

**KENNEBEC VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
FAIRFIELD, MAINE**

**Social Sciences Department**

**Approval Date: 1/17/97**

**Semester: Spring 2014**

**COURSE NUMBER:** SOC101  
**COURSE TITLE:** Introduction to Sociology  
**PREREQUISITES:** None  
**CO-REQUISITES:** None

**CREDIT HOURS:** 3  
**CLOCK HOURS:** 45

| <b>INSTRUCTOR</b> | <b>VOICE MAIL</b> | <b>OFFICE</b>   | <b>E-MAIL ADDRESS</b>  |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Mark Kavanaugh    | 207-453-5189      | 221 Carter Hall | mkavanaugh@kvcc.me.edu |

**OFFICE HOURS:** By appointment

**TEXTS & OTHER MATERIALS:**

Benokraitis, N.V. (2014). SOC (3<sup>rd</sup> Ed.). Cengage. Belmont, CA.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

A general scientific study of people and the dynamics of society, with emphasis upon the nature of culture, social institutions, social interaction, social units, and their influence on the individual. An overview of sociological concepts and perspectives is also presented.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

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

1. Identify and apply the three major theoretical sociological perspectives.
2. Identify the effects of culture and socialization on the diverse nature of people.
3. Describe the social structures within our society, how they interact, and the effect of deviance on society.
4. Identify and describe aspects of class, race, ethnicity, and gender on social inequality.
5. Describe the dominant social institutions within our society such as the family, education, religion, politics, and medicine.
6. Identify and describe social change and how it manifests itself in society.

**COURSE CONTENT:**

*Within the online course in Blackboard you will find a highly detailed document called "Course Navigator." This document provides additional detail related to all course activities for each week.*

- Introduction to the Course, Syllabus, and Expectations
- Lesson 1: What is Sociology?
- Lesson 2: The Perspectives
- Lesson 3: Sociology and the Scientific Method
- Lesson 4: Introduction to Culture
- Lesson 5: Diversity
- Lesson 6: Culture and Technology

- Lesson 7: Socialization
- Lesson 8: Social Status and Roles
- Lesson 9: Online Socialization
- Lesson 10: My Social Groups
- Lesson 11: Personal Social Control
- Lesson 12: Guilty or Insane?
- Lesson 13: The Criminal Justice System
- Lesson 14: The Have's and the Have Not's
- Lesson 15: Social Mobility
- Lesson 16: Gender and Sex
- Lesson 17: Sexuality and Sexual Orientation
- Lesson 18: Immigration
- Lesson 19: Racial and Ethnic Minorities
- Lesson 20: Economic Theories
- Lesson 21: Perspectives on the Economy
- Lesson 22: Local Politics
- Lesson 23: Family Structure
- Lesson 24: Domestic Violence
- Lesson 25: Education
- Lesson 26: Religion
- Lesson 27: Healthcare and Technology
- Lesson 28: An Exploration of Global Healthcare Coverage
- Lesson 29: Global Warming
- Lesson 30: Social Change

## **COURSE ACTIVITIES:**

For each week in this class you will be assigned specific activities. These activities may include reading in the textbook, reading outside material, participation in discussions, quizzes on the text content, and reflection quizzes.

## **Lesson Plans**

The entire course is divided into “Lessons” that cover specific topics and learning objectives in the class. The Lessons are listed in the Course Outline above. Each Lesson introduces you to specific subject matter and asks you to engage in a number of activities. These may include reading, exploring the web, researching, participating in online discussions, quizzes (multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions), and assignments (written work submitted as an attached document in a “drop box”)

Each Lesson consists of:

- A Lesson Plan that outlines the content and provides detailed instructions as to any assignments
- Direct links to any Discussions, Assignments, or Quizzes that go along with that Lesson.

All the Lessons are located in the “Lessons” folder. Click on the Lessons link in the course Menu.

## **Chapter Quizzes**

For each chapter in the book there will be a quiz that you will take online. Each quiz will consist of 20 multiple-choice questions that will be randomly selected from a database each time you take the quiz. You can take the

quizzes as many times as you wish, but understand that each time you take the quiz you may get different questions. The HIGHEST of all your attempts will be the one that counts so there is no risk in taking the quiz over and over. The quizzes will be available from the beginning of the class but they must be completed by the end of the week in which the reading is assigned. Feel free to work ahead on these quizzes.

Links to these quizzes are located in the corresponding Chapter Quizzes link.

*Extensions on the due dates for Module Quizzes may be allowed with sufficient reason, however, I reserve the judgment to not grant an extension. If you anticipate needing extra time it is best to get in touch with me PRIOR to the due date.*

## **Attendance**

Attendance is graded very simply in this class, either you are there (score = 100) or you are not (score = 0). I will be taking attendance each session we meet and I will simply average all these scores together to formulate this part of your grade.

