



SOC 1301.01W & SOC 1301.02W – Introduction to Sociology

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2026

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Mica Thompson

Online Only

Office Phone: 903-886-5332

Office Fax: 903-886-5330

University Email Address: mica.thompson@etamu.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: email

Communication Response Time: M-Th within 24 hours, emails received after noon on Friday will be answered the following Monday. ***Always include your name the way you are enrolled in the class as well as the course number and section with all e-mail correspondence.***

COURSE INFORMATION

MATERIALS – TEXTBOOKS, READINGS, SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS

Society in Focus: An Introduction to Sociology (9th ed.) by William E. Thompson, Joseph V. Hickey and Mica L. Thompson, Rowman & Littlefield, 2019.

Software Required: Access to D2L

Optional Texts and/or Materials

COURSE DESCRIPTION

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

This course is intended to enable you to:

1. Demonstrate a sociological perspective based on critical thinking skills in order to better understand the social world in which they live and interact on a daily basis.
2. Define and give examples of basic sociological terms and concepts that will help them better understand their social world and to lay a solid academic foundation for future courses in sociology and/or related fields.
3. Explain the scientific method and specific sociological research methods to illustrate how sociologists collect and analyze data to develop sociological theories on human social behavior.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics including global issues, processes, trends, and systems.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

MINIMAL TECHNICAL SKILLS NEEDED

Use of D2L learning management system, use of Microsoft Word and PowerPoint, use of basic presentation and graphics programs, etc.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

This course is entirely online. Every effort will be made to provide the best possible learning experience by blending reading assignments, Power Point slides, online discussions, selected videos, writing assignments, and other materials. Students should login to D2L on a regular basis and check their university e-mails every day Monday through Friday in order to keep up with class assignments, to review power point presentations, and participate in online discussions.

Because we will be dealing with controversial contemporary social issues, an open mind and a mature attitude are important requirements for this course. Students are expected to be polite and courteous and conform to classroom etiquette and the university code of conduct at all times. For detailed rules on “netiquette” go to the website: <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

A summary of netiquette rules are provided below.

Rule 1: Remember the Human

Rule 2: Adhere to the same standards of behavior online that you follow in real life

Rule 3: Know where you are in cyberspace

Rule 4: Respect other people's time and bandwidth

Rule 5: Make yourself look good online

Rule 6: Share expert knowledge

Rule 7: Help keep flame wars under control

Rule 8: Respect other people's privacy

Rule 9: Don't abuse your power

Rule 10: Be forgiving of other people's mistakes

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES OR TIPS FOR SUCCESS IN THE COURSE

In order to be successful in this course, you will need purchase and READ the required textbook. You are expected to complete all discussions, submit any assignments on time, and take exams when they are scheduled. It is recommended you put all due dates and exam dates on your calendar. The Power Points used in class will be posted online through e-college. Although they do not contain all of the material covered in the textbook, they do provide a general outline of topics, concepts, theories, etc., covered, so it may be helpful to review them before exams. It also is a good idea to review them after reading the chapters.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

Total points corresponding to the final letter grades

A total of 1000 points are attainable in the course.

The final grades in this course will be calculated according to the following scale:

A	936-1040	points
B	832-936	points
C	728-832	points
D	624-728	points
F	0-624	points

ASSESSMENTS

Discussions: 6 assignments worth 40 pts. each, equaling 240 points total

Response Questions: 4 assignments worth 50 pts. each, equaling 200 points total

Quizzes: 6 assignments worth 100 pts. each, equaling 600 points total

Total Points Available: 1040

Course Outline/Calendar

DATE: _____ **TOPIC:** _____ **READING ASSIGNMENTS:** _____

Week 1

Aug 20-21

Discovering Sociology
Online Discussion 1 opens Thursday at 12:00 AM

Ch. 1

Week 2

Aug 24-28

Doing Sociology
Online Discussion 1 closes Friday at 11:30 PM
*Quiz 1
Quiz 1 Opens Thursday at 12:00 AM and closes Friday at 11:30 PM

Ch. 2

Ch. 1,2

Week 3

Aug 31- Sep 4

Culture and Society
Online Discussion 2 opens Monday at 12:00 AM
Response Question 1 opens Monday at 12:00 AM
Response Question 1 due Friday at 11:30 PM

