



## SOC 302: Introduction to the Study of Society

*Texas Common Number: SOCI 1301*

**Course Format:** Online, Self-Paced

**Course Instructor:** Jennifer McMorris, Ph.D. Contact using the Inbox tool in Canvas.

**Course Credits:** 3

**Prerequisites:** None.

### How This Course Works

This course is online and is self-paced. Students have five months from their date of enrollment to complete the course. All coursework and proctored exams are submitted or taken online.

While this course is self-paced in terms of when you complete the work and submit assignments, periodic assessments are critical to ensuring that students receive adequate support and are able to achieve the intended learning outcomes. Thus, this course is organized into modules that must be completed in order. Students will only be able to move forward once they have received a grade on all assessments within a given module.

Review the course outline and assignment descriptions carefully. Computer-graded assignments are scored immediately. You can expect to receive feedback on instructor-graded assignments or exams within three business days following submission. This does not include weekends or holidays. Requests for expedited grading are not accommodated, so please plan accordingly. During certain times (end of semester, spring break, etc.), instructors may experience higher-than-usual demands on their time and may need additional time for evaluation. Students should reach out to University Extension at [uex@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:uex@austin.utexas.edu) with any concerns regarding grading turnaround.

University Extension strongly advises students to be aware of when they may need a course grade to be recorded on their transcript. It can take up to two weeks after the final exam is complete for a grade to be officially recorded with the Office of the Registrar.

### Course Overview

Sociology is the study of the interactions of individuals with each other and in groups. Sociology also investigates the effects of the behavior of individuals and groups on each other. This course will explore:

- how the various groups within U.S. society influence each other,
- which groups have the greatest power and what they do with this power,
- what motivates powerful groups, and
- the results of the actions of powerful groups on other groups and individuals within the society.

## **Required Materials**

*Social Problems, 6th edition*, J. Feagin, C. Feagin & D. Baker; Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2006.  
ISBN 10: 013099927X; ISBN 13: 9780130999276

*Race, Class, and Gender: An Anthology, 7th edition*, Andersen & Hill, Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, 2010.  
ISBN 10: 0495598828; ISBN 13: 9780495598824.

## **Course Organization**

This course is divided into four learning modules containing a total of ten lessons, a midterm exam, and a final exam. Each lesson includes a list of learning objectives, a reading assignment, a list of key concepts and terms, instructor's commentary, study questions, a self-assessment exercise, and two assignments to be completed and submitted for grading. There will be an instructor-graded assignment and a computer-graded assignment for each lesson. Students must receive a grade on all assignments in a module before the next module will open.

### ***Computer-Graded Assignments***

The computer-graded assignments consist of multiple-choice and true/false questions, and are scored automatically upon submission.

### ***Instructor-Graded Assignments***

For instructor-graded assignments you will write well-developed essays and submit them to your instructor for grading.

### ***Exams***

This course requires that you take two proctored exams. The exams include terms to define, multiple choice, true/false, and essay questions. The questions for the midterm exam are drawn from Lessons 1–5. The final exam is comprehensive, with a greater emphasis on Lessons 6–10.

**You must pass the final exam to pass the course.**

## Course Outline

Module	Topics	Assessments
1	Lesson 1: Roles, Norms, and Stratification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Computer-Graded Assignment 1</li> <li>▪ Instructor-Graded Assignment 2</li> </ul>
	Lesson 2: Class and Inequality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Computer-Graded Assignment 3</li> <li>▪ Instructor-Graded Assignment 4</li> </ul>
	Lesson 3: Poverty and Unemployment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Computer-Graded Assignment 5</li> <li>▪ Instructor-Graded Assignment 6</li> </ul>
2	Lesson 4: Race Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Computer-Graded Assignment 7</li> <li>▪ Instructor-Graded Assignment 8</li> </ul>
	Lesson 5: Gender Roles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Computer-Graded Assignment 9</li> <li>▪ Instructor-Graded Assignment 10</li> </ul>
MIDTERM EXAM		
3	Lesson 6: Education and Health Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Computer-Graded Assignment 11</li> <li>▪ Instructor-Graded Assignment 12</li> </ul>
	Lesson 7: Crime and “Deviance” Problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Computer-Graded Assignment 13</li> <li>▪ Instructor-Graded Assignment 14</li> </ul>
	Lesson 8: The Workplace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Computer-Graded Assignment 15</li> <li>▪ Instructor-Graded Assignment 16</li> </ul>
4	Lesson 9: Societal and Environmental Problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Computer-Graded Assignment 17</li> <li>▪ Instructor-Graded Assignment 18</li> </ul>
	Lesson 10: Solving Society’s Problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Computer-Graded Assignment 19</li> <li>▪ Instructor-Graded Assignment 20</li> </ul>
FINAL EXAM		

### Grade Calculation

Your final grade for the course will be calculated as follows:

10 Computer-graded Assignments	5%
10 Instructor-graded Assignments	20%
Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	50%

**You must pass the final exam to pass the course.** You must also earn an overall passing grade:

A	100-93%	B+	89-87%	C+	79-77%	D+	69-67%	F	59-0%
A-	92-90%	B	86-83%	C	76-73%	D	66-63%		
		B-	82-80%	C-	72-70%	D-	62-60%		

## Getting Help

- Technical Support: [uextechsupport@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:uextechsupport@austin.utexas.edu)
- For content questions or questions about assignment and grades, use the Inbox tool within Canvas to contact the course instructor.
- For other questions (registration, transcripts, etc.), contact University Extension.

## University Extension Policies

Full University Extension policies for self-paced courses may be found on the University Extension website.

## Scholastic Dishonesty

Students in this course are expected to work independently, without direct supervision, and to conduct themselves responsibly in accordance with that freedom. To obtain the greatest benefit from their course work, and for the sake of everyone enrolled in our courses, students must demonstrate the willingness to exercise self-discipline, personal responsibility, and scholastic integrity.

We expect the course work and exams that you submit for course credit to be yours and yours alone. Plagiarism and other forms of scholastic dishonesty are serious academic violations that will not be tolerated. The penalties for scholastic dishonesty include the possibility of failure in the course. Scholastic dishonesty in examinations will automatically result in a grade of *F* on the exam and an *F* in the course.

## University Extension Contact Information

[uex@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:uex@austin.utexas.edu)

512-471-2900