BULLETIN INFORMATION
SOCY 101 – Introductory Sociology
Course Description:
An introduction to sociological facts and principles: an analysis of group-making processes and products.

SAMPLE COURSE OVERVIEW
This course is a selective introduction to sociological research and theory. It will begin with classical theory and an overview of social science research. Because it is impossible to cover all topics within the field of sociology, the course will mainly focus on issues such as inequality, race, gender, the interplay between individuals and structure, class and status, the evolution of human societies, and social theory. Students will learn the material through textbook readings, journal articles, in-class videos, class lectures, and class discussions.

ITEMIZED LEARNING OUTCOMES
Upon successful completion of SOCY 101, students will be able to:
1. Discuss the works of the classical scholars in sociology.
2. Recognize the different types of social science research and the differences between qualitative and quantitative methods.
3. Explain and define major sociological concepts such as class, status, social institution, socialization, identity, deviance, etc.
4. Explain social inequalities related to race, gender, class and status.

SAMPLE REQUIRED TEXTS/SUGGESTED READINGS/MATERIALS

SAMPLE ASSIGNMENTS AND/OR EXAMS
1. Exams: There will be two exams given during the semester, and a non-cumulative final exam. All exam questions will be multiple choice and true/false. Exam material will come from the textbook readings, other assigned readings, class lecture/discussion, and videos. Lectures will not always cover the readings or directly relate to them. Nevertheless, all material is fair game for exam questions.
2. Reflection Papers/Writing Assignments: 10 short writing assignments will be due during the semester. Directions and grading rubrics for each paper will vary; for instance, one assignment might ask for your opinion on a topic (graded on effort, not answer), while
another might ask you to explain the components of a sociological theory (correct answer required for full credit). Information for each assignment will be provided in class and on Blackboard. Written assignments about classical sociological theorists will ask the student to identify correctly the theorist’s scientific paradigm based on value and model assumptions, to identify what is/are considered the theorist’s most important contribution(s), and to identify an example of how the theory or elements of it have been tested (for example, using survey data to test hypotheses about religiosity). Written assignments about inequalities of race, gender, class and status will ask the student to define the terms, to discuss basic patterns of inequality in U.S. society, how race, gender, class and status intersect with respect to inequality, and reasons for changing levels of inequality.

SAMPLE COURSE OUTLINE WITH TIMELINE OF TOPICS, READINGS/ ASSIGNMENTS, EXAMS/PROJECTS

Week 1: Introduction to the course

Week 2: Sociology, Societies and Culture, Sociology Now (SN): 1 & 2
Sociology as a way of seeing
Doing Sociology
Contemporary Sociology
Elements of Culture
Cultural Expression
Cultural Change

Week 3: Interactions, Groups, Organizations, SN: 3
The Social Construction of Reality
Elements of Social Structure
Groups
Social Networks
Organizations

Week 4: Methods, SN: 4
Types of Sociological Research Methods
Doing Sociological Research
Issues in Conducting Research
Socialization, SN: 5
Socialization and Biology
Socialization in Action
Models and Agents of Socialization

Week 5: Finish week 4 topics, prep for exam

Week 6: Deviance and Crime, SN: 6
What is Deviance?
Conformity and Social Control
Sociological Theories of Deviance and Crime  
The Criminal Justice System  
Globalization and Crime

**Week 7:**  
**Stratification, SN: 7**  
What is Social Stratification?  
Social Class  
Poverty in the United States and Abroad  
Social Mobility  
Global Inequality  
**Race, Ethnicity, SN: 8**  
The Sociology of Race and Ethnicity  
Prejudice, Discrimination, and Racism  
Ethnic Groups in the United States  
Ethnicity, Identify, and Conflict

**Week 8:**  
**Sex and Gender, SN: 9**  
Sex and Gender:  Nature and Nurture  
Becoming Gendered: Learning Gender Identity  
Gender Inequality on a Global and Local Scale  
The Politics of Gender

**Week 9:**  
**Sociological Body: Age, Health and Sexuality, SN: 10**  
Age: Identity and Inequality  
Youth and Inequality  
The Body in Sickness and Health  
Studying Sexuality; Behaviors and Identities  
Sexual Inequality

**Week 10:**  
Finish week 9 topics, prep for exam

**Week 11:**  
**The Family, SN: 11**  
The Family Tree  
Family and Ethnicity  
Forming Family  
Parenting  
Family Transitions  
Violence in Families

**Week 12:**  
**Economy and Work, SN: 12**  
The Economy and Society  
The American Economy  
Work, Identity and Inequality  
Diversity in the Workplace
Week 13: Politics and Media, SN: 13
Politics: Power and Authority
Political Systems
The Political System of the United States
Political Change

Week 14: Education, Religion Science, SN: 14
Education in Social Context
The Sociology of Education
Religion and Science
Religion, Globally and Locally
Science in Sociological Perspective
Environments, SN: 15
The Human Environment
Theories of Global Population Growth
The Urban Environment
Sociology and the City
The Natural Environment

Week 15: Last Week of Class/Wrap-up