PELLISSIPPI STATE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MASTER SYLLABUS

GENERAL SOCIOLOGY
SOC 1010

Class Hours: 3.0 Credit Hours: 3.0
Laboratory Hours: 0.0 Date Revised: Spring 03

Catalog Course Description:

Concepts and theoretical approaches of sociology with emphasis on culture, socialization, and social organization.

Entry Level Standards:

Must be able to read and write at the college level.

Prerequisites:

None

Textbook(s) and Other Reference Materials Basic to the Course:


I. Week/Unit/Topic Basis:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Course overview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Chapter 1 Sociology: Perspective, theory and method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 3    | Chapter 2 Culture  
|      | Research paper abstract due |
| 4    | EXAM #1 Chapters 1 and 2  
|      | Chapter 3 Socialization |
| 5    | Chapter 4 Social Interaction in Everyday Life |
| 6    | Chapter 5 Deviance |
| 7    | EXAM #2 Chapters 3, 4, and 6  
|      | Chapter 7 Sexuality |
| 8    | Chapter 8 Social Stratification |
II. Course Objectives*:

A. Understand the concept of the sociological imagination and the difference between personal troubles and social conditions. 1.5 IV

B. Understand the basic sociological paradigms: structural-functional, social-conflict, and symbolic-interaction. 1.5 II, IV

C. Understand the scientific methods used by sociologists and how they gather information about the social world. 1.5 III

D. Identify the components of culture and the role of language in the transmission of culture. 1.5 IV

E. Understand the meaning and implications of socialization as the process of creating social beings. 1.5 III, IV

F. Understand the various sociological explanations of deviance and distinguish between primary and secondary deviance. 1.5 III, IV

G. Understand the central concepts of social stratification such as class, caste, ascribed and achieved status, opens and closed societies, and social mobility. 1.5 IV

H. Analyze theories of race and ethnic inequality. 1.5 IV

I. Differentiate between sex and gender and apply this distinction to debates about gender inequality. 1.5 III, IV

J. Understand the basic concepts used by demographers to study population. 1.5 III, IV, VI

K. Understand the meaning and implications of different economic and political systems. 1.5 IV

*Roman numerals after course objectives reference goals of the university parallel program.

III. Instructional Processes*:
Students will:

1. Research and write a report on a specific sociological issue. Communication Outcome, Problem Solving and Decision Making Outcome, Cultural Diversity and Social Adaptation Outcome, Technological Literacy Outcome, Information Literacy Outcome

2. Present research paper findings to the class in oral report. Communication, Active Learning Strategy, Problem-solving and Decision Making Outcome

3. Research the Internet to find current information. Locate information in the library. Information Literacy Outcome, Technological Literacy Outcome

4. Practice elements of work ethic, such as punctuality, professionalism, dependability, cooperation, and contribution. Personal Development Outcome

5. Participate as a volunteer with an agency to learn more about career opportunities and to provide community service. Transitional Strategies, Active Learning Strategies, and Personal Development Outcome

*Strategies and outcomes listed after instructional processes reference Pellissippi State’s goals for strengthening general education knowledge and skills, connecting coursework to experiences beyond the classroom, and encouraging students to take active and responsible roles in the educational process.

IV. Expectations for Student Performance*:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Understand the concept of the sociological imagination. A

2. Be familiar with the basic sociological perspectives: interactionism, functionalism, and conflict theory. B

3. Understand steps in the scientific research method used by sociologists and the implications of each. C,

4. Distinguish between scientific, interpretive, and critical sociological frameworks. C

5. Locate, read, and understand contemporary sociological research and their impact on society. C

6. Define and apply the basic terms and concepts used in analyzing cultures. B, D

7. Understand the meaning and implications of socialization as the process of "creating social being." E

8. Understand that deviance is a feature of all societies. A, B, F

9. Understand the central concepts of social stratification: class, caste, ascribed and achieved status, open and closed societies, and social mobility. G

10. Understand the concepts of race and ethnicity and the social implications. H

11. Understand how gender stratification affects politics, work, and education. I

12. Demonstrate understanding of the history and development of economic-activity from the agricultural revolution through the postindustrial revolution. K
13. Distinguish between power and authority. B, G
14. Explain the difference between capitalism and socialism. K
15. Compare the pluralist and power-elite models of the political power. K
16. Demonstrate an understanding of the current major issues and problems facing contemporary education in the United States. A, B
17. Compare and evaluate the effectiveness of medicine in socialist and capitalist’s societies. A, B, K
18. Understand various demographic theories. J
19. Identify and discuss major environmental issues around the globe. B, C, K

*Letters after performance expectations reference the course objectives listed above.

V. Evaluation:

A. Testing Procedures: 80% of grade

There will be five 100 points, 50 item, multiple-choice exams. The exams will encompass assigned readings, lectures, video presentations, and class discussions. The instructor will drop your lowest test score. The remaining four test scores will be used to determine 80% of your final grade. No make-up exams will be given. An optional comprehensive final exam covering all reading materials and lectures from the semester will be given during final exam week. The comprehensive exam will consist of 300 multiple-choice questions. The comprehensive exam grade may be used to replace one low or missing regular exam grade. Remember the comprehensive exam is generally harder than regular exams because it covers all sixteen chapters. The instructor should be notified a week in advance if interested in taking comprehensive exam.

B. Laboratory Expectations:

N/A

C. Field Work: 20% of grade

Individual research paper and class presentation will determine the remaining 20% of the final grade.

D. Other Evaluation Methods:

N/A

E. Grading Scale:

92-100 = A
89-91 = B+
82-88 = B
79-81 = C+
72-78 = C
65-71 = D
Below 65 = F

VI. Policies:
A. Attendance Policy:

Pellissippi State Technical Community College expects students to attend all scheduled instructional activities. As a minimum, students in all courses must be present for at least 75 percent of their scheduled class and laboratory meetings in order to receive credit for the course.

Students will be expected to come to class prepared to discuss the assigned reading material. Attendance and participation are crucial to your success. Students walking in 30 minutes late will be counted absent. Should you come in less than 30 minutes late, be sure to let the instructor know at the end of the class period. Below is a table presenting a summary of absences permitted before automatically failing the course:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Meeting Schedule</th>
<th>Number of allowed absences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Three days a week (MWF)</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two days a week (TR)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Once a week (evenings)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. Academic Dishonesty:

Cheating on exams and assignments will result in a grade of "F" in the course. Cheating in this class means giving or receiving help on an exam, assignment, and plagiarizing papers.

C. Late Assignment Policy:

The instructor will allow you ample time to complete your assignments. However, in the event of tardiness, the following policy will be applied:

1-2 days late = 75% of the original credit.
3-4 days late = 50% of the original credit.
5 days late = 25% of the original credit.

Note: Instructor will not accept assignments after five days.