# SOCI 1510.001: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

# FALL 2025

## Instructor Information

Name: Dr. Helen Potts

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Office Location: Sycamore Hall, Suite 288F

Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays 1-2:30 pm, or by appointment

Course Classroom: ART 223

Class Meeting Time: Mondays & Wednesdays 11-11:50am (Fridays online)

### Course Description, Structure, and Objectives

This is a 3-hour course. This course introduces students to the social and cultural basis of human behavior and examines the impact of social groups and organizations in shaping personal identity, attitudes, and action. It explores social inequality and exposes students to the fundamental ways that social class, race, ethnicity, gender and sexuality affect individual life chances and opportunities in the United States and throughout the world. Finally, this course acquaints students with major social institutions such as the family, religion, politics, the economy, and healthcare, and familiarizes them with how institutions shape and are shaped by individuals.

*Please be prepared to discuss sensitive topics throughout this course.*

### Course Structure

This is a hybrid course that will be delivered in-person two days a week and online one day a week through Canvas. This course is spread over sixteen weeks, the entire semester. There are three modules to be completed in the course. Each module covers an average of four to five weeks of course material.

### Course Prerequisites or Other Restrictions

There are no prerequisites for this course. However, students should have a reliable internet connection, access to a computer, and proficiency in Word and CANVAS. Please know there is a 24-hour computer lab available at Willis Library.

In order to be successful in this course you will need to:

* Describe and apply the sociological theories discussed in the text
* Cite sources, giving credit to where you obtain information.
* Network with others and utilize tact when offered differing perspectives.
* Make the commitment to spend at least 3 hours a week reading the assignments, reflecting on the material covered, and participating in other activities throughout the course.

### Course Objectives

Having successfully completed the course, students will be able to:

1. define and apply the sociological imagination;
2. explain what constitutes social structure and how to study it;
3. demonstrate knowledge and critical reasoning;
4. describe the role of social inequality in society and explain its impact;
5. describe the major social institutions in society and the ways in which they influence and are influenced by the larger society;
6. recognize the ways in which society changes over time;
7. employ the appropriate methods, technologies and data that social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition;
8. analyze social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods, social structures and cultures;
9. use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories;
10. develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues;
11. analyze the effects of a number of elements (i.e., historical, social, political, economic, cultural) on social institutions and specific aspects of social life;
12. identify differences and commonalities within diverse cultures.

## Required/Recommended Materials

The required reading for this course will be delivered in an **e-book**:

**Andersen, M. L. & Taylor, H. F. (2020). Sociology: The Essentials, 10th edition. Wadsworth Publishing (Cengage Learning).** ISBN-13: 9780357128763, 978- 0357128817 or 9780357128787

In addition to your UNT EUID and password, you will need a code from the publisher in order to access the readings and other course materials (MindTap). Access codes may be purchased from the UNT Bookstore. The UNT Bookstore also carries a bundle which includes the access code and a printed or e-book version of the textbook. You may also purchase the access code direct from Cengage at:

Use the course registration link: <https://student.cengage.com/course-link/MTPNTLB5M5V6>

**COURSE KEY (for MindTap): MTPNTLB5M5V6**

**Once you have received the MindTap access code from the publisher you can begin to work on the course. All reading materials are given through MindTap. Any practice quizzes or exercises you complete in MindTap, even if they say they are graded, are only for your benefit. The actual quizzes and exams for this course which will comprise your grade are located in CANVAS.**

This course has digital components.  To fully participate in this class, students will need internet access to reference content on the Canvas Learning Management System. If circumstances change, you will be informed of other technical needs to access course content.  Information on how to be successful in a digital learning environment can be found at [Learn Anywhere](https://online.unt.edu/learn) (https://online.unt.edu/learn).

## How to Succeed in this Course

As this is a hybrid course, I am available before and after class or during office hours. You are also welcome to email any questions or concerns you may have. My door (or email inbox) is always open. I will respond to any student email within 48 hours on weekdays (usually sooner). However, my goal is to take weekends and holidays off from email.

