

Introduction to Sociology, 1010-090
Department of Sociology and Criminology
Summer 2025, Online Course
E. Grace Christensen, MA

Pre-requisites: none

Credit Hours: 3

Office Hours: online, by appointment

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[Important: Please use Canvas messaging for all communications related to this course.](#) You are **highly encouraged** to read, reread, and understand this entire syllabus prior to beginning the first module. In addition, please explore and become familiar with the entire course site.

Canvas Time Zone Information:

To ensure you are viewing due dates and times correctly, as well as events in the calendar, set your student Canvas time zone to your current location. If you do not change your time zone, all due dates and times listed in Canvas default to Mountain Time (MT). Content written by instructors is in Mountain Time unless stated otherwise.

Note: This syllabus is meant to serve as an outline and guide for our course. Please note that I may modify it with reasonable notice to you. I may also modify the Course Schedule to accommodate the needs of our class. Any changes will be announced in class and posted on Canvas under Announcements.

Course Summary

An introduction to the basic nature of society and the relationship between society and the individual. This course focuses on how society functions and is organized, and how society impacts and influences individual motivation, understanding, action, and well-being. Basic sociological ideas regarding social relations, social interaction, social structure, and social change are examined. Students are introduced to key issues (e.g., class, race, gender, sexuality, religion, globalization, education, health care, crime, the media, and the environment) addressed by contemporary sociologists. The knowledge gained in this course will aid students in future studies within a variety of fields and careers and encourage the development of critical thinking about important issues.

- This course fulfills the Social & Behavioral Science [BF] requirement.

Evaluation & Grading

- Mini Essays/Graded Discussions/Skills Quizzes–15%
- Undergraduate learning outcomes assessment--pre-test–5%
- Weekly interactive quizzes–40%
- 3 Exams–40%
- TOTAL–100%

Grading Scheme

A 100%–94.0%	A- 93.9%–90.0%	
B+ 89.9%–87.0%	B 86.9%–84.0%	B- 83.9%–80.0%
C+ 79.9%–77.0%	C 76.9%–74.0%	C- 73.9%–70.0%
D+ 69.9%–67.0%	D 66.9%–64.0%	D- 63.9%–60.0%
E 59.9%–0.00%		

Online Course Expectations

Teaching and Learning Methods

This is an online course, so while I care deeply about your learning, I will not meet you in person to gesture at you “in real-time.” Please do the readings and watch the lecture videos. In addition to completing the required assignments, I strongly encourage you to participate in the optional discussions about the class materials and reach out to me with any content questions you have. You can “work ahead” by a few weeks, but you cannot “catch up” at the end of the semester.

Course Timeline and Due Dates

This class has 3 segments: **Modules 1-5, 6-10, and 12-16**. At the end of each segment is an exam covering the materials of the preceding weeks.

Segment 1

- Complete modules 1-5 (book chapters 1-6) by June 1st, 2025
- Exam 1 (covers modules 1-5; weeks 1-3) open June 02-08, 2025

Segment 2

- Complete modules 6-10 (book chapters 7-11) by June 29th, 2025
- Exam 2 (covers modules 6-10; weeks 5-7) open June 30th-July 06th, 2025

Segment 3

- Complete modules 12-16 (book chapters 12-18) by July 27th, 2025
- Exam 3 (covers modules 12-16; week 9-11) will be open from July 28-30, 2025

Graded Assignments

The graded parts of this course include 3 exams, 3 mini-essays with discussions, InQuizitive assignments, 1 ‘charts and graphs’ exercise, and a multi-part writing training. These all have due dates over the course of the semester. You will find links to key terms, quizzes, and review quizzes in each module. These are ungraded and do not help or harm your grade; however, they are likely to help you prep for the exam. The points you get for taking these will show up in the grade book, but they do NOT count toward your final grade, no matter how well you do.

