

Course Syllabus

Sociology/School of Behavioral and Social Sciences

SOC 1001-2/Introduction to Sociology

3 units

Fall 2026

Meeting days/times: MWF 12:15-1:10 pm

Meeting location: Rohr Hall 109

Information	Specifics for the Course
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Professor:	Dr. Jean Blaise
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Phone:	N/A
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Email:	jblaise@pointloma.edu
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Office location and hours:	N/A
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PLNU Mission

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service expresses faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

Course Description:



WHY STUDY SOCIOLOGY? Sociology helps us better understand ourselves and our social world. enables us to see how behavior is largely shaped by the groups to which we belong and the society in which we live. All of us are experts, of sorts, on social life: we live in society, observe social dynamics, interact with social institutions, and realize there is more out there than our own personal experiences that have shaped our lives. In this course, you will be introduced to the discipline's basic concepts, main theoretical perspectives, and primary research methods. To help you develop your sociological imagination, we will examine how socialization, culture, and social structure shape human behavior. We will investigate social inequality in a variety of areas, including race, class, and gender, and examine social institutions like the family, education, work, politics and government, religion, and the media. In short, we will explore how society influences individuals and how individuals shape society.

Course Objectives

The objectives of SOC-1001 are:

- To understand the major social institutions in modern American society
- To understand the major theoretical perspectives in sociology
- To understand the operation of large, formal organizations
- To understand global inequality around the world

The following text is required:

Introduction to Sociology, 3e

OpenStax Online Textbook: [Introduction to Sociology](https://openstax.org/details/books/introduction-sociology-3e) 

(<https://openstax.org/details/books/introduction-sociology-3e>) and OpenStax textbook

***** Please note:** To promote a lively and informed discussion of the topics, you are expected to complete all reading before the class assigned to the topic. During class, discussion is encouraged, and students will be expected to listen, share their thoughts, and be non-judgmental toward others who may have differing opinions. On occasion, your deeply held beliefs may be challenged by what you read and hear. I ask that you be open to new ideas and thoughtfully consider ways to express your ideas respectfully, even when others disagree.***

Organization, Attendance, and Active Participation Policy

Classes will focus largely on classroom discussion and a variety of other activities, such as lectures, films, and in-class activities. Hopefully, it will be a lively atmosphere conducive to learning and exchanging ideas.

This course has one textbook. **The lectures are never simply a recap of the chapter content. I will supply additional information in class that you will be responsible for on the exam.** However, for clarity, I have followed the same format as your textbook to structure this course. Even though you will be reading from a standard textbook, a great deal of important information will be presented in class.

Course Requirements for your final grade:



Your final grade includes one written paper, four quizzes, and two tests. Class participation and attendance also count toward your final grade.

1. **Class participation and attendance: 15%**
2. **Quizzes: 25%**
3. **Tests: 30%**
4. **Final Paper: 30%**

Important dates:

September 11, 2026 (First Quiz)

September 25, 2026 (Second Quiz)

October 17, 2026 (First Test)

November 13, 2026 (Third Quiz)

December 9, 2026 (Final Paper)

December 14, 2026 (Final Test)

Class Participation: I expect you to attend class and actively participate in discussions and class activities. I understand that not everyone is comfortable speaking up in class, but there are many other ways to show me that you are actively engaging with the material.

You should talk only during discussions or when asking/answering questions.

I expect to have your focused attention. Talking to the person next to you distracts other students and me, making it difficult for them to concentrate on the presentation. If you miss or are confused about something being discussed or presented, please ask me for clarification or wait until later to get the ideas from a friend.

I look forward to intelligent questions. During the lecture, I will pause periodically to allow students to clarify misunderstandings or raise pertinent issues. Your active participation will make the time go faster. It also helps you learn by giving you feedback on your thinking. Remember, I love questions...please feel free to ask any question that is relevant to the discussion. The more we ask, the more we learn, and NO question is a "dumb" question.

PLNU Attendance and Participation Policy

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. Therefore, regular attendance and participation in each course are minimal requirements.

If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue



written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university withdrawal date or, after that date, receive an "F" grade. Students who anticipate being absent for an entire week of a course should contact the instructor in advance for approval and make arrangements to complete the required coursework and/or alternative assignments assigned at the discretion of the instructor. Acceptance of late work is at the discretion of the instructor and does not waive attendance requirements.

Refer to [Academic Policies](https://pointloma-public.courseleaf.com/aug-catalog/academic-general-policies/)  (https://pointloma-public.courseleaf.com/aug-catalog/academic-general-policies/) for additional detail.

