

University of New Mexico-Valencia Campus

Introduction to Sociology-ONLINE

SOCI 1110-503

March 18 to May 10, 2024

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Instructor: Barb Thompson

Term: Spring 2024

Credit hours: 3

Email: bthompson58@unm.edu

Office hours via Zoom Mondays from 10-11a. Click the link below to enter.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81343306561?pwd=dkdSNTJ2WINMSXQveXJwT2l2OVh3Zz09>

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Catalog Description:

This course will introduce students to the basic concepts and theories of sociology, as well as to the methods utilized in sociological research. The course will address how sociological concepts and theories can be utilized to analyze and interpret our social world, and how profoundly our society and the groups to which students belong influence them.

Students will be given the opportunity to challenge their “taken for granted” or “common sense” understandings about society, social institutions, and social issues. Special attention will also be paid to the intimate connections between their personal lives and the larger structural features of social life.

In addition, the implications of social inequalities, such as race/ethnicity, gender, and social class will be central to the course’s examination of social life in the United States.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs):

Sociology 1110 is an introductory course intended to promote a better understanding of the impact of the political, social, and economic environments on our individual lives. By the end of class, students will be able to:

1. Define sociological perspectives and the contributions that sociological knowledge can bring to the social sciences.
2. Define the sociological imagination and explain the relationships between social structures, social forces and individuals.

3. Demonstrate the ability to apply the perspectives of symbolic interactionist theory, conflict theory, and structural-functionalist theory to qualitative and/or quantitative data.
4. Identify and explain intersectionality and the connections between race, class, gender, disability, sexual identity and other forms of structural inequality.

TEXTBOOKS/MATERIALS:

- The default text is Introduction to Sociology, (ISBN 10 1938168410), available free of charge via www.Openstax.org. You can also purchase a hard copy at the UNM bookstore or through Amazon, where you can also purchase an electronic copy. Please select whichever option works best for you. Having access to the textbook is necessary for successful completion of the course. **We will be using the 3rd edition.** (the blue book, not the yellow one).
- You will also need access to UNM email.
- You will need Canvas for class materials.
- about 5-7 hours outside of class per week for reflection, reading, and readiness.

About this class: This is an online, **accelerated** class. Accessing and completing assignments is expected and required to pass this call. All assigned readings and videos will be posted in Canvas. All assignments will be turned in via Canvas. We move quickly...if you get behind, it will be difficult to catch up!

COURSE REQUIREMENTS/ATTENDANCE:

- Students enrolled for credit, credit/no credit, or audit are expected to participate in all class assignments.
- Simply logging into Canvas to retrieve assignments does not constitute attendance. Students who do not submit an assignment, login, attend, or participate during the first 2 weeks of class may be dropped from the course.
- Students should check their course messages and email messages daily.
- A student with excessive missed assignments may be dropped from the course. **Students should not assume they will be dropped from the class automatically.** Missing 3 or more assignments assigned constitutes excessive missed assignments.

Students are expected to follow the following UNM guidelines:

- **Academic Integrity Policy:** Having academic integrity is paramount to your success in any class. This course has a zero tolerance for academic dishonesty. This includes “dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done by you or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students...” and **plagiarism**-an academic theft committed when you copy an idea or any text than of more than six words from any source, including the internet, your friends, etc., without citing the

- source. **To avoid plagiarism**, you must enclose whatever you copy in quotations and cite the source.
- Use of **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** is not necessarily considered academic dishonesty. Using it verbatim is. Do not let the lure of AI cheat you out of an education.
 - **If there is evidence of academic dishonesty on any assignment, whether a student uses the work of another student or allows another student to use their work, both students will receive no credit for the assignment.** Any student suspected of academic dishonesty will be subject to the investigative and disciplinary process of UNM. This, and further information, is available at: <http://handbook.unm.edu/policies/section-d/d100.html>.
 - Student Code of Conduct: available at <http://pathfinder.unm.edu/campus-policies/student-code-of-conduct.html>

Grading will generally conform to the following:

A+=100-99%	B+=89-87%	C+=79-77%	D+=69-67%
A=98-94%	B=86-84%	C=76-74%	D=66-64%
A-=93-90%	B-=83-80%	C-=73-70%	D-=63-60%

Any grade below 60 will be assigned an F. According to UNM policy, (http://degrees.unm.edu/undergrad_programs/1312/degree_plans?disp_first=4+Year+Plan), **the passing grade for all sociology courses is a “C”**. Students must complete all course requirements to earn credit for the course. Those who fail to complete the requirements will be assigned an “F”. Only letter grades will be posted on your transcript.