Exams

There will be three exams. Each will be open for several days, but CANNOT be made up (except in documented, extraordinary circumstances). All I require is that you complete the assignments for the modules covered in the exam BEFORE the exam takes place. Exams are open-book and multiple-choice. Every student gets a different set of questions. Exams are timed at 66 minutes. If you plan on looking up answers, you might run into time issues, so I highly recommend doing the practice quizzes.

Exam Preparation

Reading the textbook will go a long way in preparing for exams. The textbook has key terms in the margins and is an important reminder of the “big topics” you should be clear about. You should be very familiar with these keywords and their definitions. They are also highlighted in yellow in the body of the text. The ungraded key terms quizzes and review quizzes can help you solidify your knowledge of these keywords.

Late Work: Late work will typically not be accepted past the aforementioned dates except under the most extreme, documented circumstances. Please contact me immediately if circumstances prevent you from completing an exam on time.

Instructor Expectations

As your instructor, I am committed to the following expectations for this course:

- I have designed the course to include lectures, readings, materials, and assignments that will challenge students and provide them with opportunities to learn and practice course content.
- Though this online course includes pre-recorded lectures, it is not a class that is run “automatically” by technology. The instructors will interact with the class via announcements, virtual office hours, emails/the Canvas Inbox feature, assignment feedback, and lecture-discussion board comments.
- The instructor and teaching assistant will provide feedback on the assignments in a timely manner.
- The instructor will respond to emails/Canvas messages within 24 hours (Monday-Friday).

Student Expectations

The following is expected of all students in this class:

- Students will log in to the course a minimum of 2 times per week.
- To do well in online courses, students must be self-motivated, organized, and willing to stay on top of their schedule. Students should take control of their learning while in this course.
- Students will engage with the course, students, and the instructor in a respectful and professional manner at all times.
- Students will inform the instructor of any university-sanctioned absences (debate, athletic events, etc.) to ensure they can receive appropriate accommodations.
- Students will communicate needs for accommodations due to health and disability in a timely manner.

Course Engagement and Participation

Class participation is an essential part of the learning process. Students are responsible for their learning and are required to participate actively in all course components. Students are expected to complete each module's readings, viewings, and assignments. Open and critical discussion associated with the course material is always welcomed and encouraged.

Netiquette

Students are expected to follow the [core rules of netiquette](#) at all times while participating in the class, interacting with other students, and communicating with the course instructor and teaching assistant.

University Policies

1. **The Americans with Disabilities Act.** The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability & Access (<https://disability.utah.edu/>), 162 Olpin Union Building, 801-581-5020. CDA will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability & Access.
2. **University Safety Statement.** The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677). You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit safeu.utah.edu.
3. **Addressing Sexual Misconduct.** Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status, or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-

- 581-7066. Contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776, for support and confidential consultation. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety at 801-585-2677(COPS).
4. **Undocumented Student Support Statement.** Immigration is a complex phenomenon with a broad impact—those who are directly affected by it, as well as those who are indirectly affected by their relationships with family members, friends, and loved ones. If your immigration status presents obstacles to engaging in specific activities or fulfilling specific course criteria, confidential arrangements may be requested from the Dream Center. Arrangements with the Dream Center will not jeopardize your student status, your financial aid, or any other part of your residence. The Dream Center offers a wide range of resources to support undocumented students (with and without DACA) as well as students from mixed-status families. To learn more, please contact the Dream Center at 801.213.3697 or visit dream.utah.edu.
 5. **Drop/Withdrawal Policies.** Students may drop a course within the first two weeks of a given semester without any penalties. Students may officially withdraw (W) from a class or all classes after the drop deadline through the midpoint of a course. A “W” grade is recorded on the transcript, and appropriate tuition/fees are assessed. The grade “W” is not used to calculate the student’s GPA. For deadlines to withdraw from full-term, first, and second-session classes, see the U’s Academic Calendar.
 6. **Academic Misconduct Statement.** Per University of Utah regulations (Policy # 6-400). “A student who engages in academic misconduct,” as defined in Part I.B. and including, but not limited to, cheating, falsification, or plagiarism, “may be subject to academic sanctions including but not limited to a grade reduction, failing grade, probation, suspension or dismissal from the program or the University, or revocation of the student’s degree or certificate. Sanctions may also include community service, a written reprimand, and/or a written statement of misconduct that can be put into an appropriate record maintained for purposes of the profession or discipline for which the student is preparing.” Please refer to the Student Code for full elaboration of student academic and behavioral misconduct policies (<http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php>).
 7. Other important information to consider includes:
 - Accommodation Policy (see Section Q): <http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-100.php>
 8. **Wellness Statement.** Your personal health and wellness are essential to your success as a student. Personal concerns like stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, or cross-cultural differences can interfere with a student’s ability to succeed and thrive in this course and at the University of Utah. Please feel welcome to reach out to your instructor or TA to handle issues regarding your coursework. For helpful resources to manage your personal wellness and counseling options, contact:

