Course Information
Division Humanities/Social Sciences
Contact Hours 45
Total Credits 3

Prerequisite
RDG 090 and ENGL 090 or qualifying scores on accepted placement tests

Course Description
This course introduces the concepts of culture, socialization, social structure, social stratification, racial and ethnic relations and deviancy. These concepts are used principally to examine life in contemporary United States. Whereas psychology focuses on individual behavior, sociology focuses on behavior resulting from membership within and between groups.

This course is approved as a General Education competency satisfier.

General Education Goal: Social and Cultural Awareness
Competency: Understand the processes that influence human values, thoughts, social systems, and behavior.
Learning Outcome: Students will examine the impact of social factors on personal beliefs, while considering alternatives to the dominant culture's viewpoint.

General Education Learning Objectives
A. Recognize the processes by which individuals acquire social knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs.
B. Recognize major influences on social behavior and social systems.
C. Demonstrate knowledge of human diversity including characteristics of culture outside of the student’s own.
D. Demonstrate knowledge of at least one systematic method for obtaining knowledge about social influences according to a recognized social science discipline.

Course Outcomes
In order to evidence success in this course, the students will be able to:

1. Describe the discipline of sociology, what sociologists do, sociological methodology, and how sociologists describe the social world.
   Applies to General Education Objective
   D. Demonstrate knowledge of at least one systematic method for obtaining knowledge about social influences according to a recognized social science discipline.

2. Identify and apply micro, meso, and macro level theories for understanding social behavior and social groups across cultures.
   Applies to General Education Objectives
   A. Recognize the processes by which individuals acquire social knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs.
   B. Recognize major influences on social behavior and social systems.
   C. Demonstrate knowledge of human diversity including characteristics of culture outside of the student's own.

3. Recognize group and organizational interaction.
   Applies to General Education Objectives
   A. Recognize the processes by which individuals acquire social knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs.
   B. Recognize major influences on social behavior and social systems.
4. Demonstrate how deviance functions as a sociological principle.
   
   **Applies to General Education Objectives**
   
   B. Recognize major influences on social behavior and social systems
   C. Demonstrate knowledge of human diversity including characteristics of culture outside of the student’s own.

5. Define and describe the reality of social stratification (via wealth, race, ethnic group, and gender) as a form of social understanding and determination across cultures.

   **Applies to General Education Objectives**
   
   A. Recognize the processes by which individuals acquire social knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs.
   B. Recognize major influences on social behavior and social systems.
   C. Demonstrate knowledge of human diversity including characteristics of culture outside of the student’s own.

6. Recognize social institutions (familial, legal, judicial, educational, religious, political, economic, and medical) as shaping, guiding, and determining social forces across cultures.

   **Applies to General Education Objectives**
   
   A. Recognize the processes by which individuals acquire social knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs.
   B. Recognize major influences on social behavior and social systems.
   C. Demonstrate knowledge of human diversity including characteristics of culture outside of the student’s own.

7. Demonstrate understanding of the social world as dynamic and evolutionary.

   **Applies to General Education Objectives**
   
   B. Recognize major influences on social behavior and social systems