



**East China Normal University
GEC International Summer School**

SOC11: Introductory Sociology

Term: June 16th to July 18th, 2025

Class Hours: Monday through Friday, 110 minutes each day (2,750 minutes in total)

Instructor: Ruonan Wang

Home Institution: TBD

Office Hours: TBD

Email: TBD

Course Description

This course focuses on the basic assumptions, research topics, theories, and methodologies of sociology. Students will examine the ways in which social norms, values, roles, and social structure impact the world around people and their positions in society. Topics include power, submission, conflict, social structure, socialization, social change, and social inequality.

Prerequisite: None

Course Overview

The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the nature and characteristics of human societies and social life. We will examine basic sociological concepts, principles, research methods, and theory. Topics in this course include, but are not limited to, the following: origins of sociology, sociological theory and methods, social institutions, inequality, sexism, racism, family, stratification, and population studies.

Given that this is an introductory course to the science of sociology, no previous knowledge of sociology on the part of the student is assumed. The material presented in this course is meant to provide an overview of the field of sociology, as well as an understanding of the sociological perspective of society.

Learning Objective

A student who satisfactorily completes this course should:



1. Demonstrate knowledge of the major theoretical paradigms in sociology
2. Comprehend the basic concepts used by sociologists
3. Demonstrate the ability to interpret and critique empirical research
4. Understand basic social processes
5. Understand how social institutions function

Required Text

Essentials of Sociology: A Down-to-Earth Approach (11th edition), by Henslin, James M

ISBN: 0133803546

Course Hours

The course has 25 class sessions in total. Each class session is 110 minutes in length, for a total of 2750 minutes of in-class time. The course meets from Monday to Friday. ECNU awards 3 credits for this course. Different universities may count course credits differently. Consult officials at your own home institution.

Attendance

Summer school is very intense and to be successful, students need to attend every class. Occasionally, due to illness or other unavoidable circumstance, a student may need to miss a class. ECNU policy requires a medical certificate to be excused. Any absence may impact on the student's grade. Moreover, ECNU policy is that a student who has more than 3 absences will fail the course. Arriving late or leaving early will count as a partial absence.

Grading Policy

ECNU awards grades of A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, D, and F. Most colleges and universities do not award transfer credit for grades of D or F.

In this course, grading will be based on the following:

Attendance & Participation	10%
Term Paper	20%



Midterm Exam*2	20%*2=40%
Final Exam	30%

General Expectations

Students are expected to:

- Attend all classes and be responsible for all material covered in class and otherwise assigned. Any unexcused absence may impact a student's grade.
- Arrive to class on-time: Late arrivals are disruptive to your fellow students and to the conduct of the class.
- Complete the day's required reading and assignments before class
- Review the previous day's notes before class; make notes about questions you have about the previous class or the day's reading
- Refrain from texting, phoning or engaging in computer activities unrelated to class during class (不要用手机) It is highly disrespectful to the professor and to the class.
- Participate in class discussions and complete required written work on time.

Course Schedule

The planned schedule sketched out below may be modified to suit the interests or abilities of the enrolled students or to take advantage of special opportunities or events that may arise during the term.

Week 1

- *Day 1*
 - *Course outline*
 - *The Sociological Perspective*
- *Day 2*
 - *Research Methods*
 - *Read Chapter 1*
- *Day 3*
 - *Research Methods / Culture*
 - *Read Chapters 1 and 2*
- *Day 4*
 - *Culture*
 - *Read Chapter 2*



- *Day 5*
 - o *Video: The Gods Must be Crazy*
 - o *Read Chapter 2*

Week 2

- *Day 1*
 - o *Society and Social Groups*
 - o *Read Chapters 4 and 5*
- *Day 2*
 - o *Society and Social Groups*
 - o *Read Chapters 4 and 5*
- *Day 3*
 - o *First Midterm Examination*
- *Day 4*
 - o *Socialization*
 - o *Read Chapter 3*
- *Day 5*
 - o *Socialization / Deviance*
 - o *Read Chapters 3 and 6*

Week 3

- *Day 1*
 - o *Deviance*
 - o *Read Chapter 6*
- *Day 2*
 - o *Video: Juvenile Justice*
 - o *Read Chapter 6*
- *Day 3*
 - o *Social Stratification*
 - o *Read Chapters 7 and 8*
- *Day 4*
 - o *Social Stratification / Race and Ethnicity*
 - o *Read Chapters 7, 8 and 9*
- *Day 5*
 - o *Race and Ethnicity*
 - o *Read Chapter 9*



Week 4

- *Day 1*
 - o *Second Midterm Examination*
- *Day 2*
 - o *Gender*
 - o *Read Chapter 10*
- *Day 3*
 - o *Gender / Economy and Politics*
 - o *Read Chapters 10 and 11*
- *Day 4*
 - o *Economy and Politics*
 - o *Read Chapter 11*
- *Day 5*
 - o *Family*
 - o *Read Chapter 12*

Week 5

- *Day 1*
 - o *Family / Education*
 - o *Read Chapters 12 and 13*
- *Day 2*
 - o *Education*
 - o *Read Chapter 13*
- *Day 3*
 - o *Demography*
 - o *Read Chapter 14*
- *Day 4*
 - o *Demography*
 - o *Read Chapter 14*
- *Day 5*
 - o *Final examination*
 - o *Term Paper due*



Academic Honesty

Students are expected to maintain high standards of academic honesty. Specifically, unless otherwise directed by the professor, students may not consult other students, books, notes, electronic devices or any other source, on examinations. Failure to abide by this may result in a zero on the examination, or even failure in the course.