Make-Up Policy:

If you miss a scheduled exam, you will receive a grade of zero for that exam. Make-ups for exams will be cheerfully granted without penalty for students who can produce a court order, an obituary naming them as a close relative of the deceased, an invoice from a towing company documenting their car trouble, a scheduled athletic event in which the student is a participant, or a letter from a physician stating that they were physically unable to be in class for the exam. If you have a lesser reason for missing an exam, you have no such buffer zone. will create a make-up exam for you, but 15 points will be subtracted from your grade, and the questions will

Grading:

100 - 94	A	86-83	B	76-74	C	65-60	D-
93-90	A-	80-82	B-	73-70	C-		
89-87	B+	79-77	C+	69-66	D		

All written work will be graded according to the **3 C's** of writing: Ask yourself, "Is my writing....."**Clear**" - easy to understand, easy to read, is the writing well organized, are there errors in spelling or in grammar? **Concise**" - straightforward, creative, to the point; apply concepts from the class in the specific examples being used; does it specifically address the question being asked? **Comprehensive**" - **analytical; does it demonstrate understanding of the course; is it integrative?**

When uploading a document, everything must be typed, double-spaced, 12-point font (preferably Times New Roman), 1-inch margins, and uploaded to the Canvas course.

Content Warning*



I acknowledge that each of you brings your own unique life experiences to PLNU. It shapes how you perceive different types of information. In [class name], all class content, including material that may be intellectually or emotionally challenging, has been intentionally curated to meet the learning goals for this course. The decision to include such material is not taken lightly. These topics include [list topics]. If you encounter an intellectually challenging topic, it may bring up feelings of discomfort and upset. In response, I encourage you to talk to me, your friends, or your family about it. Class topics are discussed for the sole purpose of expanding your intellectual engagement in the area of Sociology, and I will support you throughout your learning in this course.

PLNU Spiritual Care

PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as a whole person. To this end, we provide resources for our Graduate and Adult Undergraduate students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith. We have on-site chaplains at our different campuses who may be available during class breaks throughout the week. If you have questions, would like to meet with our chaplains, or want to share prayer requests, you can find them on the [Chaplain's Page \(https://my.pointloma.edu/pages/chaplains\)](https://my.pointloma.edu/pages/chaplains) via myPLNU.

PLNU Copyright Policy

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU Recording Notification

To enhance the learning experience, please be advised that the professor may record this course for educational purposes, and access to these recordings will be limited to enrolled students and authorized personnel.

Note that all recordings are subject to copyright protection. Any unauthorized distribution or publication of these recordings without written approval from the University (refer to the Dean) is strictly prohibited.

PLNU Academic Honesty Policy/Cheating/Plagiarism

Plagiarism is deliberately handing in another person's material as your own. Simply put, it is stealing. It is important that when you use material from a specific source, you reference it properly, and that if you use words that were written by someone else, you properly cite the source. It is not acceptable to write a paper by taking sentences (even slightly modified sentences) from the works of other authors without referencing the source, including the page number. Any evidence of plagiarism/cheating results in a zero on the assignment.



Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. If I detect academic dishonesty, I may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course; for all student appeals, faculty and students should follow the procedures outlined in the University Catalog.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

You are allowed to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini Pro 1.5, GrammarlyGo, Perplexity, etc.) to generate ideas. Still, you are not allowed to use AI tools to generate content (text, video, audio, images) that will end up in any work submitted to be graded for this course. If you have any questions about using AI, please ask me for permission.

Please use the following sources to guide your citations when using AI.

[MLA Style Center: Citing Generative AI](https://style.mla.org/citing-generative-ai/) ➞ [\(https://style.mla.org/citing-generative-ai/\)](https://style.mla.org/citing-generative-ai/)

[APA Style: How to Cite ChatGPT](https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt) ➞ [\(https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt\)](https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt)

[Chicago Manual of Style: Citing Content Developed or Generated by AI](https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/qanda/data/faq/topics/Documentation/faq0422.html) ➞ [\(https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/qanda/data/faq/topics/Documentation/faq0422.html\)](https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/qanda/data/faq/topics/Documentation/faq0422.html)

PLNU Academic Accommodations Policy

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC) at the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu (<mailto:EAC@pointloma.edu>) or 619-849-2533). Once the EAC determines a student's eligibility for an accommodation, it will work with the student to create an Accommodation Plan (AP) that outlines allowed accommodations. Professors can view a student's approved accommodations through Accommodate.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about implementing their AP in that course. Accommodations are not retroactive, so clarifying with the professor at the outset is one of the best ways to promote positive academic outcomes.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to ensure appropriate accommodations can be provided. Students are responsible for making the first contact with the EAC. Students cannot assume that because they had accommodations in the past, their eligibility at PLNU is automatic. All determinations at PLNU must go through the EAC process. This protects the privacy of students with disabilities who may not want to disclose this information and are not requesting accommodations.



