Rationale

Why study sociology?
The United States Department of Labor predicts those entering the job market today (aka, you) will change careers several times over the course of their work life. Leaders in industry, government, and education advocate for a strong public service & urban affairs education, rather than a narrow specialty, as the most effective path to meet the challenges and opportunities of our increasingly diverse and complex society. Sociologists take an in depth look at social inequities, including race, gender, class, rural societies, cultural traditions, family relations and criminal deviance. Introduction to Sociology will introduce you to the theories, practices, and critical thinking skills used by sociologists to recognize and understand social trends and patterns.

Course Description

This course provides the student with an understanding of the development of sociological thought and the theories and methods used to study social structure and interaction. It emphasizes the influence of culture on human behavior and social relationships. Students will learn how people’s location in society and its institutions shapes their experiences and life chances, and how individuals and groups can influence this process.
Prerequisites
None.

Course Competencies

Students will be able to:

1. Recall sociological terminology, concepts, principles, and perspectives.
2. Describe the emergence of sociology as an academic discipline in a historical and scientific context and identify significant contributions made by historical figures of the time.
3. Apply the functionalist, symbolic interaction, and conflict theoretical perspectives to social issues in a historical context.
4. Evaluate the effectiveness and ethics of the scientific method as applied in sociological research.
5. Describe how individual and group behavior and perceptions are shaped by the specific components of the culture in which they are found.
6. Explain how intersectionality (sex, gender, race, ethnicity, age, social class, etc.) affects social interaction.
7. Interpret the attitudes and behaviors considered deviant in any given society, and evaluate that society’s methods of social control.
8. Relate the construction of social institutions in any given society to explain how the individuals and groups in those societies are impacted.
9. Assess his or her own individual social location to better understand his or her life chances and relationships in society.

Essential Questions

1. Why is developing a sociological imagination important in the study of sociology?
2. What effects does culture have on human’s behavior and interactions?
3. How do rules and norms affect the forming of roles and groups?
4. What roles do gender, age, health, and race play in our behavior and interactions with each other and with society?
5. How does social structure affect how we interact with society and each other?

Blackboard Student Orientation

If this is your first online course at CCSNH, please complete the online student orientation under the NCC Online Orientation tab. Be sure to check your syllabus to see if the instructor requires the assignments. Also, CCSNH offers the opportunity to familiarize you with online courses at http://www.ccsnh.edu/students/orientation-online-learning
Available Technical Support
24/7 Blackboard Support: Students and faculty seeking help can now call a toll free number, begin a Live Chat, submit a ticket or search a FAQ knowledgebase, all 24/7 by going to this site: [http://ccsnh.edusupportcenter.com](http://ccsnh.edusupportcenter.com)

CCSNH Online Student Policies:
Students registered for online courses must comply with all policies and guidelines (such as civil rights, disabilities services, harassment, and plagiarism) in the student handbook and other publications of the college offering the course. For more information, refer to: [http://www.ccsnh.edu/distancelearning/policies.html](http://www.ccsnh.edu/distancelearning/policies.html).

Academic Honesty
Students registered in online courses shall abide by the academic honesty principles as defined in the Student Handbook of the college offering the course.

Netiquette
Students shall comply with [CCSNH Netiquette](http://www.ccsnh.edu/distancelearning/documents/april08_Netiquette.html) as articulated on the system web site.

Required Resources

Textbooks & Materials:
You must have either bundle 1 or bundle 2.

**Bundle 1** (as seen on NCC’s bookstore website):
1. MindTap access (online interactive learning system) & e-book access ISBN: 9781285871042

**Bundle 2** (as seen on NCC’s bookstore website):
1. MindTap access (online interactive learning system) & e-book access ISBN: 9781285871042
2. Reader (Understanding Society) ISBN: 9781305093706

Software: In order to successfully use the Blackboard Learning Management System you will need to access the internet using either Internet Explorer or Firefox and:
- **Java JRE plugin** (very important so that everything in the system works properly!)
- [Microsoft Office](http://office.com) (free with your CCSNH account)
- [Adobe Acrobat Reader](https://get.adobe.com/reader/) (for viewing and printing PDF files)
- [Real Player](http://www.real.com) (for viewing streaming video or listening to streaming audio clips)
- [QuickTime](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/) (for viewing QuickTime video)
- [Flash Player](http://www.adobe.com/flashplayer) (for viewing animations or using interactive content)
- [Shockwave Player](http://www.macromedia.com/go/getshockwave) (for viewing animations or using interactive content)
- [Windows Media Player](http://www.windowsmedia.com) (for viewing streaming video or listening to streaming audio clips)
If you are prompted to “only display secure items,” when logged in to Blackboard, select “No.”

