



WACO, TEXAS

**COURSE SYLLABUS
AND
INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

**INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY
SOCI 1301.14.16.20
JANA ZUEHLKE BENNETTE**

NOTE: This is a 16-week course.

COVID 19 Notice:

McLennan Community College is committed to providing you with every resource you need to reach your academic goals including your safety. We will continue to monitor the evolving situation with COVID 19 and adjust our safety guidelines to make sure we offer a safe environment for you and our faculty. Please make sure to consult your faculty and the MCC website at <https://www.mclennan.edu/crisis-management/coronavirus-updates/index.html> on any changes to these guidelines.

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Course Description:

The scientific study of human society, including ways in which groups, social institutions, and individuals affect each other. Causes of social stability and social change are explored through the application of various theoretical perspectives, key concepts, and related research methods of sociology. Analysis of social issues in their institutional context may include topics such as social stratification, gender, race/ethnicity, and deviance.

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:

There are no prerequisites for this course. However, it is recommended that students possess the ability to read and write at the collegiate level. In addition, it is helpful that students have a general knowledge of computers including: being able to use a web browser and Internet search engines and know how to save and back up files to a local drive.

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

Course documents are posted on the SOCI 1301 Brightspace site.

Instructor Information:

Instructor's Name:	Jana Zuehlke Bennette
Email Address:	jzuehlkebennette@mclennan.edu
Office Phone Number:	None – please contact me via email
Office Location:	Adjunct Faculty – No assigned office
Office Hours:	By appointment, will be available before and/or after class to meet

Required Text & Materials:

Title: *Introduction to Sociology*

Author: Conerly, Tonja R., et al.

Edition: 3rd edition

Publisher: OpenStax Rice University

ISBN-13: 978-1-711493-97-8

Free Online Access at <https://openstax.org/details/books/introduction-sociology-3e>.

If you prefer a hard copy, you can purchase the book from the McLennan Bookstore for about \$30 at <http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/>; renting it or buying used is even cheaper. Amazon has new paperback books for \$19; click [here](#) for that link.

Course Communication:

I will be happy to speak with student's one-on-one either in-person or virtually. We can set aside a time to meet and discuss any questions or concerns you may have. Outside of a formal meeting, I can also be contacted via email. I respond to emails in a timely manner and will typically do so within 24 hours, Monday through Friday. That being said, I do go to sleep at a "normal" hour and therefore emails sent after 9:00 PM will be answered the following day.

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Methods of Teaching and Learning:

For this semester, your course will be held in a traditional face-to-face environment with work completed on Brightspace. Students will be required to actively participate in class (cellphones put away and stay awake) and attend course meetings twice a week. Students are expected to read the course text, complete written assignments, interact in discussions, and be assessed on the knowledge they are retaining through the use of quizzes and exams. In order for students to develop an understanding of Sociology, various teaching methods will be used. The class will consist of lectures in the form of PowerPoint presentations along with group virtual meetings that are intended to spark classroom debate.

Even though the course is designated as a traditional face-to-face lecture class, we could be required to go online. If we are instructed by school administration or state or national officials to do so, then we would meet during our schedule class time on Zoom. I would ask that students be prepared for this should we need to.

Core Objectives for Social & Behavioral Sciences:

Courses in this category focus on the application of empirical and scientific methods that contribute to the understanding of what makes us human. Courses involve the exploration of behaviors and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events, examining their impact on the individual, society, and culture.

- **Critical Thinking** -- to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Communications Skill** -- to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
- **Empirical & Quantitative Skills** -- to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- **Social Responsibility** -- to include intercultural competency, civic knowledge, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Compare and contrast the basic theoretical perspectives of sociology.
2. Identify the various methodological approaches to the collection and analysis of data in sociology.
3. Describe key concepts in sociology.
4. Describe the empirical findings of various subfields of sociology.
5. Explain the complex links between individual experiences and broader institutional forces.

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Course Schedule¹:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic, Reading</u>	<u>Assignments Due</u>
January 11	Introduction and Socialization, <i>Chapter 5</i>	
January 13	An Introduction to Sociology, <i>Chapter 1</i>	Online Post #1 Due by 1/14 (15 points)
January 18	Sociological Research, <i>Chapter 2</i>	
January 20	Finish Sociological Research, <i>Chapter 2</i> and Start Culture, <i>Chapter 3</i>	Quiz by 1/21 (5 points)
January 25	Culture, <i>Chapter 3</i>	
January 27	Finish Culture and Begin Social Interaction	Quiz by 1/28 (5 points)
February 1	Social Interaction, <i>Chapter 4</i>	
February 3	Socialization, <i>Chapter 5</i>	Applying Sociology Paper #1 Due by 2/4 (100 points)
February 8	Organizations and Institutions, <i>Chapter 6</i>	
February 10	Test #1 (Chapters 1 – 6)	Online Post #2 Due by 2/11 (15 points)

¹This is a tentative Schedule and may be subject to change.

