

**Common Course Outline**  
**SOCL 101**  
**Introduction to Sociology**  
**3 Credits**

**Community College of Baltimore County**

**Description**

**SOCL 101 – 3 credits – Introduction to Sociology** examines social interactions and the use of sociological perspectives to explain the individual relationships, as well as interactions among the groups and societies that shape them. It covers basic concepts such as culture, socialization, social inequality, social power, deviance, social control, institutions, and global issues.

**3 credits**

**Prerequisites:** ACLT 052 or ACLT 053

**Overall Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. assess the sociological perspective and its development in studying human behavior;
2. compare and contrast the macro and micro sociological approaches in examining social structure and social interaction;
3. evaluate the importance of social institutions including marriage, family, the media, educational, political and economic structures in a diverse and global society;
4. evaluate major sociological theories by focusing on the main concepts, ideas and critical assessment of each theory from a historical, social and political context;
5. apply the sociological perspective when using technology to evaluate and validate information;
6. find, evaluate, use, and cite appropriate academic resources related to sociological topics;
7. apply the steps in the scientific research process, utilizing technology and appropriate academic resources, to analyze or design a sociological study;
8. examine the nature of culture, subcultures, social norms, ethnocentrism, and cultural relativism with a focus on diversity appreciation and ethical awareness;
9. describe the theories and processes of socialization on the development of the self and lifelong learning;
10. assess patterns of social interaction using the concepts: status, role, primary group, and secondary group;
11. evaluate the nature and significance of social inequalities in a global society focusing on social class, race, age, gender and other areas of diversity, and
12. discuss ideas for effective social change in written and oral assessments while maintaining a commitment to the professional ethics of the discipline.

## **Major Topics**

- I. The sociological perspective
- II. Major theoretical perspectives
  - A. Structural Functional Theory
  - B. Conflict Theory
  - C. Symbolic Interaction Theory
  - D. Feminist Theory
- III. The scientific research process
- IV. Culture
- V. Socialization
- VI. Social interaction
- VII. Social structure and social institutions
  - A. Marriage
  - B. Family
  - C. Education
  - D. Media
  - E. Politics
  - F. Economics
- VIII. Groups
- IX. Social stratification
- X. Social inequalities
  - A. Age
  - B. Race
  - C. Gender
  - D. Social Class
  - E. Sexuality
- XI. Deviance and crime
- XII. Globalization
- XIII. Social change

## **Course Requirements**

Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

- Exams: A minimum of two exams; a minimum of one quiz
- Writing: Multiple assignments will infuse CCBC's General Education Program and Diversity objectives; at least one assignment (minimum of 5 pages; applying sociological theories to understanding the impact of race, ethnicity, religion and minority status), worth a minimum of 10% of the total course grade, will allow students to demonstrate at least 5 of the 7 General Education Program outcomes.

Students are required to utilize appropriate academic resources.

## **Other Course Information**

This course is an approved General Education course in the Social and Behavioral Sciences.

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