

WELCOME TO SOC 1000: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

FALL 2026

Monday & Wednesday | 11:00 AM- 12:20 | Bentley Annex 132

Instructor: Christabel Sarpomaa

Office Location: Bentley Annex

Student Drop-In Hours: Mondays and Fridays 1:00 – 3:00pm & by appointment or via teams

Email: cs050025@ohio.edu (do ***not*** use Canvas messenger!)

Response Time: Within 24 hours on weekdays. No weekend response.

TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

I view teaching and learning as an ongoing, shared journey, guiding students to think deeply, make ethical choices, and use their knowledge to positively impact society. Also, I believe teaching is most effective when students actively engage with the material by applying concepts to real-life experiences, and my role is to facilitate this engagement, ensure an inclusive and supportive environment.

MODE OF DELIVERY

Course delivery will include in-person lectures, guided discussions and the viewing of short educational videos (e.g., selected YouTube clips and documentary excerpts) that illustrate key sociological concepts and real-world social issues. These videos will serve as prompts for discussion, critical analysis, and short reflection activities. Students should bring their laptops to class to access and engage with these materials.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Why do we behave the way we do? How do family, religion, media, education, and culture shape our daily lives? Although we constantly interact with others in spaces such as our homes, schools, and online platforms, we often do not realize that we are participating in social processes that can be studied and analyzed.

This course introduces students to the systematic study of social interaction, social behavior, and social institutions. Major topics include sociological imagination, research methods, socialization, and contemporary social issues. Through lectures, discussion, readings, and applied

activities, students will learn to analyze everyday life using key sociological concepts. The course emphasizes critical thinking and the ability to connect personal experiences to broader social patterns. By the end of the course, students will begin to recognize that sociology is not just an academic discipline, but a powerful tool for understanding everyday life and the broader social world.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. **Define** and **apply** the sociological imagination to connect personal experiences with broader social patterns.
2. **Identify** and **describe** major sociological research methods and explain when they are appropriately used.
3. **Analyze** the ways social stratification and social institutions influence people's opportunities and life outcomes.
4. Use **sociological concepts** and **research** to think critically about society, demonstrating the ability to analyze social issues and connect course material to everyday life.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND COURSE MATERIALS

Required textbook: Chambliss, W. J., & Eglitis, D. S. (2020). Discover Sociology (4th ed.). SAGE.

Additional readings will be assigned on Canvas throughout the semester

MEASUREMENT OF LEARNING OUTCOMES

LEARNING OUTCOMES	ASSESSMENT METHOD
Learning Outcome 1	Assignments, Midterm, Final Exams
Learning Outcome 2	Research Assignment

Learning Outcome 3	Midterm, Final Exams, Stratification Assignment
Learning Outcome 4	Discussion, Participation, Final Exam, Assignments

COURSE SCHEDULE

The below is a tentative course outline, subject to revision by the instructor based on class progress and instructional needs.

Readings should be completed prior to class on the day they are listed.

WEEKS	DATE	TOPIC	ACTIVITIES	RESPONSIBILITIES
1	Aug. 24 Aug. 26	Syllabus Overview Introduction to the course and each other Intro to Sociological Imagination & Culture	Icebreaker activities Syllabus Quiz	Read chapter 1 of required textbook
2	Aug. 31 Sept. 2	Socialization & Social Interaction	Quiz 1	Read chapter 4 of required textbook
3	Sept. 7 Sept. 9	Groups & Organizations and Bureaucracies	Discussion Activity	Read chapter 5 of required textbook
4	Sept. 14 Sept. 16	Deviance & Social Control	Assignment due	Read chapter 6 of required textbook
5	Sept. 21 Sept. 23	Social Class and inequality in the US (Stratification)	Quiz 2	Read chapter 7 of required textbook
6	Sept. 28 Sept. 30	Race & Ethnicity	Discussion Activity	Read chapter 10 of required textbook

