

**University of Maine / Eastern Maine Community College  
Sociology 101 - Introduction to Sociology  
Course Syllabus**

**August 28 – December 15, 2017 / Monday 4:00pm – 6:45pm**

**Instructor: James Fisher, Ph.D., MRP, AICP**

**Office Hours:** One hour before or after scheduled class time at the  
Hancock County Higher Education Center  
667-3897 or 1-800-696-2540 or by an appointment

**Phone:** 207-370-4450 / E-mail: [james.fisher1@maine.edu](mailto:james.fisher1@maine.edu)

**Required Text: Benokraitis, Nijole Soc<sup>5</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, Wadsworth Cengage Learning, 2017**

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

**Course Catalog Information: SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology 3 Credits**

Examines the major perspectives of sociology. Attention is given to such concepts as society, culture, role, status, institution, social organization, social change, social control, deviance, socialization, and the dialectical relationship between individual and society.

Students are introduced to the study of society through the consideration of basic sociological terminology, concepts and theories. Some of the concepts to be covered include culture, gender, class, race, politics, deviance, crime, education, and family. Students will gain an understanding of what it means to develop a sociological perspective and learn the tools necessary to comprehend the connection between their own lives and the broader social world around them.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES / OUTCOMES**

At the end of the semester, successful students will be able to:

- a. understand sociological theories and concepts
- b. understand sociological terms
- c. understand the principle structures of society and how they function in today's world.
- d. apply sociological concepts and terms to present day social issues and problems
- e. apply skills such as research design, data collection, analysis and presentation of findings

**EVALUATION / GRADE DETERMINATION**

Grades will be determined by the total accumulated points for the course. Points will be totaled and the appropriate grade given when calculated on a percentage basis (see Grading scale). Point accumulation for the respective grade will be as follows:

Weekly Assignments (15 pts each)	150 pts	282 - 300	A	219 - 230	C
Midterm Exam	75 pts	270 - 281	A-	210 - 218	C-
Final Exam	75 pts	261 - 269	B+	201 - 209	D+
	Total 300 pts	249 - 260	B	189 - 200	D
		240 - 248	B-	180 - 188	D-
		231 - 239	C+	0 - 179	F

<b><u>DATE</u></b>	<b><u>TOPIC</u></b>	<b><u>ASSIGNMENTS DUE</u></b>
Aug 30	<b>Course Overview</b> Gaining a Sociological Perspective Introduction to Google Docs	Chapter 1 “Thinking Like a Sociologist”
Sep 6	<b>Sociological Research</b> Population and Urbanization Creating an online survey	Chapter 2 “Examining Our Social World” Chapter 15 (1-2) “Population, Urbanization ...” 1 » Visualizing Information
Sep 13	<b>Culture and Religion</b> Journey to Sharahad Using Census Data	Chapter 3 “Culture” Chapter 13 “Education and Religion” 2 » Online Surveys
Sep 20	<b>Socialization and Education</b> Agents of Socialization	Chapter 4 “Socialization” Chapter 13 “Education and Religion” 3» Bucksport Area Census Profile
Sep 27	<b>Society and Social Interaction</b> Describing the Bucksport Area	Chapter 5 “Social Interaction” 4» Education Analysis
Oct 4	<b>Groups and Organizations</b> Networks and Bureaucracies	Chapter 6 “Groups, Organizations and Institutions” 5» Community Asset Analysis
Oct 11	<b>MIDTERM EXAM</b> <b>Deviance, Crime, Social Control</b> Criminal Justice System	Chapter 7 “Deviance, Crime and Social Control” Prepare for Midterm Exam
Oct 18	<b>Social Stratification &amp; Inequality</b> Measuring inequality and poverty	Chapter 8 “Social Stratification ..” 6» Crime Analysis
Oct 25	<b>Gender, Sex and Sexuality</b> <b>Race and Ethnicity</b>	Chapter 9 “Gender and Sexuality” Chapter 10 “Race and Ethnicity” 7» Inequality and poverty analysis
Nov 1	<b>Families and Aging</b> Household Composition	Chapter 12 “Families and Aging” 8» Race, Ethnicity and Gender Analysis
Nov 8	<b>Health, Medicine &amp; Environment</b> Environment, prevention, screening and treatment	Chapter 14 “Health and Medicine” Chapter 15 (3) “Population ... Environment” 9» Household analysis
Nov 15	<b>Work and the Economy</b>	Chapter 11 “The Economy and Politics” 10» Public Health Infographics
Nov 22	<b>Thanksgiving Break</b>	No Assignments Due
Nov 29	<b>Social Change</b>	Chapter 16 “Social Change: ...” 11» Economic Analysis
Dec 6	<b>Course Integration</b> Integrating Sociological Materials	12» Bucksport Bay Futures Presentations
Dec 13	Final Exam	Final Exam