Ch. 3

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Week 4
Sep 7-11

No Class Monday: Labor Day

Socialization

Ch. 4

Online Discussion 2 closes Friday at 11:30 PM

*Quiz 2

Ch. 3,4

Quiz 2 Opens Thursday at 12:00 AM and closes Friday at 11:30 PM

Week 5
Sep 14-18

Social Interaction in Everyday Life

Ch. 5

Online Discussion 3 opens Monday at 12:00 AM

Response Question 2 opens Monday at 12:00 AM

Response Question 2 due Friday at 11:30 PM

Week 6
Sep 21-25

Social Groups, Organization, Bureaucracy

Ch. 6

Online Discussion 3 closes Friday at 11:30 PM

*Quiz 3

Ch 5,6

Quiz 3 Opens Thursday at 12:00 AM and closes Friday at 11:30 PM

Week 7
Sep 28-Oct 2

Deviance & Conformity

Ch. 7

Response Question 3 opens Monday at 12:00 AM

Response Question 3 due Friday at 11:30 PM

Week 8
Oct 5-9

Social Stratification & Social Class

Ch 8

FALL BREAK October 8 & 9

Week 9
Oct 12-16

Global Stratification

Ch. 9

Online Discussion 4 opens Monday at 12:00 AM

*Quiz 4

Ch 7,8,9

Quiz 4 Opens Thursday at 12:00 AM and closes Friday at 11:30 PM

Week 10
Oct 19-23

Race & Ethnicity

Ch. 10

Online Discussion 4 closes Friday at 11:30 PM

Week 11
Oct 26-30

Sex & Gender

Ch. 11

Online Discussion 5 opens Monday at 12:00 AM

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Week 12

Nov 2-6

Age & Elderly

Ch. 12

Online Discussion 5 closes Friday at 11:30 PM

*Quiz 5

Ch 10,11,12

Quiz 5 Opens Thursday at 12:00 AM and closes Friday at 11:30 PM

Week 13

Nov 9-13

Response Question 4 opens Monday at 12:00 AM

Response Question 4 due Friday at 11:30 PM

Week 14

Nov 16-20

Families

Ch. 13

Week 15

Nov 23-27

Online Discussion 6 Opens Monday at 12:00 AM

*****Thanksgiving Break 11/25-11/27*****

Week 16

Nov 30-Dec 4

Education

Ch. 14

Online Discussion 6 closes Friday at 11:30 PM

Finals Week

Dec 7-9

Final Exam* opens Monday 12:00 AM

Ch. 13-14

Final Exam (Quiz 6) closes Wednesday at 11:30 PM

*The final mostly covers chapters 13 & 14, but will have some questions that cover what we've learned over the course of the semester. It is also the only exam that is open Monday – Thursday.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

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ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@etamu.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR COURSE

CWID AND PASSWORD

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@etamu.edu.

TECHNOLOGY-RELATED ISSUES

Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

MINIMAL TECHNICAL SKILLS NEEDED

Students will need reliable computer and internet access for this course. Students must be able to effectively use myLeo email, myLeo Online D2L, and Microsoft Office.

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LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (LMS) – D2L

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are the technical requirements:

- View the [Learning Management System Requirements Webpage](#).
- Learn more on the [LMS Browser Support Webpage](#).

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found on the [Brightspace Support Webpage](#).

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

INTERACTION WITH INSTRUCTOR STATEMENT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your instructor. Correspondence will always be through university email (your “myLeo” mail) and announcements in myLeo online (D2L). You will not RECEIVE email through D2L, so be sure to check your ETAMU email for communication. Students are encouraged to check university email daily.

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EMAILS WITH INSTRUCTOR:

- Course name and subject in the subject line
- Salutation (Good afternoon, Ms. Thompson)
- Proper email etiquette (no “text” emails – use proper grammar and punctuation)
- Student name and CWID after the body of the email (possibly add to student signature on email)

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

SYLLABUS CHANGE POLICY

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

STUDENT CONDUCT

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The [Code of Student Conduct](#) is described in detail online in the [Student Guidebook](#).

Students should also consult the [Rules of Netiquette Webpage](#) for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum.

ETAMU ATTENDANCE

For more information about the attendance policy, please view the [Attendance Webpage](#) and the [Class Attendance Policy](#).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students at East Texas A&M University are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources

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STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES-- ADA STATEMENT

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

East Texas A&M University

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@etamu.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Services](#)

NONDISCRIMINATION NOTICE

East Texas A&M University will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

CAMPUS CONCEALED CARRY STATEMENT

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in East Texas A&M University buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and ETAMU Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M University campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

EAST TEXAS A&M SUPPORTS STUDENTS' MENTAL HEALTH – COUNSELING SERVICES

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M University, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

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MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code or go to https://studentsupport.telushealth.com/us/about#download_app to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



As an Institutional Member of the National Association of Schools of Music, East Texas State A&M University supports the Association's commitment to student health and wellness. The following web address provides links to information for resources related to physical and mental well-being, as well as assists in offering preventative measures that students can take to avoid serious and/or chronic conditions: [Musician Health and Safety - East Texas A&M University](#)

DEPARTMENT AND ACCREDITING AGENCY STATEMENT:

School of Music Mission Statement:

The School of Music at East Texas A&M University promotes excellence in music through the rigorous study of music history, literature, theory, composition, pedagogy, and the preparation of music performance in applied study and ensembles to meet the highest standards of aesthetic expression.

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