7	Oct. 5 Oct. 7	Gender & Society	Assignment due	Read chapter 9 of required textbook
8	Oct. 12 Oct. 14	Work, Consumption and the Economy	Mid-Sem	Read chapter 15 of required textbook
9	Oct. 19 Oct. 21	Religion and Society	Discussion Activity	Read chapter 13 of required textbook
10	Oct. 26 Oct. 28	Families & Society	Quiz 3	Read chapter 11 of required textbook
11	Nov. 2 Nov. 4	Education & Society	Quiz 4	Read chapter 12 of required textbook
12	Nov. 9 Nov. 11	Population, Urbanization and the Environment	Discussion Activity	Read chapter 17 of required textbook
13	Nov. 16 Nov. 18	Health and Medicine	Assignment due	Read chapter 16 of required textbook
14	Nov. 23 Nov. 25	Discover Sociological Research		Read chapter 2 of required textbook
15	Nov. 30 Dec. 2 (last day of classes)	End of semester wrap up Final Exams Review		

16	Dec. 7	FINAL EXAMS DUE		
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GRADING

Assignment 20%

Quiz 15%

Midterm 25%

Final Exams 30%

Attendance and Discussion Participation 10%

Total 100%

ASSIGNMENTS

Applied sociological analysis assignments (not more than one page). Detailed guidelines and rubrics will be provided on Canvas.

QUIZZES

Short in-class or online quizzes assessing comprehension of key concepts.

MID-SEM & FINAL EXAMS

Combination of multiple choice and short answers.

Mid- Sem and Final exams will be conducted on **canvas** in class, with students given **45 minutes** to complete them. Students will be required to provide concise responses to 30 questions.

GRADE PERCENTAGES

Letter Grade	Percentage Range
A	93–100%
A-	90–92%

B+	87–89%
B	83–86%
B₋	80–82%
C+	77–79%
C	73–76%
C-	70–72%
D+	67–69%
D	63–66%
D-	60–62%
F	Below 60%

COURSE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

COMMUNICATION

I welcome questions and feedback via email, or in person. Please communicate respectfully and professionally. When emailing, include a greeting and a closing with your name. Disrespectful emails will not receive a response.

Please do **not** use Canvas Messenger to contact me. Check Canvas regularly (ideally daily) for announcements and updates.

Each class will begin with a **brief 5-minute review** of previous material. I will also provide a question box in class where students can **anonymously submit questions** to be addressed in the following session.

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is expected. You may miss **two class meetings without penalty**. Additional absences may lower your final course grade.

Reasonable accommodation will be made for: Documented illness, family emergencies, jury duty, religious observances and University-sponsored events

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

You must email me **before the deadline** or within one day after missing class/assignment (unless it is a medical or family emergency). Late submissions without prior approval will incur a **5-point penalty after two days**.

Make-up exams will only be permitted for legitimate and documented reasons, such as illness, family emergencies, or university-approved activities. It is the student's responsibility to communicate promptly and provide appropriate documentation when necessary.

ASSIGNMENT PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION

Read ALL instructions before beginning any assignment. Ask questions before submission if anything is unclear.

Submission Rules: All assignments must be uploaded to the correct Canvas folder. I do not accept submissions via email.

Formatting: All written work must be composed in **Microsoft Word** and submitted as a .doc or .docx file. Google Docs are not accepted.

CLASSROOM CLIMATE

My classes hinge on the spirit of fundamental diversity and radical inclusion. All of us are unique and have unique lived experiences that are real, valid, and worthy of exploration; your voices and stories are powerful, meaningful, and deserve to be heard. I welcome and encourage all students regardless of age, sex, gender, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, ability, socioeconomic status, body type and size, educational background, political affiliation, and creed to be engaged in this class. Talk to each other.