Language and Belonging

Point Loma Nazarene University faculty are committed to helping create a safe and hospitable learning environment for all students. As Christian scholars, we are keenly aware of language's power and believe in treating others with dignity. As such, our language should be equitable, inclusive, and free of prejudice. Inclusive/bias-free language is the standard outlined by all major academic style guides, including MLA, APA, and Chicago, and it is the expected norm in university-level work. Good writing and speaking avoid unsubstantiated or irrelevant generalizations about personal qualities such as age, disability, economic class, ethnicity, marital status, parentage, political or religious beliefs, race, gender, sex, or sexual orientation. Inclusive language also avoids using stereotypes or terminology that demeans persons or groups based on age, disability, class, ethnicity, gender, race, language, or national origin. Respectful language is especially important when referring to those outside the religious and lifestyle commitments of those in the PLNU community. By working toward precision and clarity of language, we mark ourselves as serious and respectful scholars, and we model the Christ-like quality of hospitality.

If you (or someone you know) have experienced other forms of discrimination, you can find more information on reporting and resources at www.pointloma.edu/nondiscrimination (<http://www.pointloma.edu/nondiscrimination>).

Sexual Misconduct and Discrimination

In support of a safe learning environment, if you (or someone you know) have experienced any form of sexual discrimination or misconduct, including sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, know that accommodations and resources are available through the Title IX Office at pointloma.edu/Title-IX (<http://pointloma.edu/Title-IX>). Please be aware that under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, faculty and staff must disclose information about such misconduct to the Title IX Office.

If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact Counseling Services at counselingservices@pointloma.edu (<mailto:counselingservices@pointloma.edu>) or find a list of campus pastors at <http://pointloma.edu/Title-IX> (<http://pointloma.edu/Title-IX>) or as shown in the PLNU Spiritual Care section of this

syllabus:

This document serves as a contract between the student and the instructor for this course. The student and instructor will abide by these policies and schedules; however, unforeseen circumstances may arise, and the instructor may need to make changes. The instructor and students may agree to revise the course schedule and adjust the workload if and when possible and necessary.

COURSE SCHEDULE



WEEK/TOPIC READINGS/ASSIGNMENTS DUEWeek One: 08/31/2026

Chapter One (Due in class)

- Course Introduction, Syllabus Overview

-Adichie, "The Danger of a Single Story" [TED TALKS]

-AN INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY [TEXTBOOK]

-Mills, "The Promise", Sociological Imagination [Canvas]

Week Two: 09/07/2026

Chapter Two (Due in class)

SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH

LABOR DAY (September 07, 2026) -NO CLASS

Week Three: 09/14/2026

Chapter Three (Due in Class)

CULTURE

Anzaldúa, "How to Tame a Wild Tongue" [Canvas]

Week Four: 09/21/2026

Chapter Four (Due in Class)

SOCIETY AND SOCIAL INTERACTION

Week Five: 09 /28/2026

Chapter Five (Due in Class).

SOCIALIZATIONWeek Six: 10/05/2026

Chapter Six (Due in Class)

GROUPS AND

ORGANIZATION

Week Seven 10/12/2026

Chapter Seven (Due in Class).

DEVIANCE, CRIME, AND SOCIAL CONTROL

Week Eight 10/19/2026

Chapter Eight (Due in Class) MEDIA AND

TECHNOLOGY

Week Nine: 10/26/2026

Chapter Nine (Due in Class) SOCIAL

STRATIFICATION IN THE UNITED STATES

How Wealth Inequality

Spiraled Out of Control | Robert Reich (FILM)

Week Ten: 11/02/2026

Chapter Ten (Due in Class)

GLOBAL

INEQUALITY

Week Eleven 11/09/2026

Chapter Eleven (Due in Class)

RACE AND

ETHNICITY



Week Twelve 11/16/2026
SEXUALITY

Chapter Twelve (Due in Class) GENDER, SEX, AND

Lorde, "Age, Race, Class, and Sex: Women Redefining Difference" [Canvas]

Week Thirteen 11/23/2026 Chapter Thirteen (Due in Class) AGING AND THE ELDERLY

THANKSGIVING (NO CLASS)

Week Fourteen 11/30/2026
MARRIAGE, AND FAMILY

Chapter Fourteen (Due in Class) RELATIONSHIPS,

Week Fifteen 11/07/2026

Chapter Fifteen (Due in Class) RELIGION

POSSIBLE GUEST SPEAKER...

