "My Invisible Backpack" by Peggy McIntosh, On Canvas; selections from Critical Race Theory. On Canvas.

Week IX: The Sociology of Gender

Readings: Conerly, Chapter 12.

Quiz # 5. Due, Friday, November 3.

Discussion #5 Due November 3: Gallery Walk on Gender.

Week X: The Sociology of Gender, cont'd.

Paper # 5. Gender and Theory. Due, Sunday, November 5.

Week XI: The Sociology of Health and Health Care

Readings: Conerly, chapter 19.

Film: *Sicko*

Readings: on Canvas

Week XII: The Sociology of Health and Health Care cont'd

Readings: "Class and Race Inequality, Health and COVID-19" by Kay Mann:

<https://newpol.org/class-and-race-inequality-health-and-covid-19/>

Quiz #6. Friday, November 19.

Week XIII: Social Change and Social Movements

Readings: Conerly, chapter 21

Week XIV: Social Change and Social Movements, continued. Environmental Sociology

Paper #6. Due Sunday, December 3. Social Movements

Week XV: Environmental Sociology, cont'd; Review.

Readings: Conerly, chapter 20.

Discussion #6. December 15. Individual and Social Solutions to Climate Change

Quiz #7. Friday, December 15.

***All due dates subject to change as needed.**