Be aware **that respectful, open-minded engagement** applies to your peers and instructor *and* the authors we read for class.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY & ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

- All assignments submitted for this course should represent your own thinking and effort and should be prepared entirely by you. Any use of generative AI at any stage of your

work in this course constitutes academic dishonesty and is a violation of course policy and of the Ohio University Student Code of Conduct.

- There may be times when the use of AI-generated text or images would be appropriate in this course, but you should obtain advanced permission from the instructor for any use of generative AI technologies. Including AI-generated materials in coursework without receiving advance permission and providing proper citation constitutes academic dishonesty and is a violation of course policy and of the Ohio University Student Code of Conduct.

Academic misconduct includes: Cheating, Plagiarism, Unauthorized collaboration, Fabrication and Submitting the same work in multiple courses without permission

Violations may result in: Failing the assignment, Failing the course or Reporting to the Office of Community Standards

Use of AI (ChatGPT, Bing Chat, etc.)

AI may not be used to generate assignments unless explicitly permitted.

Any use of AI must be disclosed on the assignment cover page.

You must explain how and why AI was used.

Failure to disclose AI use will result in failing the entire course.

Students may be required to provide AI chat transcripts for verification.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Interim Policy on Reasonable Religious Accommodations

Students may be absent for up to three (3) days each academic semester, without penalty, to observe their faith or participate in organized religious or spiritual activities.

You must notify me in writing of specific dates requested for alternative accommodation no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of instruction. These requests will remain confidential.

For more information, contact:

Director and Title IX Coordinator, Equity and Civil Rights Compliance

Lindley Hall 006

Phone: 740-593-9140

Email: Equity@ohio.edu

University Equity and Civil Rights Compliance

The Office of University Equity and Civil Rights Compliance (ECRC) is committed to maintaining an educational environment free from discrimination and harassment. The office provides training, policy guidance, and support for resolving grievances based on protected status.

Protected categories include: race, color, religion, age, ethnicity, national origin, ancestry, sex, pregnancy, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, military or veteran status, disability, and genetic information.

Contact Information:

Address: Lindley Hall 006, Ohio University, Athens, OH 45701

Phone: 740-593-9140

Fax: 740-593-9168

Email: equity@ohio.edu | access@ohio.edu

Accessibility Services

If you require accommodations, please contact Student Accessibility Services:

348 Baker University Center

Phone: 740-593-2620

Website: <https://www.ohio.edu/accessibility>

You are also welcome to speak with me privately. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), all qualified students are entitled to reasonable accommodations.

Academic Integrity

Ohio University values intellectual and personal growth as central to its mission. Academic integrity is essential to maintaining this standard.

Plagiarism includes using another person's work or ideas without proper acknowledgment. This includes copying, quoting, or paraphrasing without appropriate citation.

Cheating includes attempting to gain an unfair advantage, such as:

- Using unauthorized materials during exams, receiving or providing unauthorized assistance, misusing technology or copying another student's work

Violations will result in disciplinary action, which may include failure of the assignment or course.

Please refer to the Ohio University Student Code of Conduct for additional information.

Additional Resources

Counseling and Psychological Services

Students can access confidential counseling services:

Phone: 740-593-1616

Location: 3rd Floor, Hudson Health Center

Email: counseling.services@ohio.edu

Website: ohio.edu/counseling

Services are available 24/7.

National Crisis Hotlines

- Crisis Text Line: www.crisistextline.org or text 741741
- LGBTQ+ National Hotline: 1-888-843-4564
- National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233
- National Sexual Assault Hotline: www.rainn.org or 1-800-656-4673
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline: suicidepreventionlifeline.org or 1-800-273-8255
- Veterans Crisis Line: veteranscrisisline.net or 1-800-273-8255

Sociology and Criminology Career Advising

The Department of Sociology & Anthropology offers career advising support for students pursuing careers in sociology and criminology.

Services include: Identifying career paths and skills, Resume, CV, and cover letter development and Job search strategies

Schedule an appointment with Dr. Amanda Cox: [Amanda K. Cox | Ohio University](#)