Students will be responsible for keeping up with the readings (both the text and module summaries). Students should feel welcomed to reach out if they do not understand topics or feel lost. It is always best to reach out early on as topics tend to build upon themselves throughout the course. I am happy to meet with students at a time that works best for them and cares about their success and participation in the course. Please stay aware of the deadlines and due dates given in the course. Based upon the format of this course, students are expected to work at their own pace and maintain a high level of personal responsibility.

The best way to succeed in this course is to complete all readings in a timely manner so you have the information to best answer the quiz and exam questions correctly. Please stay on top of all due dates as no extensions can be provided. Please also utilize exam reviews listed in the modules as you read through the chapters. This will help you narrow down the information you will need for the exams.

Below is UNT’s ADA accommodation statement:

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time; however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information, refer to the [Office of Disability Access](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access) website (http://www.unt.edu/oda). You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

If you would like to connect with UNT’s ODA office you can begin the process here: [Office of Disability Access](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access).

## Supporting Your Success and Creating an Inclusive Learning Environment

Sociology, by its nature, recognizes and values diversity. Much of the material we will approach in this course investigates issues of diversity and structural hinderances to equity and inclusion. While I encourage participation and discussion please remember to be respectful to others. I encourage you to review UNT’s student code of conduct so we are all on the same page ([Code of Student Conduct](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct)) (<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>).

## Grading Scale

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *Letter Grade:* | Point Range: | Percentage Range: |
| *A* | **389-435** | **90-100%** |
| *B* | **346-388** | **80-89%** |
| *C* | **302-345** | **70-79%** |
| *D* | **259-301** | **60-69%** |
| *F* | **258 or below** | **59% or below** |

**No late work will be accepted.** A rubric for each assignment is attached to the assignment page. If a problem arises, please contact the professor as soon as possible.

#### Incompletes

Incompletes must be requested in writing at least one week prior to the Final Exam Week. The written request must be accompanied by documentation of the reason that the course cannot be completed before the end of the semester. Incompletes are only considered if at least 50% of the course exams and assignments have been completed with a passing grade.

## Course Requirements

Below is a list of all required assignments and graded activities for this course, along with a short description and the points possible.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ASSIGNMENTS** | **Points Possible** | **Percentage of Final****Grade** |
| **Assignment 1 –** Assignment Paper 1-Film Analysis Paper  | 35 points | 8% |
| **Assignment 2 –** Assignment Paper 2-Inequality Paper | 35 points | 8% |
| **QUIZZES** | **Points Possible** | **Percentage of Final Grade** |
| **Syllabus Quiz** | 5 points | 1.1% |
| **Chapter 1 Quiz –** Sociological Perspective | 5 points | 1.1% |
| **Chapter 2 Quiz –** Culture | 5 points | 1.1% |
| **Chapter 3 Quiz –** Doing Sociological Research | 5 points | 1.1% |
| **Chapter 4 Quiz –** Socialization and the Life Course | 5 points | 1.1% |
| **Chapter 5 Quiz –** Social Structure and Social Interaction | 5 points | 1.1% |
| **Chapter 6 Quiz –** Groups and Organizations | 5 points | 1.1% |
| **Chapter 7 Quiz –** Deviance and Crime | 5 points | 1.1% |
| **Chapter 8/9 Quiz –** Social Class, Social Struct. & Global Strat. | 5 points | 1.1% |
| **Chapter 10 Quiz –** Race and Ethnicity | 5 points | 1.1% |
| **Chapter 11/12 Quiz –** Gender and Sexuality | 5 points | 1.1% |
| **Chapter 13 Quiz –** Families and Religion | 5 points | 1.1% |
| **Chapter 14 Quiz –** Education and Healthcare | 5 points | 1.1% |
| **EXAMS** | **Points Possible** | **Percentage of Final Grade** |
| **Exam 1 –** Chapters 1-4 (plus extra Theory PowerPoint) | 100 points | 23% |
| **Exam 2 –** Chapters 5-10 | 100 points | 23% |
| **Final Exam –** Chapters 11-14 | 100 points | 23% |
| **TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE** | **435 points** | **100%** |