Center for Student Wellness

P. 801-581-7776

wellness.utah.edu

2100 Eccles Student Life Center

1836 Student Life Way

Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Women’s Resource Center

P. 801-581-8030

womenscenter.utah.edu

411 Union Building

200 S. Central Campus Dr.

Salt Lake City, UT 84112

9. **Student Mental Health Resources.** Rates of burnout, anxiety, depression, isolation, and loneliness have noticeably increased during the pandemic. If you need help, reach out to campus mental health resources, including counseling, training, and other support. Consider participating in a Mental Health First Aid or

other wellness-themed training provided by our Center for Student Wellness and sharing these opportunities with your peers, teaching assistants, and department colleagues.

10. **Diverse Student Support.** Your success at the University of Utah is important to all of us here! If you feel like you need extra support in academics, overcoming personal difficulties, or finding community, the U is here for you.

Student Support Services (TRIO)

TRIO federal programs are targeted to serve and assist low-income individuals, first-generation college students, and individuals with disabilities. Student Support Services (SSS) is a TRIO program for current or incoming undergraduate university students who are seeking their first bachelor's degree and need academic assistance and other services to be successful at the University of Utah. For more information about what support they provide, a list of ongoing events, and links to other resources, view their website or contact:

Student Support Services (TRIO)

P. 801-581-7188

trio.utah.edu

Room 2075

1901 E. S. Campus Dr.

Salt Lake City, UT 84112

American Indian Students

The AIRC works to increase American Indian student visibility and success on campus by advocating for and providing student-centered programs and tools to enhance academic success, cultural events to promote personal well-being, and a supportive “home-away-from-home” space for students to grow and develop leadership skills. For more information about what support they provide, a list of ongoing events, and links to other resources, view their website or contact:

American Indian Resource Center

P. 801-581-7019

diversity.utah.edu/centers/airc

Fort Douglas Building

622 1925 De Trobriand St.

Salt Lake City, UT 84113

Black Students

Using a pan-African lens, the Black Cultural Center seeks to counteract persistent campus-wide and global anti-blackness. The Black Cultural Center works to holistically enrich, educate, and advocate for students, faculty, and staff through Black-centered programming, culturally affirming educational initiatives, and retention strategies. For more information about what support they provide, a list of ongoing events, and links to other resources, view their website or contact:

Black Cultural Center

P. 801-213-1441

diversity.utah.edu/centers/bcc

Fort Douglas Building

603 95 Fort Douglas Blvd.