Work is considered **on time and eligible** for consideration for full points if it is submitted by 11:59pm on the date designated. **Late work will be allowed with a 20% deduction up to the 5th day it is late, after which it will not be accepted. No late work will be accepted after the final exam.**

Assignments will be graded within 10ish days, unless other specified. This allows you to keep track of points accrued and missing assignments. Tracking your grade is a mutual activity between the two of us. Your grades are always accessible through the GRADES tab in Canvas. **Just a word of warning:** Canvas reports your grade based on the total number of points you turned in. For example, let’s say there are 10 assignments worth a total of 100 points. If you turn in 8 assignments and make full points, Canvas will show that your grade is 80/80 or 100%. However, your missing assignments also need to be calculated, so your grade is really 80/100 or 80%.

Students will earn points toward the grade of their choice in the following manner:

1. **Formative Assessments:** Formative assessments include quizzes, written responses to readings, videos, or topics, and smaller (fewer points, less risk) assignments. These help you demonstrate how well you understand the material. There will be one quiz per chapter to help you assess how well you are understanding the material and allow you an opportunity to review. You can take the quiz up to 3 times as needed until you make at least 80%. Quizzes will include traditional objective questions (T/F, multiple guess, etc.) Quizzes will not be accepted late. Other formative assessments will also be included in each unit. **Each formative assignment will be worth 10 points.**
2. **Summative Assessments (30 points each):** Summative assessments allow you to demonstrate how larger amounts of information and concepts are integrated. Some will require your informed opinion. A summative assignment is included each unit, and there will be a final reflection.

3. A total of 450 points will be available, and a passing grade will require 315 points

Assignments to be turned in must be **presented professionally through Canvas**. Use ASA citation format when citing materials. The following website will be very helpful: <https://guides.tricolib.brynmawr.edu/c.php?g=285714&p=1902491> . While this is not an English class, your work should reflect your grasp of written communication skills and be prepared in a professional manner. Too many grammatical errors will detract from your work. If you know you have difficulty with writing skills, please make use of the Writing Lab, available online. If I notice you have difficulty, I will suggest you contact them. Please do not be offended: I am only trying to help you be successful.

Please do not wait until the last days of the term to ask how to improve your grade. I will be happy to help you do your best in the class, but not at the last minute.

Extra credit: Extra credit means you are doing something above and beyond the assignments. You'll notice there isn't a list of extra credit options. When there's something I consider extra credit worthy, I will post it in the Announcements section. Just another incentive to check announcements...

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE (In class and online):

Preparation: Time is most precious commodity we have. You have chosen to spend this class time improving yourself. This is most easily accomplished by coming prepared to class. Read the assignments, prepare your materials and be ready to share your ideas. I will communicate with you in person or via UNM email **ONLY**, so please check your UNM email regularly. We will not call each other.

Respect: This class is a lab for learning about society. We will cover topics which are very personal to some of you, sensitive to many of us, and may be uncomfortable because they make you think in challenging ways. Respectful disagreement is expected, but there is NO tolerance for INTOLERANCE. Feel free to share your opinions, but respect the rights of others to share theirs, too. I reserve the right to discontinue discussion at any point.

My classroom, in person and on-line, is identified as a Safe Place for all. If you have any issues with comments or attitudes displayed by others, please send me a message.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ONLINE CLASSES OR CLASSES WITH AN ONLINE COMPONENT:

Netiquette, or how we should behave online.

Rule 1. Remember we are all human.

- Never forget that the person reading your mail or posting is, indeed, a person, with feelings that can be hurt. It is not nice to hurt other people's feelings. Never mail or post anything you wouldn't say to your reader's face. Or your grandma. Or her pastor.
- Sociology should be thought provoking. Many of you/your colleagues have first-hand experience with the topics we are studying. Emotions may be triggered by what we see or hear. Remember: you never have to apologize for the harsh or unkind words unsaid/unwritten.
- Sarcasm and humor do not translate universally. And "I was only joking" is not an apology.

Rule 2. Adhere to the same standards of behavior online that you follow (we hope) in real life.

- Be ethical. Be kind. Be honest.
- Keep your discussions on topic and polite.
- Share your personal woes with your best friend, not your classmates.

Rule 3: Remember where you are.