## Course Schedule

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Activity** | **Start****Date** | **Day** | **Start****Time** | **Due****Date** | **Day** | **Due****Time** |
| **1-6** | Quiz – Syllabus Quiz – Chapter 1 Quiz – Chapter 2 Quiz – Chapter 3 Quiz – Chapter 4  | 8.18 | Mon | 1:00 am | **9.24** | **Wed** | **11:59 pm** |
| **6** | **Exam 1** | **9.24** | **Wed** | **1:00 am** | **9.26** | **Fri** | **11:59 pm** |
|  | *Assignment Paper 1* | 8.18 | Mon | 1:00 am | **10.8** | **Wed** | **11:59 pm** |
| **7-11** | Quiz – Chapter 5 Quiz – Chapter 6 Quiz – Chapters 7 Quiz – Chapters 8/9 Quiz – Chapter 10 | 9.29 | Mon | 1:00 am | **10.29** | **Wed** | **11:59 pm** |
| **11** | **Exam 2** | **10.29** | **Wed** | **1:00 am** | **10.31** | **Fri** | **11:59 pm** |
| **12-16** | Quiz – Chapter 11/12 Quiz – Chapter 13 Quiz – Chapter 14  | 11.3 | Mon | 1:00 am | **12.3** | **Wed** | **11:59 pm** |
|  | *Assignment Paper 2* | 10.27 | Mon | 1:00 am | **11.12** | **Wed** | **11:59 pm** |
| **17** | **Final Exam** | **12.3** | **Wed** | **1:00 am** | **12.10** | **Wed** | **11:59 pm** |

## Face-to-Face Meeting Schedule

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **WEEK** | **DAY** | **DATE** | **TOPIC** | **DUE** |
| **1** | M | 8.18 | Introduction to Course |  |
| W | 8.20 | Chapter 1: Sociological Perspective |  |
| F | 8.22 | Online Work |  |
| **2** | M | 8.25 | Chapter 1 continued |  |
| W | 8.27 | Chapter 2: Culture |  |
| F | 8.29 | Online Work |  |
| **3** | M | 9.1 | LABOR DAY! NO CLASS |  |
| W | 9.3 | Chapter 2 continued  |  |
| F | 9.5 | Online Work |  |
| **4** | M | 9.8 | Chapter 3: Doing Sociological Research  |  |
| W | 9.10 | Chapter 3 continued  |  |
| F | 9.12 | Online Work |  |
| **5** | M | 9.15 | Chapter 4: Socialization  |  |
| W | 9.17 | Chapter 4 continued  |  |
| F | 9.19 | Online Work |  |
| **6** | M | 9.22 | Chapter 4 continued + Theory PowerPoint + Discuss Assignment Paper 1  |  |
| W | 9.24 | Review for EXAM 1 | **Chapter Quizzes 1-4 Due** |
| F | 9.26 | **EXAM 1** | **Exam 1 (Ch 1-4) Due** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **7** | M | 9.29 | Chapter 5: Social Structure  |  |
|  | W | 10.1 | Chapter 5 continued  |  |
|  | F | 10.3 | Online Work |  |
| **8** | M | 10.6 | Chapter 6: Groups and Organizations  |  |
|  | W | 10.8 | Chapter 6 continued + Discuss Assignment Paper 2  | **Assignment Paper 1 Due** |
|  | F | 10.10 | Online Work |  |
| **9** | M | 10.13 | Chapter 7: Deviance and Crime |  |
|  | W | 10.15 | Chapter 7 continued  |  |
|  | F | 10.17 | Online Work |  |
| **10** | M | 10.20 | Chapter 8/9: Social Class & Global Stratification  |  |
|  | W | 10.22 | Chapter 8/9 continued  |  |
|  | F | 10.24 | Online Work |  |
| **11** | M | 10.27 | Chapter 10: Race and Ethnicity  |  |
|  | W | 10.29 | Review for EXAM 2 | **Chapter Quizzes 5-10 Due** |
|  | F | 10.31 | **EXAM 2** | **Exam 2 (Ch 5-10) Due** |
| **12** | M | 11.3 | Chapter 11/12: Gender & Sexuality  |  |
|  | W | 11.5 | Chapter 11/12 continued  |  |
|  | F | 11.7 | Online Work |  |
| **13** | M | 11.10 | Chapter 13: Families and Religion  |  |
|  | W | 11.12 | Chapter 13 continued | **Assignment Paper 2 Due** |
|  | F | 11.14 | Online Work |  |
| **14** | M | 11.17 | Chapter 14: Education and Healthcare |  |
|  | W | 11.19 | Chapter 14 continued |  |
|  | F | 11.21 | Online Work |  |
| **15** | M | 11.24 | THANKSGIVING BREAK – NO CLASS |  |
|  | W | 11.26 | THANKSGIVING BREAK – NO CLASS |  |
|  | F | 11.28 | THANKSGIVING BREAK – NO CLASS |  |
| **16** | M | 12.1 | Review for Final Exam |  |
|  | W | 12.3 | Review for Final Exam | **Chapter Quizzes 11-14 Due** |
|  | F | 12.5 | NO MORE CLASS |  |
| **17** | MW | 12.812.10 | **\*\*\*FINAL EXAM (Ch. 11-14) DUE WED. Dec. 11th by 11:59pm\*\*\*** | **FINAL DUE 12/11/2024** |

