



COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS  
AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
*Finakpo' Session A 2024*

## SO101-01 INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

### ONLINE CLASS

The class is an online, asynchronous class. [Login to Moodle](#) to access course resources. For assistance with Moodle, contact [moodlehelp@triton.uog.edu](mailto:moodlehelp@triton.uog.edu).

### PROFESSOR'S INFORMATION

Dr. Debra T. Cabrera

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Office Hours: By appointment over Zoom.

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Welcome to Introduction to Sociology, SO101! This course is a study of human society, its diversity, its nature, structure, and processes including foundations of culture, social interaction, social controls, social change and cross-cultural relations. Special emphasis is given to social processes in Micronesia and the Western Pacific.

The instructional goals of the course are to introduce students to: 1) the development of sociology as the study of social life and the social causes and consequences of human behavior; 2) different perspectives on social order; 3) nature and modes of sociological research; 4) the characteristics and dimensions of culture, and the impact of cultural expectations on social order; 5) the process of socialization in childhood and adulthood; 6) individual and collective impression management and mismanagement; 7) characteristics and dilemmas of intimate social relationships, particularly familial relationships; 8) concepts of crime and deviance, related theories, and the nature and extent of crimes; 9) the characteristics of organizations and institutions in the social structure, and the interactions between social structure and individual interests; 10) how social inequality is expressed and inter-related in everyday life, notably through social stratification based on class, race, ethnicity, and gender; 11) the major social institutions of family, education, economy, politics and law, religion, health care, military, and mass media; 12) the global and local sources, processes, and impacts of social change; and 13) the application of critical thinking skills to local, regional and global issues as they relate to course content.

The University of Guam's Sociology Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) are aligned with UOG's Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILOs). This table describes sociology's PLOs and links them to SO101's Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs), which are also described. It also lists assessment tools.

Student Learning Outcomes	Program Learning Outcomes	Institutional Learning Outcomes	Assessment
1. Demonstrate knowledge of a wide range of social processes using theories and concepts of sociology.	PLO #1 Apply sociological principles and concepts to the social world.	<p>Understanding and Appreciation of Culturally Diverse People, Ideas and Values in a Democratic Context.</p> <p>An Appreciation of the Arts and Sciences.</p> <p>An Interest in Personal Development and Lifelong Learning.</p>	<p>Essays</p> <p>Writing Assignments</p> <p>Course Project</p> <p>Final Exam</p>
2. Demonstrate knowledge of social theory as it relates to social processes, systems, and problems.	PLO #2 Evaluate the effectiveness of sociological theories in explaining aspects of the social world.	<p>Mastery of Critical Thinking and Problem Solving.</p> <p>Understanding and Appreciation of Culturally Diverse People, Ideas and Values in a Democratic Context.</p> <p>An Appreciation of the Arts and Sciences.</p>	<p>Essays</p> <p>Writing Assignments</p> <p>Course Project</p> <p>Final Exam</p>
3. Demonstrate significant improvement in ability and skill in critical thinking and analysis including skills in observation, reading, listening, and articulation both verbally and in writing.	<p>PLO #3 Apply qualitative and quantitative research methodologies in research design, data collection and analyses in an ethical manner.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>...</p> <p>PLO #4 Explain sociological knowledge through oral and written communication.</p>	<p>Mastery of Quantitative Analysis</p> <p>Responsible use of Knowledge, Natural Resources, and Technology.</p> <p>An Appreciation of the Arts and Sciences.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Effective Oral and Written Communication.</p> <p>Responsible use of Knowledge, Natural Resources, and Technology.</p> <p>An Interest in Personal Development and Lifelong Learning</p>	<p>Essays</p> <p>Writing Assignments</p> <p>Course Project</p> <p>Final Exam</p> <p>Project Presentation</p>

## **METHOD OF INSTRUCTION**

The course is an online course. All students are required to create a Moodle account and enroll in the Moodle shell of this course by the first class to access lectures, readings, forums, assignments, and exams. *The enrolment key will be provided to students via email.*

## **READINGS**

The critical analysis of the readings and the sharing of your perspectives are important ingredients for a positive learning experience. Thus, you are expected to complete the assigned readings by the dates indicated in the Schedule of Classes section in this syllabus. Many readings will be a part of class discussions, while others may not receive the same amount of attention in class. Nonetheless, you should be prepared to discuss all the assigned readings.