**Modifications or changes to this syllabus may occur at the discretion of the instructor.**

## **WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT POLICY AND INSTRUCTIONS**

For all printed and digital assignments, students must submit typed, proofread, college level work. This requires attention to organization, spelling, punctuation, and grammar. Computers are available at the College. Please follow the required format indicated below. All printed assignments will be turned in having:

1. Student name, and date in the upper right hand corner of the first page or all pages
2. White paper 8 1/2 inches by 11 inch; Top, bottom, and side margins of 1 inch, with page numbers
3. Typed single spaced lines in paragraph format and a font size #10 or #12
4. Assignments will be graded on organization, clarity, and completeness

Assignments are considered late if not turned in or presented on the due date and will have points deducted for each additional day late. Only in the event of extraordinary circumstances will students be permitted to take a make-up examination. If a scheduled exam is missed, the student is required to take a make-up examination at an appointed time.

## **SPECIAL INFORMATION**

**Cell Phone Policy:** Please do not use your cell phone, tablet or computer to talk, chat, email or text during class. Turned phones "OFF" or place them in silent or vibrate mode. If students must be reached in the event of an emergency, they may be reached by calling the Center at 667-3897. Emergency calls may be received only if the phone is put on "vibrate" call notification. To take the call, text, chat or email, students must leave the classroom.

**Class Conduct and Laptop Computer Policy:** Students are expected to remain attentive and interact in an appropriate manner with the instructor and other students. **Laptop computers are encouraged in the classroom for note taking purposes only.**

**Attendance:** Attendance is mandatory. If you must miss class for any reason, please email your instructor prior to that class explaining your absence. Bear in mind that it is impossible to replicate a class you miss. Missing one class period during the semester constitutes missing one whole week of classes. Missing two class periods will affect your grade. For EMCC students, missing the equivalent of two weeks of class, a student will be dropped from the course with an Administrative Failure. "Expect to work an average of 6-9 hours a week outside of class on class preparation, completion of work, and studying for tests. This may vary on any particular week depending on class workload." "If you miss an exam or paper deadline, you will have an opportunity to make up the assignment only if you have a documented, legitimate excuse."

**School Cancellation Class Policy:** If school is cancelled, scheduled class assignments, activities and projects will be moved to the next week's class. Classes may be canceled due to inclement weather. Sign up for RAVE alerts and you will be notified of any cancellations in whatever form you prefer.

**Academic Honesty Policy:** Academic honesty is essential to the free exchange of ideas. It is our responsibility – faculty, students, and staff – to develop and maintain an atmosphere where new

ideas can be discussed and presented while recognizing the original work of others. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabricating of information or citations, facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students. All assignments and homework must be your own. You will receive a 0 if you plagiarize, and action as outlined by the UMA/EMCC policy on cheating may be enforced. UMA link to policy: <http://www.uma.edu/about/offices/dean-of-students/student-handbook/>

**Accommodations for Learning Disabilities:** If you have a disability that might affect your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations, you must meet with your instructor to discuss the accommodations as soon as possible.

UMA: “If you have a disability which may affect your ability to participate fully in this course, it is your responsibility to request accommodations promptly. Contact the Learning Support Services Office on your campus or Coordinator of Student Services at your campus or center to discuss possible assistance. Accommodations must be requested each semester, and are not provided retroactively.” UMA link to policy: <http://www.uma.edu/academics/student-support/student-development-division/disability-services/>

EMCC provides reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you have an accommodation letter from Disability Services, please see me as soon as possible so we can discuss your accommodations in my class. If you think you need accommodations but have not registered with Disability Services, please contact Elizabeth Saucier, Coordinator of Disability Services, as soon as possible at [esaucier@emcc.edu](mailto:esaucier@emcc.edu) or call her at 974-4868. Elizabeth Saucier is located in Maine Hall, room 128 near the Student Success Center.

**Affirmative Action Statement:** Eastern Maine Community College does not discriminate as prescribed by federal and/or state law on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, marital, parental or veteran status in its programs and activities. Inquiries about the College’s compliance with policies and laws that prohibit discrimination on these bases may be directed to: Affirmative Action Officer, Maine Hall, 354 Hogan Road, Bangor, ME, 04401, telephone number (207) 974-4633.

**Title IX Statement:** “The University of Maine at Augusta is committed to providing an environment free of violence and harassment based on sex and gender. Such civil rights offences are subject to the same accountability and support as offences based on race, national origin, etc. If you or someone else within the UMA community is struggling with sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault relationship violence, or stalking you can find the appropriate resources at : <http://www.uma.edu/about/title-ix-info/>