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February 15	Social Control and Deviance, <i>Chapter 7</i>	
February 17	Crime, <i>Chapter 7</i>	Quiz by 2/18 (5 points)
February 22	Stratification in the United States, <i>Chapter 9</i>	
February 24	Finish Stratification in the United States, <i>Chapter 9</i> and Start Global Stratification, <i>Chapter 10</i>	Online Post #3 Due by 2/25 (20 points)
March 1	Global Stratification, <i>Chapter 10</i>	
March 3	Race and Ethnicity, <i>Chapter 11</i>	Quiz by 3/4 (5 points)
March 8	SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS	
March 10	SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS	
March 15	Race and Ethnicity, <i>Chapter 11</i>	
March 17	Sex and Gender, <i>Chapter 12</i>	Quiz by 3/18 (5 points)
March 22	Gender and Sexuality, <i>Chapter 12</i>	
March 24	Finish Sexuality and Marriage and the Family, <i>Chapter 14</i>	Topic Selection Due by 3/25 (10 points)
March 29	Marriage and the Family, <i>Chapter 14</i>	
March 31	Test #2 (Chapters 7, 9 – 12 and 14)	Online Post #4 Due by 4/1 (15 points)
April 5	Religion, <i>Chapter 15</i>	
April 7	Education, <i>Chapter 16</i>	Annotated Bibliography Due (30 points)
April 12	Education, <i>Chapter 16</i>	
April 14	Finish Education and Begin Health	Applying Sociology Paper #2 Due (100 points)

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April 19	Health and Medicine, <i>Chapter 19</i>	
April 21	Pop., Urbanization, and the Environment, <i>Chapter 20</i>	Online Post #5 (15 pts)
April 26	Social Movements, <i>Chapter 21</i>	
April 28	Social Change, <i>Chapter 21</i>	Quiz (5 pts)
May 2 – May 5	<u>Test #3 (Chapters 15 – 16 and 19 – 21)</u> Your Exam Date and Time will be Announced! <i>IF YOU ARE GRADUATING THIS SEMESTER, PLEASE TALK TO ME!</i>	

Course Grading Information:

In order to assess students' progress in learning the material and to aid in the development of a sociological imagination, the course will include the following:

Three Examinations	300 points
Two Applying Sociology Papers	200 points
Participation Points/Quizzes	100 points
Online Posts	80 points
Annotated Bibliography	30 points
Topic Selection	10 points
	720 points

The grade distribution is as follows:

<u>Points</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Final Grade</u>
720 – 645	100% - 89.5%	A
644 – 573	89.4% - 79.5%	B
572 – 501	79.4% - 69.5%	C
500 – 429	69.4% - 59.5%	D
428 and Below	59.4% and Below	F

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Examinations: Three exams will be given throughout the course of the semester. The format will be short answer, multiple choice, and true/false questions. The tests will not be cumulative. This means that information from one section will for the most part not carry over into the following section. ALL students are expected to take the exam on the scheduled test date. If students know that they will not be able to take an exam on the scheduled date, they should MAKE ARRANGEMENTS with me TO TAKE the exam EARLY. Students who are absent due to illness or other serious situations will have one week to make up the exam. Discretion is left to the instructor to determine who will be allowed to make up any missed exams. ALL make-up examinations will be in essay format.

Applying Sociology Papers: Students are expected twice during the semester to write a paper that allows them to apply the material they have read in the book and we have discussed in class to their everyday world. This allows students to develop their writing and also empowers students to voice your own theories and opinions. I do ask that students put thought into these papers by researching the topic, theory, or concept beyond the textbook using other academic publications and public press (i.e. magazines and newspapers) materials. Additional information including instructions can be found on Brightspace.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be given to determine if students have read and comprehend the information being covered in class. They, also, provide me with an understanding of where students are in the learning process. I will ask that students complete quizzes online through Brightspace.

Online Posts: I ask students to complete discussion board posts in the hope that you will continue to think about the material we have covered in class throughout the week. It is, also, a time for students to have conversations with their classmates, as I do ask that students respond to each other's posts. Unlike most discussion board posts, I am having students post memes, gifs, photos, and videos to support what they have to say in their post. Specific information for each post is available on Brightspace.

Participation: At various times in the course, students will be awarded points for participating in an in-class activity. In order for students to earn these points, in-person attendance is required, unless student can provide medical or other documentation outlining that they cannot attend in person. Students can earn these points by actively participating in the class conversation and activity. This means not playing on your phone (including texting others in the class), not watching movies on your own computer, not sleeping, and other such behaviors. If students chose to not participate, then they will not receive the points.

Annotated Bibliography: In order to prepare for your second Applying Sociology paper, I am asking students to complete an annotated bibliography. This is "a list of citations to books, articles, and documents. Each citation is followed by a brief (usually about 150 words) descriptive and evaluative paragraph, the annotation. The purpose of the annotation is to inform the reader of the relevance, accuracy, and quality of the sources cited." (Taken from [Cornell](#)

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[Library](#) on 5 March 2020.) I am asking students to have at least 3 **academic** journal articles. Of course, you may have more, but should have at least 3, which is a requirement for the final paper.