OpenStax, *Sociology ee*. OpenStax. 24 April 2021.

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

In addition to the to the open-source textbook listed above, you are required to read additional materials. These book chapters and journal articles are posted in Moodle and listed in the Schedule of Classes section of the syllabus.

## **COURSEWORK**

### **WRITING ASSIGNMENTS**

There will be a total of four writing assignments given out during the semester. The assignments are designed to enable students to learn through discussion, analysis, critique and debate. The exercises require the submission of a short writing assignment. They ask you to respond individually to questions and must be submitted in Moodle or in class as directed. As with exams and other coursework, avoidance of plagiarism and adherence to the honor code are expected. Assignments are worth 10 points each.

### **QUIZZES AND FINAL EXAM**

There will be four non-cumulative quizzes and one cumulative final exam. Students have 24-28 hours to complete the quizzes and final exam in Moodle. Each section is timed. They will assess your understanding, synthesis, and application of readings, lectures, and films. The format includes multiple-choice, short-answer, and essay questions. Each quiz is worth 40 points. The final exam is worth 50 points. The final exam and the quizzes are required for the course.

If you miss a quiz, you must provide evidence of illness or other reasons that are beyond your control before you can take a make-up quiz. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor prior to absence from a scheduled quiz.

The quizzes and the final exam are to be completed by the deadline stated in the syllabus. A study guide is provided for each.

**RESEARCH PROJECT**

A research project is required for this course. The project will require you to think critically by identifying, analyzing, applying, synthesizing, and evaluating existing scientific research regarding a particular topic in the field of sociology. No late projects will be accepted. The specific requirements and examples of projects are in Moodle. The project, including its presentation, is worth a total of 50 points.

**ATTENDANCE AND CLASS ENGAGEMENT**

Students are expected to actively participate in class discussions and activities in Moodle Forums. *It is the student's responsibility to log in to Moodle for readings, announcements, forums, assignments, and other assessments. Be aware of due dates.* Appropriate links to lectures will be shared in Moodle for the corresponding topic. During our meetings, please be respectful and attentive. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor in advance regarding missed class work. *Late classwork will be accepted with penalty (10% deduction).* Attendance and class participation are worth a total of 40 points, which are distributed *across all the scheduled class meetings.*

DISTRIBUTION OF POINTS: There will be a total of 340 possible points throughout the semester. The points are distributed as follows:

Quiz 1 .....	40 points
Quiz 2 .....	40 points
Quiz 3 .....	40 points
Quiz 4 .....	40 points
Final Exam .....	50 points
Assignments .....	40 points
Research Project .....	50 points
Attendance/Class Engagement .....	40 points
TOTAL .....	340 points

## FINAL GRADES

The grading scale used for this class is as follows:

Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Percent Grade	Definition	
A+	4.00	98-100%	Outstanding	Honors-level performance with superior quality and extraordinary distinction.
A	4.00	93-97%		
A-	3.67	90-92%		
B+	3.33	87-89%	Good	Solid accomplishment, indicating a substantial mastery of course materials and a good command of skills required by the course.
B	3.00	83-86%		
B-	2.67	80-82%		
C+	2.33	77-79%	Adequate	Students have achieved the level of competency needed for advancing to a subsequent course which has this course as pre-requisite.
C	2.00	70-76%		
D	1.00	60-69%	Deficient	Minimal passing, but not adequate to take a subsequent course which has this course as pre-requisite.
F	0.00	<60%	Failure	Inadequate to receive credits.
P			Pass	
I			Incomplete	
NC			No Credit	

## TIME COMMITMENT

University policy states: “At the University of Guam by definition one credit hour equals 15 hours of student-teacher contact in a face-to-face or on-line course” *and* “Faculty members are contractually expected to... assign readings, homework, and other learning activities that require *at least two hours of preparation and study time for every contact hour each week...*” For this course that means you are expected to put in *nine hours a week on average* including instructional time. Please be prepared to spend that much time on this course.