This is a college-level course, conducted in English. We are different ages, have different backgrounds, and different experiences. Differences don't make us better than or less than...just different.

- Use your best writing skills. Use complete sentences. Spell Check is never foolproof. The blue underlined words should not be ignored. Abbreviated words or emojis may be appropriate for texts between friends, but they are not appropriate for this level of communication. Capital letters should be used appropriately.
- You are sending your work through a server connected to the University. Do not include or submit any files, pictures, or writing that you would not personally present to the Dean of Students, the Chief of Police, and/or your mother.

Rule 4: Call UNM support (505)277-0857 [not me] if you have tech issues with Canvas or some computer issues.

Rule 5. Have an electronic back up plan.

- Who will allow you to have access to a computer, internet, printer, or whatever you need to submit an assignment during the week?
- Who will allow you to have access to a computer, internet, printer, or whatever you need to submit an assignment during the weekend?
- Have extra ink, paper, mouse batteries, etc.
- The best way to avoid electronic/computer issues is to avoid waiting until the last minute to submit assignments.

COMMUNICATION

1. Announcements: Announcements will be made if changes are needed within the unit period.

2. Course Messages: These will be used throughout the unit to facilitate communication with individual students. **You will be expected to check your course messages DAILY.** I will too. You can expect I will answer questions within 24 hours on weekdays and 48 hours on weekends/holidays. If more than 2 students raise the same issue/question, it probably means others have questions too, so I make an announcement. **There is a “best practices” way to address messages and emails. Start each with an appropriate greeting (“Hello, Professor Thompson” or “Greetings, Ms. Thompson”) followed by your name and class.**

3. Emails: These will be used to supplement course messages to students who need a little extra prompting or guidance. I will use emails after no response to a course message to remind them that I am monitoring their progress/lack of progress and offer a one-on-one session to address any concerns they might be having. Emails should never be viewed as “uh-oh...I’m in trouble.”

Introduction to Sociology 1110-503 Spring, 2024

An assignment schedule follows...

Module 1 Assignments	Due Date	Points	Check When Complete
Course Readiness	Friday, 3-22-24	30	
Mod. 1 Discussion	Friday, 3-22-24	10	
Mod. 1 Assignments	Sunday, 3-24-24	50	

Module 2 Assignments	Due Date	Points	Check When Complete
Mod.2 Discussion	Friday, 3-29-24	10	
Module 2 Assignments	Sunday, 3-31-24	50	

Module 3 Assignments	Due Date	Points	Check When Complete
Mod. 3 Discussion	Friday, 4-5-24	10	
Mod. 3 Assignments	Sunday, 4-7-24	50	

Module 4 Assignments	Due Date	Points	Check When Complete
Mod. 4 Discussion	Friday, 4-12-24	10	
Mod. 4 Assignments	Sunday, 4-14-24	50	

Module 5 Assignments	Due Date	Points	Check When Complete
Mod. 5 Discussion	Friday, 4-19-24	10	
Mod. 5 Assignments	Sunday, 4-21-24	50	

Module 6	Due Date	Points	Check When Complete
Mod. 6 Discussion	Friday, 4-26-24	10	
Mod. 6 Assignments	Sunday, 4-28-24	50	

Module 7 Assignments	Due Date	Points	Check When Complete
No discussion		0	
Mod. 7 Assignments	5-5-24	60	
Final Reflection	5-10-24	30	
Last Day work will be accepted (11:59p)	Friday, May 10		

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The syllabus is a guideline for this class. Changes may be made as needed, but you will be provided with sufficient notification for any graded activity.

Special Needs: In accordance with University Policy 2310 and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), any student who, because of a disability, may require certain special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary accommodations. If you are a student with documented physical or learning disability, please notify me during the first week of class. If you have special needs and require accommodations in the classroom or other academic setting, it is your responsibility to contact the Office of Equal Access Services at 505-925-8560 (<http://valencia.unm.edu/about/accessibility.html>).

Veterans and active military personnel with special circumstances (e.g. upcoming deployment, drill requirements, disabilities) are welcome and encouraged to communicate these in advance, if possible, to the instructor. For additional assistance, please contact the Campus Branch Registrar at 505-925-8585.

Accommodations for Spiritual Tradition and/or Faith-Based Observances: Please notify me of your obligations to spiritual tradition or faith affiliation. Reasonable accommodation for such observances, upon advanced request, will be considered.

