



Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Family Sciences

SOC 1001: Introduction to Sociology

3 Units

Fall 2026

“Neither the life of an individual nor the history of a society can be understood without understanding both.”

—C. Wright Mills, *The Sociological Imagination*

Course Information

Class Days & Times: Thursdays, 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM

Class Time: Course Location: Rohr 109

Final Due: Thursday, Dec. 17, by 11:59 PM on Canvas

Instructor: Dr. Daniel Davis

Phone: Please request phone appointments via email first

Email: ddavi1@pointloma.edu

Website: www.danieldavis.net

Mode of Delivery: Hybrid

Office Hours: Immediately after class or by appointment

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 is an expression of 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

Major ideas, concepts, and methods in the study of society including socialization, culture, social structure, social stratification, deviance, social control, and social change.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Critically discuss major theoretical perspectives, such as conflict theory, structural functionalism, and symbolic interactionism
- Identify and critique various social structures, particularly those resulting in inequality and injustice
- Survey several of the various social institutions studied by sociologists such as education, family, religion, political systems, healthcare, social movements, etc.
- Evaluate and apply social science data to inform decisions of everyday life
- Demonstrate an understanding of the complex issues faced by diverse groups in global and/or cross-cultural contexts

Foundational Education Learning Outcomes 2c: Students will demonstrate an understanding of the complex issues faced by diverse groups in global and/or cross-cultural contexts.

- The content of sociology covers this implicitly, the signature assignments for this FELO are the chapter quizzes and final.

Course Materials

Conerly, T. R., Holmes, K., & Tamang, A. L. (2023). *Introduction to Sociology 3e*. OpenStax.

- ISBN: 978-1-711493-97-8
- <https://openstax.org/details/books/introduction-sociology-3e>

Assignments Point Outlay

Note: All assignments are turned in on Canvas.

Attendance	2pts x 10 sessions	20pts
Chapter Quizzes	3pts x 21 quizzes	63pts
Discussion Leading	4pts x 3 discussions	12pts
Final Sociological Reflection	5pts x 1 essay	<u>5pts</u>
	Total:	100pts

Late Work Policy

- Quizzes are automatically marked down -5% per day late, but capped at -50% after 10 days.
- Discussion guides without being present to lead are accepted for half credit

Grading System

Final grades will be determined according to the following scale. Fractional points ending right on the line between grades will be rounded up only for those with strong discussion participation.

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	00-59

Assignment Descriptions

Textbook Chapter Quizzes

Each of the 21 chapters of the text book has an associated reading quiz due by the time of class.

Discussion Leader

Four times over the semester you will lead or co-lead a 15 minute discussion with your small group about the key ideas from the textbook chapters, as well as bring in some additional items and discussion questions. Your small group will schedule these. Detailed instructions can be found on the “Discussion Leader Guide” on Canvas under “Course Documents.”

Attendance

Each time you attend class without coming late or leaving early you receive one point towards attendance. You achieve maximum attendance points by attending 10 class sessions. A sign-in sheet will be passed in class, sometimes at the beginning and sometimes at the end of class. Much of the value of this course comes from the opportunity to orally debate and discuss the ideas from the readings, thus attendance and active engagement is vitally important.

Final- Sociological Reflection

The Final Sociological Reflection asks students to explain how sociology changed or complicated the way they understand one aspect of social life. Students will connect course concepts and materials to their own observations or experiences and reflect on what they are taking away from SOC 1001.

Course Calendar

Note: Quizzes are due before class each week, 11am on Thursdays

Day	Text Chapter	Due
Thurs 9/03	Syllabus	
Thurs 9/10	1. An Introduction to Sociology 2. Sociological Research	Quiz 1-2
Thurs 9/17	3. Culture 4. Society and Social Interaction	Quiz 3-4
Thurs 9/24	5. Socialization 6. Groups and Organization	Quiz 5-6
Thurs 10/01	7. Deviance, Crime, and Social Control 8. Media and Technology	Quizzes 7-8
Thurs 10/08	9. Social Stratification in the United States 10. Global Inequality	Quiz 9-10
Thurs 10/15	11. Race and Ethnicity 12. Gender, Sex, and Sexuality	Quizzes 11-12
Thurs 10/22	Fall Break	
Thurs 10/29	13. Aging and the Elderly 14. Relationships, Marriage, and Family	Quiz 13-14
Thurs 11/05	15. Religion 16. Education	Quiz 15-16
Thurs 11/12	17. Government and Politics	Quiz 17
Thurs 11/19	18. Work and the Economy	Quizzes 18
Thurs 11/26	Thanksgiving Break	
Thurs 12/03	19. Health and Medicine 20. Population, Urbanization, and the Environment	Quizzes 19-20
Thurs 12/10	21. Social Movements and Social Change	Quiz 21

PLNU Campus Wide Policies

Final Examination Policy

Note: This course is using a final paper, so there is no in-person exam. The weekly quizzes take place of a final test.

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination on its scheduled day. The final examination schedule is posted on the Traditional Undergraduate Records: Final Exam Schedules site. If you find yourself scheduled for three (3) or more final examinations on the same day, you are authorized to contact each professor to arrange a different time for one of those exams. However, unless you have three (3) or more exams on the same day, no requests for alternative final examinations will be granted.

State Authorization

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on State Authorization to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

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 Academic Honesty Policy

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using

the procedure in the university Catalog. See Academic Policies for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

You are allowed to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g, ChatGPT, iA Writer, Marmot, Botowski, etc.) in this course. Any work that utilizes AI-based tools must be clearly identified as such, including the specific tool(s) used. For example, if you use ChatGPT, you must cite ChatGPT including the version number, year, month and day of the query and the statement “Generated using OpenAI. <https://chat.openai.com/>”

PLNU Academic Accommodations Policy

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities. Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2486). Once a student’s eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will issue an academic accommodation plan (“AP”) to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not wish to utilize some or all of the elements of their AP in that course. 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 assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student’s responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC.

PLNU Attendance and Participation Policy

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a 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.

Loma Writing Center

The Loma Writing Center exists to help all members of the PLNU community cultivate transferable writing skills to engage their academic, professional, personal, and spiritual communities. We work toward this goal by conducting one-on-one consultation sessions, supporting writing education across the PLNU community, and participating in ongoing writing center research.

Getting feedback from the Loma Writing Center while you’re in the process of working on an assignment is a great way to improve the quality of your writing and develop as a writer. You are encouraged to talk with a trained writing consultant about getting started on an assignment, organizing your ideas, finding and citing sources, revising, editing for grammar and polishing final drafts, and more. For information about how to make in-person or online appointments, see Loma Writing Center webpage or visit the Loma Writer Center on the first floor of the Ryan Library, room 221.