## PLAGIARISM STATEMENT

The term “plagiarism” includes, but is not limited, to, the use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by

another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials (UOG Student Handbook, p. 49). Cases of plagiarism are referred to the Student Discipline and Appeals Committee. In this course this penalty for plagiarism can range from no credit for the assignment to failure in the course.

### **EEO STATEMENT, ADA ACCOMODATION SERVICES AND COMMITMENT TO STUDENT LEARNING**

The University is committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our community. Federal and local laws protect the University community from any act of sex discrimination. Such acts violate the essential dignity of our community members. If you need assistance with EEO (Equal Employment Opportunity) and/or Title IX concerns, please contact the Director of EEO/ADA & TITLE IX Office at 671-735-2244, 671-735-2971, TDD 671-735-2243 or [eeo-ada@triton.uog.edu](mailto:eeo-ada@triton.uog.edu)

For individuals covered under the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act), if you are a student with a disability requiring academic accommodation(s), please contact the Student Counseling and Advising Service Accommodations Office to discuss your confidential request. Please provide an accommodation letter from the Disability Support Services/Student Counseling and Advising Service Accommodation counselor. To register for academic accommodations, please contact or visit the Student Center, Rotunda office #6, [disabilitysupport@triton.uog.edu](mailto:disabilitysupport@triton.uog.edu) or telephone/(TDD) 671-735-2460.

### **COMMUNICATION POLICY**

University policy states that official communications will be sent using university assigned (@gotriton or @triton) email addresses. University electronic mail and messaging is to be used to enhance and facilitate teaching, learning, scholarly research, support academic experiences, and to facilitate the effective business and administrative processes of the University. (OIT policy manual, 3.10, p. 36)

In keeping with this policy *all communications from me will come to your UOG Triton email account.* Check it regularly. **You may contact me by email at [dcabrera@triton.uog.edu](mailto:dcabrera@triton.uog.edu). Please also use [debra.cabrera@gmail.com](mailto:debra.cabrera@gmail.com) to ensure I receive your messages this summer.** If you are asking a general question that affects other students, please do it through the appropriate Moodle Forum. Sending me *a direct email is best for personal matters that affect your coursework.*

### **STUDENT EVALUATION OF FACULTY INFORMATION**

The student course and faculty evaluations for courses will be administered at the completion of the semester within CollegeNet. Student participation is essential and appreciated. Student responses are anonymous and cannot be traced back to individual students.

### **NO RECORDING POLICY**

Unauthorized recording of class meetings is not allowed, to include photos, videos and audio recordings that have identifiable information of any person class.

### **MOODLE EXPECTATIONS**

*Using computers not phones.* The screen may be too small to see the materials being shared. I urge you to connect via a computer if you have access to one. If you do not, please let me know.

*Netiquette.* This is a set of rules for behaving properly online. Cyberspace makes it easy for people to forget that they are interacting with other real people. The following bullet points cover some basics to communicating online:

- Be sensitive to the fact that there will be various cultural and linguistic backgrounds, as well as different political and religious beliefs, plus just differences in general.
- Use good taste when composing your responses in Forums. Swearing and profanity is also part of being sensitive to your classmates and should be avoided. Also consider that slang can be misunderstood or misinterpreted.
- Do not use all capital letters when composing your responses as this is considered "shouting" on the Internet and is regarded as impolite or aggressive. It can also be stressful on the eye when trying to read your message.
- Be respectful of others' views and opinions. Avoid "flaming" (publicly attacking or insulting) them as this can cause hurt feelings and decrease the chances of getting all different types of points of view.
- Be careful when using acronyms. If you use an acronym, it is best to spell out its meaning first, then put the acronym in parentheses afterward, for example: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). After that you can use the acronym freely throughout your message.
- Use good grammar and spelling and avoid using text-messaging shortcuts.