Hardware:

- 128 MB of RAM (512 MB or higher is highly recommended)
- 2 GB of free disk space
- Sound card with speakers (for courses with multimedia)
- Ethernet or Wireless network card (for high-speed Internet connection) or 56K modem (for dial-up Internet connection)
- T1, DSL, Cable, or Satellite high-speed connection (56K dial-up will work, but the online course system will run slowly).

Additional information about system requirements can be found at http://www.ccsnh.edu/students/browser-and-operating-system-requirements.

Textbooks, materials and software are available online at: http://www.efollett.com unless specified by your instructor.

- Under “Select your Bookstore”, choose “New Hampshire”
- Under “Select Your Institution”, choose the campus offering the course.

Overview of Course Structure

Since this is a college level course, it is expected that you will work at a college level. Online courses are not "easier" than those held on campus. In fact, some people say they are more difficult since you must be self-motivated and carefully manage your time. You should expect to devote at least 5-9 hours per week working on your online 3 credit course. Since this course covers an extensive amount of material, you should read regularly. Some of the time may be spent online in a discussion board, reading texts, completing written assignments, performing research, or interacting with classmates in a chat room. Students who login to their course regularly often find a rewarding, interactive, and rich learning environment. As with on-site classes, students who interact and participate more tend be more successful in the course.

This is a fully online course. All instruction will take place through Blackboard. Instruction will include powerpoints, discussions, blogs, MindTap exercises, scavenger hunts, quizzes, and other assessments. Be sure to start at the “Start Here” tab in the Weekly Activities tab for an outline of the course and tips/tricks for online courses.

Course Expectations:

Students are expected to log on daily (including weekends), having read through the material at least once, and to complete and electronically submit assignments within the appropriate time frame. All electronically submitted assignments MUST be submitted as a PDF file, unless otherwise noted. Each online resource needed to participate in discussion boards will be made available on Wednesdays. Students are expected to post weekly in the discussion board. All posts are due by either the Wednesday (for initial posts) or the Sunday of the week the discussion questions are posted (i.e Module 1 for week 1 is due 9/6). Please see the end of syllabus for course schedule.
Late Work Policy:
Assignments turned in up to one week late will lose 1 letter grade. After one week, the assignment will lose 2 letter grades. All late assignments must be submitted by December 7, 2015, or they will be counted as a “0”.

Online Course Participation:
“Attendance” in an online course is indicated through academic engagement, including but not limited to:
· Submitting an academic assignment
· Taking an exam
· Participating in an interactive tutorial or computer-assisted instruction
· Attending a study group that was assigned by the institution
· Contributing to an academic online discussion (e.g. posting and responding to Discussion Board)
· Initiating contact with the faculty member to ask a question about the academic subject studied in the course.

Lack of participation in an online course will count as missed class time per the college’s AF policy.

Instructor’s Communication Policy

Email Response Time: I will respond to emails within 24 hours.

Office Hours: TBD

Assignment/Homework Response Time: Assignments are due by either Wednesday at 11.59pm or Sunday at 11.59pm (see your syllabus and weekly checklists). I will return work by Tuesday evening.

Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Component</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Professionalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Module assignments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18%</td>
<td>Clippings project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11%</td>
<td>Peer-reviewed article analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Exams (10% each)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1%</td>
<td>Syllabus quiz</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Grades will be assigned according to the following department scale...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Minimum Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>100 – 94</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>93 – 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>86 – 84</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>83 – 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>76 – 74</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>73 – 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>66 – 64</td>
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<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>63 – 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>89 – 87</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>79 – 77</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>69 – 67</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59 or Below</td>
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**ALL SOCIAL SCIENCES COURSES must use this grading scale when determining final grades.**
# Course Calendar

(This calendar is subject to change)

Note: Chapter readings from Ferrante (e.g. Ch 1); Numbered readings from Anderson et al. (e.g. #1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment Due</th>
<th>Targeted Competencies*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Aug 31 - Sept 6</td>
<td>The Sociological Imagination</td>
<td>Read Ch 1; #1 Module 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Sept 7 - 13</td>
<td>Sociological perspectives</td>
<td>Read Ch 2; #3 4 Module 2 Syllabus quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Sept 14 - 20</td>
<td>Culture</td>
<td>Read Ch 3; #5, 6 Module 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Sept 21 - 27</td>
<td>Socialization</td>
<td>Read Ch 4; # 8, 12, 13 Module 4 PRAC check</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Sept 28 - Oct 4</td>
<td>Social Structure &amp; Formal Organizations</td>
<td>Read Chs 5&amp;6; #15, Module 5 Clippings check</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Oct 5 - 11</td>
<td>Deviance &amp; Conformity</td>
<td>Read Ch 7; #18, 19, 20 Module 6 Test 1 (Chs 1-6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Oct 12 - 18</td>
<td>Social Inequality</td>
<td>Read Ch 8; #23, 24, 25 Module 7 Clippings Response #1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Oct 19 - Oct 25</td>
<td>Race</td>
<td>Read Ch 9; #29, 32, 33 Module 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Oct 26 - Nov 1</td>
<td>Gender &amp; Sexualities</td>
<td>Read Ch 10; #34, 35, 39 Module 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Nov 2 - 8</td>
<td>Economics &amp; Politics</td>
<td>Read Ch 11; #52, 53, 54 Module 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Nov 9 - 15</td>
<td>Family</td>
<td>Read Ch 12; #42, 44 Module 11 Test 2 (Chs 7-11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 12</td>
<td>Nov 16 - 22</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Read Ch 13; # 48, 49 Module 12 PRAC due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 13</td>
<td>Nov 23 - 29</td>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>Read Ch 14; #45, 47 Module 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 14</td>
<td>Nov 30 - Dec 6</td>
<td>Population &amp; Health Care</td>
<td>Read Ch 15; #57, 58 Module 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 15</td>
<td>Dec 7 - 13</td>
<td>Social change</td>
<td>Read Ch 16; #60, 62 Module 15 Clippings project due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 16</td>
<td>Dec 14 - 18</td>
<td>Finals week</td>
<td>Test 3 (Chs 12-16) Clippings response #2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Targeted competencies refer to the established course competencies listed above.
### Professionalism

I expect each of us to conduct ourselves in a professional manner by following the course expectations listed above. As a social science, this course is driven by your input and contributions. The professionalism grade is based on your preparation for the course, behavior, online activities, participation in discussions, and/or in-class activities. Grades are assessed weekly. The grading rubric for professionalism is included in the Rubrics folder.

### Assignments

Weekly assignments will vary by module. They will consist of (at least) a KNOW, MindTap exercises, a chapter comment, class discussion questions, and individual reflections. For details on expectations for discussion boards, see “Discussion Boards” under Start here (Weekly Modules). Be sure to utilize your weekly checklists to ensure completion of all the components of the assignments.

### Peer-reviewed article critique (PRAC)

This paper will summarize and critique an article from a scholarly journal. The choice of article is at the student’s discretion, but should be at least 5 pages long. All articles should be current (within 5 years) on a sociological topic covered in class. Please choose an article from any of the journals found in the library. (You can find full text journals through the library and library web page). You MUST email a copy of your article (see schedule for due date).

For full credit, you MUST visit the writing center or eWriting Center at least two times prior to the due date.

The paper should be 4-5 pages in length (double spaced), with no more than 2 pages of summary of the article. Please use 1” margins and 12-point font (either Times New Roman or Arial). You must cite your paper using APA style (you do not need an APA style cover page or running header). Your reference page must be APA style.