Attendance in this class is critical; as we will be going over Lesson material pertinent to you completing the Lesson Quizzes...we will also be doing in-class activities to help facilitate your learning of the material.

Please review the document titled “Course Policies and Expectations” located in the “Course Information” section on the main page of the Bb course site.

## **Lesson Quizzes**

These quizzes will consist of questions related to activities I assign in the class, the content of the discussions, or information you gather from research or from your interview (see below).

Within each Lesson outlined you will be provided with a lists of ALL the questions in the specific quiz. You should prepare your answers ahead of time and then enter these answers into the appropriate online quiz.

Quizzes must be completed by the end of the week in which they are assigned. You may be able to work ahead on some of these quizzes as well.

*Extensions on the due dates for quizzes may be allowed with sufficient reason; however, I reserve the judgment to not grant an extension. If you anticipate needing extra time it is best to get in touch with me PRIOR to the due date.*

## **Special Assignments**

The following assignments are those that have been incorporated into this class to not only teach you course content, but to also enable you to demonstrate learning associated with the KVCC General Education Outcomes. (See the section on General Education Outcomes in the Course Requirements section of this syllabus)

- Local Politics Special Assignment
- Ethics and Religion Special Assignment
- Academic Reading Special Assignment
- Service-Learning Project

It is critical that you review the information I have provided for each of these assignments in the course website.

While the assignments are not particularly complicated, they are certainly complex, requiring planning and time management to complete them by their due dates.

### **GRADING:**

Grading for the course will be accomplished in the following manner:

|                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| 1. Attendance               | 25% |
| 2. Lesson Quizzes           | 20% |
| 3. Chapter Quizzes          | 15% |
| 4. Service-Learning Project | 25% |
| 5. Special Assignments      | 15% |

### **GRADING SCALE:**

Letter Grades---Based on a final grade scale of 0-100, the following letter grades will be assigned:

|          |    |
|----------|----|
| 95-100   | A  |
| 90-94    | A- |
| 87-89    | B+ |
| 83-86    | B  |
| 80-82    | B- |
| 77-79    | C+ |
| 73-76    | C  |
| Below 73 | F  |

Please note that I will not be giving grades below a C. The rationale to this is that students who do not master more than 72% of the material in this class are not prepared to meet the expectations of future classes or programs that require this course. It simply means that you have not learned enough material to really say that you have “passed” the class.

### **ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Please review the online document titled “Course Expectations and Policies”

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

In addition to the regular course outcomes, this course engages students to demonstrate their competence in a number of areas related to General Education Learning Outcomes. Specific assignments in the class are designed to not only teach about the course topics, but to demonstrate this general learning.

The following is an outline of these outcomes and their corresponding assignments:

- Students will demonstrate proficiency in critical thinking
  - *Assessment: Special Assignment Local Politics*
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in ethical reasoning
  - *Assessment: Special Assignment Ethics and Religion*
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in intercultural knowledge and competence
  - *Assessment: Special Assignment Academic Reading*
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in reading

- *Assessment: Special Assignment Academic Reading*
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in civic engagement
  - *Assessment: Special Assignment Service-Learning Project*

## **OTHER INFORMATION:**

Please review the online document titled “Course Expectations and Policies”

## **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES (2011)**

In accordance with state and federal law, this College is committed to assisting qualified students with disabilities achieve their educational goals.

### ***If you are in need of an accommodation in this course:***

- Students must contact the Dean of Students, Enrollment Services Center, Frye Building, 453-5019, [knormandin@kvcc.me.edu](mailto:knormandin@kvcc.me.edu)
- Students must provide current, appropriate documentation of their disability.
- Students must make a timely request for accommodation to the Dean of Students.
- Accommodations will not be provided until the faculty member receives a request form for accommodations. This form is created with the Dean of Students and is supported by the documentation of said disability.
- Requests for accommodation must be renewed each semester for each course.

This document is available in enlarged print and on audio tape. Please contact the Dean of Students at 453-5019 or [knormandin@kvcc.me.edu](mailto:knormandin@kvcc.me.edu)

## **NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION (2013):**

Kennebec Valley Community College does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission to, access to, or operation of its programs, services or activities. Students requesting classroom accommodation should be forwarded to Director of the Marden Center, 130 King Hall, phone: 453-5084 or Dean of Students, Enrollment Service Center, Frye Building, 453-5019.

Complaints about College decisions related to disability accommodations or discrimination must be forwarded to Affirmative Action Officer and ADA Compliance Officer, KVCC Annex Building, 50 Eskelund Drive, Fairfield, ME 04937, phone: 453-5000.