## Academic Integrity/Plagiarism/AI Usage

All papers, exams and quizzes should be **done individually**. However, you may use all texts and notes. Please keep in mind that all quizzes and exams are timed. If you have technical difficulty please stop and email me immediately**. There are no makeup papers, quizzes or exams in this course and no exceptions.** If you have an issue arise please talk to me before the due date and as soon as possible. Students are advised to contact the Student helpdesk and document the remedy ticket number before contacting Dr. Potts.

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, the use of AI, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. To be clear, assignments found to be plagiarized or to use AI (which is also a form of plagiarism) will be given a 0 and reported to the University. [Academic Integrity Policy (PDF)](https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.049_Standard%20Syllabus%20Policy%20Statements_supplement.pdf) (<https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.049_Standard%20Syllabus%20Policy%20Statements_supplement.pdf>).

### Turnitin Required for All Assignments

Students are required to submit written assignments for this class to Turnitin, a web-based plagiarism and AI generation detection service. Before submitting your paper to Turnitin, please remove your title page and other personal information. Any paper that is not submitted to Turnitin will not be accepted by the instructor and will not be graded.

## Attendance and Participation

This class meets in-person Mondays and Wednesdays. Fridays are designed for online work at the students’ pace. Students are expected to work at their own pace and abide by all due dates listed in the syllabus. Students who attend course lectures and discussions in-person, as well as, log into our Canvas course and spend time reviewing the notes tend to do better than students who do not. The instructor will use the tracking feature in Canvas to monitor student activity. Students are also required to participate in all class activities such as papers, quizzes and exams.

Please note that students will be notified by Eagle Alert if there is a campus closing that will impact a class and describe that the calendar is subject to change, citing the [Emergency Notifications and Procedures Policy (PDF)](https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.049_Standard%20Syllabus%20Policy%20Statements_supplement.pdf) (https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.049\_Standard%20Syllabus%20Policy%20Statements\_supplement.pdf).

## Academic Support & Student Services

### Student Support Services

#### Mental Health

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

* [Student Health and Wellness Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center)
* [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
* [UNT Care Team](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care)
* [UNT Psychiatric Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry)
* [Individual Counseling](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling>)

# UNT CORE curriculum

SOCI 1510 is part of the UNT Core Curriculum and satisfies the Social and Behavioral Sciences requirement. “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 behavior and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions and events, examining their impact on the individual, society and culture.”

SOCI 1510 meets the Core Objectives of critical thinking skills, communication skills, empirical and quantitative skills, and social responsibility.

“The University Core Curriculum is designed to ensure that all UNT students graduate with breadth of knowledge gained through their general education classes as well as depth of knowledge gained from courses in their major area of study. . . Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.” <http://catalog.unt.edu/content.php?catoid=30&navoid=3325>