### Clippings project

Throughout the semester, each student is required to create a collection of articles, stories, advertisements, etc. that relate to the topics discussed in class. The media can be gathered from newspapers, magazines, academic journals, the internet, etc. All media must be cited appropriately. All media must be cut or photocopied from the source with a short reflection of each (media image + reflection = 1 clipping). The reflection should consider the following questions (where applicable):

1. Why is developing a sociological imagination important in the study of sociology?
2. What effects does culture have on human’s behavior and interactions?
3. How do rules and norms affect the forming of roles and groups?
4. What roles do gender, age, health, and race play in our behavior and interactions with each other and with society?
5. How does social structure affect how we interact with society and each other?

Each student is required to have a minimum of 3 clippings by the clippings check, with 15 total (see the course schedule for due dates). In addition to posting your own responses to the prompts, you should regularly read and respond to other students’ posts. Your posts should be at least one, well written
paragraph long, and expand on the discussion (not just “I liked it.” What did you like? Why? How does it relate to the course, etc.). You must post at least 2 responses by October 18th and an additional 2 by December 18th.

Tests
There are three tests in this class. Each is worth 10% of your grade and all will have the same format. You will have 1.5 hours to take the exam. All exams consist of objective questions (multiple choice, true false) to test each student’s familiarity and use of terminology and theory. The second and third exams are somewhat cumulative, in that they may ask you to integrate material from earlier parts of the course. Because this is an online course, there are NO makeup exams.

Available Support Services and Additional Policies

Tutoring and The Writing Center: Located in the Learning Commons (Room Main 100), these academic support services are open to all NCC students looking for additional help with their college assignments. Faculty and peer tutors are available for drop-in and one-on-one appointments. Math help is scheduled at various times during the week. Tutoring may not be available for all subjects, but an earnest effort is made to match students with a tutor. Click on this link to learn more about tutoring services http://www.nashuacc.edu/academic-services/learning-commons/tutoring. Students seeking assistance with the writing process in any of their classes may make an individual appointment in the Writing Center or click on the following link for more information http://www.nashuacc.edu/academic-services/learning-commons/writing.

Course Accommodations: Students having a disability requiring reasonable accommodations must provide their instructors with a copy of their college Reasonable Accommodation Plan and meet with their instructors privately. If you do not have a plan or would like more information about disability services, please contact Jodi Quinn, the Disability Coordinator, in room 100. You may also call (603) 882-6923 ext.1451.

Social Sciences Department Policies: Students are expected to attend all their regularly scheduled classes. Should an absence from a regularly scheduled class meeting be unavoidable due to an emergency or other valid reason, it will be the student’s responsibility to communicate with the instructor, preferably beforehand, concerning the absence.

Students are advised that absence from class, for whatever reason, does not excuse them from meeting course requirements and objectives.

If a student is absent when an assignment is due, the student should email the assignment to the instructor prior to the beginning of the class on the day it is due.

Late work will be accepted at the discretion of the instructor. It will also be up to the instructor to determine specific penalties for late work (e.g. -5 points for each day late, half credit if turned in at the next class, a reduction of one letter grade for each day late, etc.). Each instructor’s policy on late work will be clearly indicated on the course syllabus.

At the discretion of the instructor, make-ups on tests, quizzes or other assessments may be permitted within one week’s time. If it becomes impossible for a student to be tested as scheduled, it is the
responsibility of the student to contact the instructor so a makeup date can be arranged. Each
instructor’s makeup policy will be clearly indicated on the course syllabus.

All assignments must be typewritten, using word processing software or typewriter, unless otherwise
instructed. Please use a 12 font and the Times New Roman style. Also, be sure your documents are
double-spaced.

AF Policy: If a student misses more than six hours of class time during the semester (for a three credit
course), the faculty may withdraw a student from the course with an “AF” grade. Please note that
absences, tardies, and leaving class early all count towards “missed class time.”

Students should also understand an AF grade can be assigned by an instructor or an administrator at any
time for reasons other than poor grade performance or failure to meet attendance requirements e.g.,
violation of the Student Code of Conduct, disruptive behavior, etc.

Please be advised that if the behavior of any student (or students) continually disrupts the learning of
his/her classmates, the following steps will be taken 1) verbal warning; 2) meeting with instructor and
department chair; 3) referral to Vice President of Academic Affairs and/or removal from the course with
AF grade.

An “AF” grade is calculated in the GPA as an “F”. Students should refer to the student handbook for
additional information about the AF policy.

Blackboard: All instructors in the Social Sciences Department will be using Blackboard. Blackboard is the
online learning management system used by instructors and learners at Nashua Community College.
Instructors may post syllabi, course related documents and grades in Blackboard. Students may be
required to submit assignments and/or take assessments through Blackboard and/or participate in
discussion boards.

24/7 Blackboard Support: Students and faculty seeking help can now call a toll free number, begin a Live
Chat, submit a ticket or search a FAQ knowledgebase, all 24/7 by going to this
site: http://ccsnh.edusupportcenter.com

To directly link to Blackboard On Demand tutorials, please visit the following link:
http://ondemand.blackboard.com/students.htm

If you have forgotten your Easy Login Password information, please visit the following link:
https://sspswd.students.ccsnh.edu/accounts/Reset.

If class is ever cancelled because of instructor illness or inclement weather, students will need to check
Blackboard for their assignment.

College Email System: Nashua Community College has established a College electronic mail (“email”)
system as a means of the College sending official information to enrolled students, and for students to
send communication to their instructors and College personnel. All students registered at NCC will be
assigned a College email account/address to be used as the only email address for all email
communication: 1) sent to the students from their instructors and from all College personnel; and, 2)
sent by the students to their instructors and to all College personnel.
In addition:

- Students should check their College email account regularly to ensure they are staying current with all official communications. Official communication includes, but is not limited to, policy announcements, registration and billing information, schedule changes, emergency notifications and other critical and time sensitive information.
- Students should also check their college email account to be sure that they are current with all email communication from their faculty.
- **The student email account/address should be the only e-mail address students use to send email to faculty and College personnel so that student email is recognized and opened.**
- This service is provided exclusively to the students of NCC. Accounts are for individual use only, and are not transferable or to be used by any other individual.
- Students using their College email account do so under the policies set forth in the Student Handbook under "Student Computer Conduct Code".

**Sensitive Materials Policy:** During the semester, in order to cover certain academic topics, there may be occasions to view or discuss material which may not meet the student’s own personal definition of appropriateness. At such times, every student has the right to decide not to participate. Every effort will be made by the instructor to notify students in advance of when such sensitive material will be used so that students can make alternative arrangements. Faculty will guide students in the identification of alternate learning opportunities consistent with relevant course objectives so that students opting out of scheduled “sensitive” learning experiences will not be penalized academically in any way. Please note the opportunity to leave the classroom discretely is always available to each student when such sensitive material is being discussed. The student then has the responsibility before the next class meeting to inform the instructor as to the reason for leaving.

**Plagiarism Policy:** Plagiarism is a serious violation of a student’s academic integrity and the trust between a student and his or her teachers. Plagiarism is the act of a person presenting another person’s work as if it were his or her own original work. Such acts of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

1. A student submitting as his or her own work an entire essay or other assignment written by another person.
2. A student taking word for word a section or sections of another person’s work without proper acknowledgment of the source and that the material is quoted.
3. A student using statistics or other such facts or insights as if these were the result of the student’s efforts and thus lacking proper acknowledgment of the original source.
4. The paraphrasing of another person’s unique work with no acknowledgment of the original source.
5. Copying another student’s work on a quiz or test.
6. Submitting work from another course.

When a student is found to have plagiarized an academic assignment, it will be up to each instructor to determine the penalty. Depending on the severity of the incident, this could range from a warning to a loss of credit for the assignment. In all cases of plagiarism, the student’s program coordinator will automatically be notified and the incident will be documented. If any further incidents of plagiarism are reported to the student’s program coordinator, additional sanctions will be imposed. These may include
notification of the Vice President of Academic Affairs; loss of credit for the course; suspension or dismissal from a department program; academic probation; and/or expulsion from the College.