Salt Lake City, UT 84113

Students with Children

Our mission is to support and coordinate information, program development, and services that enhance family resources as well as the availability, affordability, and quality of childcare for University students, faculty, and staff. For more information about what support they provide, a list of ongoing events, and links to other resources, view their website or contact:

Center for Childcare & Family Resources

P. 801-585-5897

childcare.utah.edu

408 Union Building

200 S. Central Campus Dr.

Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Students of Ethnic Descent

The Center for Ethnic Student Affairs offers several programs dedicated to the success of students with varied cultural and ethnic backgrounds. Its mission is to create an inclusive, safe campus community that values the experiences of all students. For more information about what support they provide, a list of ongoing events, and links to other resources, view their website or contact:

Center for Ethnic Student Affairs

P. 801-581-8151

diversity.utah.edu/centers/cesa/

235 Union Building

200 S. Central Campus Dr.

Salt Lake City, UT 84112

LGBTQ+ Students

The LGBTQ+ Resource Center acts in accountability with the campus community by identifying the needs of people with a queer range of [a]gender and [a]sexual experiences and responding with university-wide services. For more information about what support they provide, a list of ongoing events, and links to other resources, view their website or contact:

LGBTQ+ Resource Center

P. 801-587-7973

lgbt.utah.edu

409 Union Building

200 S. Central Campus Dr.

Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Veterans & Military Students

The mission of the Veterans Support Center is to improve and enhance the individual and academic success of veterans, service members, and their family members who attend the university; to help them receive the benefits they earned, and to serve as a liaison between the student veteran community and the university. For more information about what support they provide, a list of ongoing events, and links to other resources, view their website or contact:

Veterans Support Center

P. 801-587-7722

veteranscenter.utah.edu

418 Union Building
200 S. Central Campus Dr.
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Students with Disabilities

The Center for Disability Services is dedicated to serving students with disabilities by providing the opportunity for success and equal access at the University of Utah. They also strive to create an inclusive, safe, and respectful environment. For more information about what support they provide and links to other resources, view their website or contact:

Center for Disability Services

P. 801-581-5020

disability.utah.edu

162 Union Building
200 S. Central Campus Dr.
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

English as a Second/Additional Language (ESL) Students

If you are an English language learner, there are several resources on campus available to help you develop your English writing and language skills. Feel free to contact:

Writing Center

P. 801-587-9122

writingcenter.utah.edu

2701 Marriott Library
295 S 1500 E
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

English for Academic Success (EAS) Program

P. 801-581-8047

linguistics.utah.edu

2300 LNCO
255 S. Central Campus Dr.
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

English Language Institute

p. 801-581-4600

continue.utah.edu/eli

540 Arapeen Dr.
Salt Lake City, UT 84108

Inclusivity at the U

The Office for Inclusive Excellence is here to engage, support, and advance an environment fostering the values of respect, diversity, equity, inclusivity, and academic excellence for students in our increasingly global campus community. They also handle reports of bias in the classroom, as outlined below:

Bias or hate incidents consist of speech, conduct, or some other form of expression or action that is motivated wholly or in part by prejudice or bias whose impact discriminates, demeans, embarrasses, assigns stereotypes, harasses, or excludes individuals because of their race, color, ethnicity, national origin, language, sex, size, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability, age, or religion.

For more information about what support they provide and links to other resources, or to report a bias incident, view their website or contact:

Office for Inclusive Excellence

P. 801-581-4600

inclusive-excellence.utah.edu

170 Annex (Wing D)

1901 E. S. Campus Dr.

Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Other Student Groups at the U

To learn more about some of the other resource groups available at the U, check out:

getinvolved.utah.edu/

studentsuccess.utah.edu/resources/student-support

Financial Support

There are many ways to help with the cost of attendance. Apply for all sorts of scholarships! The Women's Resource Center, The LGBT Resource Center, and many other entities on campus offer scholarships. Please also check out the support offered by the colleges:

CSBS Undergraduate Scholarships:

Complete one application and apply for multiple scholarships! Undergraduate scholarship applications for the 2025-2026 academic year open on November 1, 2024, and close on February 1, 2025. Students must provide a well-written essay, gather two letters of recommendation, and be a declared major in the College of Social and Behavioral Science. We have scholarships for every type of student—nontraditional, minority, merit, experience-based, and all GPA's. Typical scholarships range from \$1,000-\$5,000. Visit

<https://csbs.utah.edu/students/scholarships/undergraduate.php> for instructions. For questions or to set up an appointment, please email scholarships@csbs.utah.edu.