Please Note: When submitting work, particularly papers, I expect everyone to PROOFREAD and cite ALL work that is not original (including your textbook). For information on citing sources please see the Writing Center on campus or Mendeley's APA Format Citation Guide at <https://www.mendeley.com/guides/apa-citation-guide>.

Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:

Work Submitted After Due Date: Points will be deducted for those students who submit work after the due date, unless arrangements have been made with me. I will accept late work for up to two weeks from the due date to complete. I will deduct points as follow:

One week late = 1/3 points deducted
Two weeks late = 1/2 points deducted
Three weeks late = No credit

Student Involvement/Attendance: Students are expected to be active participants in the course by logging into the course daily and interacting with the course's weekly readings, discussions, and graded work. Course involvement is an essential element to the learning experience. It is proven that students learn better and have a tendency to do better in courses if they are involved. If lack of involvement occurs, then this can result in a decline of your overall course grade.

* [Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](http://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies)
(www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies)

Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. Your instructor may have guidelines specific to this course.

Student Behavioral Expectations:

Classroom Civility: Individuals are expected to be cognizant of what a constructive educational experience is and respectful of those participating in a learning environment. Failure to do so can result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the class.

Course Communication and Respect: Respect will be maintained at all times in this course. I want students to be active participants, but participate in a manner that is courteous and thoughtful towards one another, as material we will be covering can be of a sensitive, personal nature. Specifically, when communication occurs, I expect students to think critically, ask questions, and challenge ideas while also showing respect for classmates' opinions and maintain confidentiality of thoughts expressed in the class.

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Student Rights:

“The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education.” (Taken from U.S. Department of Education - <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html>). This law dictates who and how information can be shared. Therefore, unless FERPA waiver is completed the instructor can only speak to the enrolled student about class information including grades. In the event that FERPA waiver has been completed, the enrolled student is still the only one who can make changes in the course and be the final decision maker.

** You will need to access each link separately through your Web browser (for example: Internet Explorer, Mozilla, Chrome, or Safari) to print each link's information.*

McLennan

C O M M U N I T Y

COLLEGE

ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES

Accommodations/ADA Statement:

Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact the Accommodations Coordinator as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit www.mclennan.edu/disability.

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

disabilities@mclennan.edu

254-299-8122

Room 319, Student Services Center

Title IX:

We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at titleix@mclennan.edu or by calling Dr. Drew Canham (Chief of Staff for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion/Title IX) at (254) 299-8645. Individuals also may contact the MCC Police Department at 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at MCC at (254) 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students. Any student or employee may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting <http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/>.

Go to McLennan's Title IX webpage at www.mclennan.edu/titleix/. It contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence, or domestic violence.

Student Support/Resources:

MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at <http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/>

College personnel recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources or want to explore strategies for balancing life and school, we encourage you to contact a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing SuccessCoach@mclennan.edu. Students may visit the Completion Center Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. to schedule a meeting with a Success Coach and receive additional resources and support to help reach academic and personal goals. Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff based on household size. Text (254) 870-7573 to schedule a pantry appointment. The Completion Center and pantry are located on the Second Floor of the Student Services Center (SSC).

MCC Foundation Emergency Grant Fund:

Unanticipated expenses, such as car repairs, medical bills, housing, or job loss can affect us all. Should an unexpected expense arise, the MCC Foundation has an emergency grant fund that may be able to assist you. Please go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html> to find out more about the emergency grant. The application can be found at https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf.

MCC Academic Integrity Statement:

Go to www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity for information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating.

Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty-and-Staff-Commons/requirements.html> for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

Minimum Technical Skills:

Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software, and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

Backup Plan for Technology:

In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be notified via your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

Email Policy:

McLennan Community College would like to remind you of the policy (<http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf>) regarding college email. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their McLennan email addresses when conducting college business.

A student's McLennan email address is the preferred email address that college employees should use for official college information or business. Students are expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college emails.

Instructional Uses of Email:

Faculty members can determine classroom use of email or electronic communications. Faculty should expect and encourage students to check the college email on a regular basis. Faculty should inform students in the course syllabus if another communication method is to be used and of any special or unusual expectations for electronic communications.

If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with their students, it should be reflected in the course syllabus and information should be provided for the preferred form of communication.

Email on Mobile Devices:

The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails. If you need assistance with set-up, you may email Helpdesk@mclennan.edu for help.

Forwarding Emails:

You may forward emails that come to your McLennan address to alternate email addresses; however, the College will not be held responsible for emails forwarded to an alternate address that may be lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

Disclaimer:

The resources and policies listed above are merely for informational purposes and are subject to change without notice or obligation. The College reserves the right to change policies and other requirements in compliance with State and Federal laws. The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract.