



IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2026	Instructor Name:	Yushan Zhong
Course Title & #:	SOC 101: Introduction to Sociology	Email:	yushan.zhong@imperial.edu
CRN #:	20404	Webpage (optional):	N/A
Classroom:	RM 1603	Office #:	RM 1603
Class Dates:	Feb.17-Jun.12, 2026	Office Hours:	11:15-11:45(T,TH) By Appointment
Class Days:	Tuesdays, Thursdays	Office Phone #:	760-355-6144
Class Times:	09:40 AM - 11:05 AM	Emergency Contact:	yushan.zhong@imperial.edu
Units:	Three (3) Units	Class Format/Modality:	In Person

Course Description

Introduction to the study of society. Overview of major concepts, methods and theoretical perspectives including culture, social structure, institutions, socialization, gender, race, social class, inequality, deviance, and social control. Topics include macro and micro theories. (C-ID SOCI 110) (CSU, UC)

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

This course has no prerequisites and or/corequisites.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Define and apply the basic concepts of sociology including culture, status, roles, norms, institutions, social class, race, gender. (ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5)
2. Recognize that race, gender and family systems are social constructions. (ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5)
3. Distinguish different major sociological theoretical perspectives that explain social behavior. (ILO2, ILO4, ILO5)
4. Assess both macro social influences and micro social influences in understanding a particular social issue. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4, ILO5)

Course Objectives

1. Describe how the sociological imagination helps people understand their own personal lives;
2. Recognize Sociology as a science that systematically approaches the study of human behavior;
3. Identify the six social classes in American society and the structural influence of social class on behavior;
4. List the components of culture and their impact on human behavior.
5. Describe the importance of political forces in understanding our society and the process of social change
6. Identify the causes and processes of deviant behavior and the mechanisms of social control.

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7. Define the various forms of marriage and the family.
8. Recognize social problems and social issues in the United States and in cultures throughout the world.
9. Write short essays on the key themes such as culture, deviance, socialization, social media and technology, social class, race, gender, marriage, family and etc. that demonstrate critical thinking, and sociological imagination.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Conerly, T., Holmes, K., & Tamang, A. (2021). *Introduction to Sociology 3e*. OpenStax and Rice University, ISBN 978-1-951693-36-7

[Introduction to Sociology 3e](#) (Links to an external site.)

Or download from Canvas class module

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Reading Notes (20 points/chapter, 14 chapters, 280 points in total)

Reading assigned chapters before attending classes is an important process of learning. Students are expected to read all the assigned chapters as assigned in syllabus and are required to submit 2-3 pages reading notes. The reading notes should include all the concepts, terms, theories, main ideas discussed in the assigned chapters.

Class Attendance/Participation/Discussion (20 points/week, 16 weeks, 320 points in total)

Students are expected to attend all classes. If a student missed a class or leaves early, they may not receive class attendance points for that day. Class participation and discussion are based on the reading notes of students which are required to be done prior each class and to submit at the end of the class. Students will be asked to discuss their own understandings of the concepts, terms, theories, main ideas of each chapter, and to give concrete examples to support their understandings and opinions. Concrete examples can be the examples based on real-life experiences, made-up stories, or the examples directly from textbook.

Final-Term Multiple Choice Question Quizzes (1 points/question; 100 points total)

At the Final-Term of this semester, you will complete Multiple Choice Question Quizzes designed to assess your comprehension of the key concepts, theories, and discussions covered in each chapter learned. These quizzes reinforce learning objectives and ensure you engage critically with the material and during the classes.

Final paper/Exam (300 points in total)

Students will write a 5-7 page paper (equivalent to 1,500-2,000 words) to analyse a social phenomenon in a sociological perspective. The sociological concepts, theories, especially one of the three major sociological theories/paradigms (structural functionalism, the conflict theory and the symbolic interactionism) learned in this semester should be used properly to analyze the social phenomenon. Students are expected to compare, contrast several relative concepts and theories during their analysis under one topic in this paper and discuss why these concepts and theories can be applicable to this social phenomenon.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Grading Policy		
A	90-100%	900-1000 points
B	80-89%	800-899 points
C	70-79%	700-799 points
D	60-69%	600-699 points
F	Below 59%	below 599 points

Academic Honesty (Artificial Intelligence -AI)

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to their instructors for clarification.

Accessibility Statement

Imperial Valley College is committed to providing an accessible learning experience for all students, regardless of course modality. Every effort has been made to ensure that this course complies with all state and federal accessibility regulations, including Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations. However, if you encounter any content that is not accessible, please contact your instructor or the area dean for assistance. If you have specific accommodations through **DSPS**, contact them for additional assistance.

We are here to support you and ensure that you have equal access to all course materials.

Course Policies

- 1. For reading notes, copy and paste whole chapter without reading and understanding the content of the chapter is not accepted, students may not receive reading notes points therefore.*
- 2. Class participation points will be given based on students' behaviors and involvement during the class, subject to instructor's evaluations.*
- 3. Instructor will grade students' reading notes and posted scores and/or comments on Canvas within one week. Late submission is not accepted.*
- 4. Final paper reflects the learning outcomes of the course. Students are highly encouraged to ask questions regarding their final paper design during office hour.*

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Financial Aid

Your Grades Matter! In order to continue to receive financial aid, you must meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirement. Making SAP means that you are maintaining a 2.0 GPA, you have successfully completed 67% of your coursework, and you will graduate on time. If you do not maintain SAP, you may lose your financial aid. If you have questions, please contact financial aid at finaid@imperial.edu.

IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

<i>Class Schedule</i>	<i>Topic/Activities</i>	<i>Homework/Due Dates</i>
Week 1	Orientation/syllabus overview	Read chapter1 and take reading notes
Week 2	Chapter 1 An Introduction to Sociology	Chapter1 reading notes due; read chapter2 and take notes
Week 3	Chapter 2 Sociological Research	Chapter2 reading notes due; read chapter3 and take notes
Week 4	Chapter 3 Culture	Chapter3 reading notes due; read chapter4 and take notes
Week 5	Chapter 4 Society and Social Interaction	Chapter4 reading notes due; read chapter5 and take notes
Week 6	Chapter 5 Socialization	Chapter5 reading notes due; read chapter6 and take notes
Week 7	Chapter 6 Groups and Organization	Chapter6 reading notes due; read chapter7 and take notes
Week 8	Chapter 7 Deviance, Crime, and Social Control	Chapter7 reading notes due; read chapter8 and take notes
Week 9	Chapter 8 Media and Technology	Chapter8 reading notes due; read chapter9 and take notes
Week 10	Chapter 9 Social Stratification in the United States	Chapter9 reading notes due; read chapter10 and take notes
Week 11	Chapter10 Global Inequality	Chapter10 reading notes due; read chapter11 and take notes
Week 12	Chapter11 Race and Ethnicity	Chapter11 reading notes due; read chapter12 and take notes
Week 13	Chapter12 Gender, Sex, and Sexuality	Chapter12 reading notes due; read chapter13 and take notes
Week 14	Chapter13 Aging and the Elderly	Chapter13 reading notes due; read chapter14 and take notes
Week 15	Chapter 14 Relationships, Marriage, and Family	Chapter14 reading notes due; prepare for the final-term test
Week 16	Final-Term Test	Final paper due

*****Subject to change without prior notice*****