

UNIVERSITY OF DUBUQUE – ONLINE COURSE

SOC 111 - Introduction to Sociology

Spring 2012

January 23rd – May 9th, 2012

DESCRIPTION:

The course introduces the history, language, theories, and methods of sociology. We use readings by sociologists to explore how sociologists aim to discover truths about society. You, as a student of sociology, will eventually utilize a sociological perspective to explore topics central to the understanding of human life in all its variations. The goal is to understand that sociology strives to accurately describe and explain social behaviors and their meanings and some of the ways sociologists do this.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Studying sociology allows students to appreciate the complexities of social life and develop an awareness of the connections among themselves, their communities, society at large, and the global environment. The scientific and systematic study of these issues in Introduction to Sociology helps students to

1. develop analytical and critical thinking skills about society and sociological issues
2. understand what sociology looks and sounds like and what sociologists do
3. gain insights into students' personal experiences
4. understand and appreciate diversity at multiple levels
5. prepare to contribute to communities, society, and global arrangements through leadership skills (clear spoken and written communication, accurate use of data and knowledge, compassionate recognition of the situations of others) and sociological insight.

ONLINE EXPECTATIONS:

Online students will use the Internet to access course materials, announcements, email, distance library services, subscription library databases, and other information and for interacting with faculty and fellow students. Online, interactive learning methods are used throughout the instructional sequence based on the use of the course management system. Online activities facilitate frequent student-to-faculty and student-to-student interaction. They are supported by 24-7 access to course documents, announcements, Web links, syllabi, threaded discussions, chat rooms, email, and other online tools. In addition, the course management system enables students to submit assignments online in multimedia formats and to receive their professors' reviews of assignments online in the same formats.

REQUIREMENTS:

Each student must have the pre-requisite knowledge of how to use a computer system particularly when it comes to navigating the web. Therefore, each student must have access to the Internet and is encouraged to login to the course management system on a daily basis. The professor will not provide remedial assistance on Internet navigation. However, professors will provide assistance through written instructions for accessing the course materials. A support number will also be provided for students who may have technical difficulties with the course management system. Each student must demonstrate proficiency in the use of the English language in all work submitted for this course. The professor will not provide remedial help concerning writing problems.