### **MILITARY SERVICE**

For our brothers and sisters in military service, it is the student's responsibility when alerted and on orders for deployment to inform the instructor immediately. If you apply to be deployed during the semester, to be given any accommodation or an incomplete grade, you *must* discuss your situation with the instructor personally *before* you apply. If you apply for deployment without bringing it to the instructor's attention in advance, no accommodations will be made under any circumstances. If, on the other hand, you see speak to the instructor in advance about your situation, accommodations may be made. Keep in mind, however, that the final decision about whether accommodations will be allowed, or an incomplete grade given, is at the instructor's discretion, and is therefore not guaranteed.

<b>SCHEDULE OF CLASSES</b>
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**May 28**

**Welcome and Introduction**

**New Look at a Familiar World (SLO1)**

*Reading Assignment:*

- Newman's "Taking a New Look at a Familiar World"  
(Chapter 1) from *Sociology: Exploring the Architecture of Everyday Life*

**May 29, 30**

**Sociological Imagination (SLO1)**

*Reading Assignment:*

- *OpenStax's An Introduction to Sociology (Chapter 1)*
- Newman's "Seeing and Thinking Sociologically" (Chapter 2) from *Sociology: Exploring the Architecture of Everyday Life*

**May 31, June 3**

**Constructing Knowledge (SLO3)**

*Reading Assignment:*

- Newman's "Building Reality: The Social Construction of Knowledge" (Chapter 3) from *Sociology: Exploring the Architecture of Everyday Life*
- *OpenStax's Sociological Research (Chapter 2)*

**June 4 Quiz 1**

**June 5, 6**

**Culture and History (SLO1)**

*Reading Assignment:*

- Newman's "Building Order: Culture and History" (Chapter 4) from *Sociology: Exploring the Architecture of Everyday Life*
- De Frutos and De La Rosa's "Death Rituals and Identity in Contemporary Guam (Mariana Islands)" in *The Journal of Pacific History*, pages 459-473

**June 7, 10**

**The Social Construction of Self (SLO1)**

*Reading Assignment:*

- *OpenStax's Socialization (Chapter 5)*
- Newman's "Building Identity: Socialization" (Chapter 5) from *Sociology: Exploring the Architecture of Everyday Life*

**June 11**

**The Presentation of Self (SLO1)**

*Reading Assignment:*

- Newman's "Supporting Identity: The Presentation of Self" (Chapter 6) from *Sociology: Exploring the Architecture of Everyday Life*
- Grazian's "The Girl Hunt: Urban Nightlife and the Performance of Masculinity as Collective Activity"

**June 12 QUIZ 2**



**June 13****Intimacy and Families (SLO1,2)**

*Reading Assignment:*

- OpenStax's *Relationships, Marriage, and Family* (Chapter 14)
- Coontz's "*The Radical Idea of Marrying for Love*"

**June 14****Social Structure (SLO1)**

*Reading Assignment:*

- OpenStax's *Groups and Organizations* Chapter 6

**June 17, 18****Crime, Deviance, and Social Control (SLO1,2)**

*Reading Assignment:*

- OpenStax's *Deviance, Crime, and Social Control* (Chapter 7)
- Reiman's "A Crime by Any Other Name . . ." from *The Rich Get Richer and the Poor Get Prison*, pages 49-99

**June 18 QUIZ 3****June 19, 20****Power, Class, and Privilege (SLO1,2)**

*Reading Assignment:*

- OpenStax's *Social Stratification in the United States* Chapter 9)
- Pearce's "The Feminization of Poverty"

**June 21****Race and Ethnicity (SLO1,2)**

*Reading Assignment:*

- OpenStax's *Race and Ethnicity* (Chapter 11)
- Anderson's "The Code of the Streets" from *The Atlantic Monthly*, pages 81-94

**June 24 QUIZ 4**

## **June 25 Sociology Project Presentations (SLO1-3)**

### **June 26**

#### **Sex and Gender (SLO1,2)**

*Reading Assignment:*

- OpenStax's *Sex, Gender, and Sexuality* (Chapter 12)
- Film: *Still Killing Us Softly*

### **June 27 Social Change (SLO1)**

*Reading Assignment:*

- OpenStax's *Social Movements and Social Change* (Chapter 21)

## **June 28 FINAL EXAM**