Equal Opportunity and Non-Discrimination: In an effort to meet obligations under Title IX, UNM faculty, teaching assistants, and graduate assistants are considered “responsible employees” by the Dep. of Education, (see p. 15 <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/qa-201404-title-ix.pdf>). This designation requires that any report of gender discrimination which includes sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, and sexual violence made to a faculty member, TA, or GA must be reported to the Title IX Coordinator at the Office of Equal Opportunity (oeo.unm.edu.). For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct, see: <https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2740.html>.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA)

<http://www.cnm.edu/student-resources/academicrecords/academic-records-list/FERPA>

UNM Required syllabus updates:

Accommodations: UNM is committed to providing courses that are inclusive and accessible for all participants. As your instructor, it is my objective to facilitate an accessible classroom setting, in which students have full access and opportunity. If you are experiencing physical or academic barriers, or concerns related to mental health, physical health and/or COVID-19, please consult with me after class, via email/phone or during office/check-in hours (I am not legally permitted

to inquire about the need for accommodations). We can meet your needs in collaboration with the [Accessibility Resource Center](https://arc.unm.edu/) (<https://arc.unm.edu/>) at arcsrvs@unm.edu or by phone (505) 277-3506.

Support: Contact me at bthompson58@unm.edu or in office/check-in hours and contact [Accessibility Resource Center](https://arc.unm.edu/) (<https://arc.unm.edu/>) at arcsrvs@unm.edu (505) 277-3506.

Credit-hour statement:

This is a three credit-hour course. Class meets for two 65-minute sessions of direct instruction for fifteen weeks during the Fall 2023 semester. Please plan for a *minimum* of six hours of out-of-class work (or homework, study, assignment completion, and class preparation) each week.

Support: [Center for Academic Program Support](#) (CAPS). Many students have found that time management workshops can help them meet their goals (consult ([CAPS](#)) website under "services").

Title IX:

Our classroom and our university should always be spaces of mutual respect, kindness, and support, without fear of discrimination, harassment, or violence. Should you ever need assistance or have concerns about incidents that violate this principle, please access the resources available to you on campus. Please note that, because UNM faculty, TAs, and GAs are considered "responsible employees" by the Department of Education, any disclosure of gender discrimination (including sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, and sexual violence) made to a faculty member, TA, or GA must be reported by that faculty member, TA, or GA to the university's Title IX coordinator. For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct, please see: <https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2740.html>.

Support: [LoboRESPECT Advocacy Center](#) and the support services listed on its website, the [Women's Resource Center](#) and the [LGBTQ Resource Center](#) all offer confidential services and reporting.

OPTIONAL SYLLABUS LANGUAGE

Land Acknowledgement: Founded in 1889, the University of New Mexico sits on the traditional homelands of the Pueblo of Sandia. The original peoples of New Mexico Pueblo, Navajo, and Apache since time immemorial, have deep connections to the land and have made significant contributions to the broader community statewide. We honor the land itself and those who remain stewards of this land throughout the generations and also acknowledge our committed relationship to Indigenous peoples. We gratefully recognize our history.

Resource: [Division for Equity and Inclusion](#).

Citizenship and/or Immigration Status: All students are welcome in this class regardless of citizenship, residency, or immigration status. Your professor will respect your privacy if you choose to disclose your status. As for all students in the class, family emergency-related absences are normally excused with reasonable notice to the professor, as noted in the attendance guidelines above. UNM as an institution has made a core commitment to the success of all our students, including members of our undocumented community. The Administration's welcome is found on our website: <http://undocumented.unm.edu/>.

Respectful and Responsible Learning: We all have shared responsibility for ensuring that learning occurs safely and equitably. UNM has important policies to preserve and protect the academic community, especially policies on student grievances (Faculty Handbook D175 and D176), academic dishonesty (FH D100), and respectful campus (FH CO9). These are in the *Student Pathfinder* (<https://pathfinder.unm.edu>) and the *Faculty Handbook* (<https://handbook.unm.edu>). Please ask for help in understanding and avoiding plagiarism or academic dishonesty, which can both have very serious consequences.

Support: Center for Academic Program Support (CAPS). Many students have found that time management workshops can help them meet their goals (consult (CAPS) website under "services").

Connecting to Campus and Finding Support: UNM has many resources and centers to help you thrive, including opportunities to get involved, mental health resources, academic support including tutoring, resource centers for people like you, free food at Lobo Food Pantry, and jobs on campus. Your advisor, staff at the resource centers and Dean of Students, and I can help you find the right opportunities for you.

