

## Department:

Sociology

## Course Description:

This course provides an introduction to sociology and the basic principles of sociological perspectives, theories, and research methods. The course will focus on the way culture patterns societies and social interaction and how these patterns are transmitted through socialization and social interaction. The course will also cover social stratification systems, social institutions, collective behaviors, social change, and perspectives on how social forces influence human activity and how human activity creates social forces.

## Course Competencies:

The learning outcomes and competencies detailed in this syllabus meet or exceed the learning outcomes and competencies specified by the Kansas Core Outcomes Groups for this course as approved by the Kansas Board of Regents. (Kansas Regents Shared Number Course and Title: **KRSN Course SOC1010 Introduction to Sociology.**)

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

1. Define and describe the role of social institutions in contemporary societies (e.g. Family, State, Economy, Religion, Education, Media, Healthcare).
2. Differentiate and apply the main ideas of Functionalism, Conflict theory, and Symbolic Interactionism.
3. Give an example of how systems of social stratification (e.g. class, race and ethnicity, gender, sexuality, age) organize the distribution of social advantage and disadvantages.
4. Describe the relationship between social structure and individual behavior.
5. Distinguish between qualitative and quantitative approaches to conducting sociological research.
6. Define the major components of culture, including the role of socialization, social norms and deviance.
7. Give an example of the social causes and consequences of a major social change (e.g. globalization, environment, technology, population shifts, social movements, pandemics).
8. Critically examine common assumptions about how society works using the sociological imagination.

## Course Content:

- A. Foundations of Sociology
  1. History and Philosophy
  2. The Sociological Imagination

- 3. Major Sociological Perspectives
- 4. Research Methods and Ethical Issues
- B. Foundations of Society
  - 1. Major Components of Culture
  - 2. Major Types of Societies
  - 3. The Process of Socialization
  - 4. Components of Social Structure
  - 5. Social Interaction
  - 6. Theories of Deviance and Types of Social Control
- C. Social Inequality and Cultural Diversity
  - 1. Major Theoretical Explanations of Social Inequality
  - 2. Local, National, and Global Dimensions of Social Stratification
  - 3. Areas of Social Inequality
- D. Social Institutions
  - 1. Significance of Social Institutions
  - 2. Features and Interrelationships of Social Institutions
- E. Social Change
  - 1. Dynamics of Social Change
  - 2. Collective Behavior, Social Movements, and Social Change in Local, National, and Global Contexts

## Learning Assessments:

Course competencies will be assessed by use of a fieldwork research project, written assignments, quizzes, group work, oral reports, exams, Internet research assignments, and reflection papers.

## Instructional Materials:

Textbook: *Sociology in Our Time: The Essentials*, Kendall, 11th Ed., Cengage Learning, 2018.  
ISBN: 13: 9781337109659

### Guidelines for Requesting Accommodations Based on Documented Disability or Medical Condition

It is the intention of Highland Community College to work toward full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to make instructional programs accessible to all people, and to provide reasonable accommodations according to the law.

Students should understand that it is their responsibility to self-identify their need(s) for accommodation and that they must provide current, comprehensive diagnosis of a specific disability or medical condition from a qualified professional in order to receive services. Documentation must include specific recommendations for accommodation(s). Documentation should be provided in a timely manner prior to or early in the semester so that the requested accommodation can be considered and, if warranted, arranged.

In order to begin the process all students **must** complete the “Disabilities Self-Identification Form” on our [Disability Services website](#).

This form can also be accessed at the Highland Community College homepage under Students Services/Student Resources/Disability Service or by contacting the Disabilities Coordinator.

### A Note on Harassment, Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct

Highland Community College seeks to assure all community members learn and work in a welcoming and inclusive environment. Title VII, Title IX, and College policy prohibit harassment, discrimination and sexual misconduct. Highland Community College encourages anyone experiencing harassment, discrimination or sexual misconduct to talk to report to the Vice President for Student Services, the Human Resources Director or complete an [online report](#) about what happened so that they can get the support they need and Highland Community College can respond appropriately.

There are both confidential and non-confidential resources and reporting options available to you. Highland Community College is legally obligated to respond to reports of sexual misconduct, and therefore we cannot guarantee the confidentiality of a report, unless made to a confidential resource. Responses may vary from support services to formal investigations. As a faculty member, I am required to report incidents of sexual misconduct and thus cannot guarantee confidentiality. I must provide our Title IX coordinator with relevant details such as the names of those involved in the incident. For more information about policies and resources or reporting options, please review our [Equity Grievance Policy](#).