



**Credit Hours: 3**

**Catalog Course Description:**

Introduction to Sociology introduces the student to the field of Sociology - its concepts, methods, theories and theorists. The sociological perspective is used in examining social interaction, social structures and social change.

**How Program Site Will Be Incorporated into the Course:**

Much has been made lately about the rise of China and the challenge it poses for the United States. Our two locations at Hubei University and a tour of Beijing will provide my students with an excellent understanding of modern urban China. If possible an additional visit to the site of the terracotta army will increase their interest. I will incorporate Chinese society whenever possible into the teaching curriculum. In addition a service learning portion will provide an on hands experience for the students.

**Prerequisites:** DSPW 0800, DSPR 0800 or equivalent

**Textbook(s) and Other Courses:**

Sociology by John Macionis – 13th edition ISBN 978-0-205-73574-7. You may use a previous edition if you can find one.

**I. Week/Unit/Topic Basis:**

Week 1	The Sociological Perspective, culture, society, socialization, interaction, groups, deviance
Week 2	Social Inequality, social class in the United States compared with Asia (with a special emphasis on China), global and gender stratification, race and ethnicity
Week 3	Social Institutions: the economy, politics and government, the family, religion, education (special emphasis on comparison with Asia (China specifically) and the United States. Social Change

**II. Course Objectives:**

- A. Students will recognize, describe, and explain social institutions, structures, processes and the complexities of a global culture and a diverse society.
- B. Students will think critically about how individuals are influenced by political, geographic, economic, cultural, and family institutions in their own and other diverse cultures and explain how ones own belief system may differ from others.
- C. Students will explore the relationship between the individual and society as it affects the personal behavior, social development and quality of life of the individual, the family and the community.
- D. Students will examine the impact of behavioral and social scientific research on major contemporary issues and their discipline's effects on individuals and society

and use the most appropriate principles, methods, and technologies to perceptively and objectively gather, analyze, and present social and behavioral science research data.

- E. Students will draw logical conclusions, and apply those conclusions to one's life and society take ethical stands based on appropriate research in the social and behavioral sciences.
- F. Students will analyze and communicate the values and processes that are used to formulate theories regarding social context of individual human behavior for the social and behavioral sciences.

### **III. Instructional Processes:**

Students will:

- 1. Students will be exposed to real society and observe first hand Chinese society
- 2. Students will discover that learning takes place outside the classroom
- 3. Students will interact with local Chinese to learn about their society
- 4. Students will visit historical sites in China

### **IV. Expectations for Student Performance:**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- 1. Students will develop an understanding of different cultures
- 2. Students will understand society from a global perspective
- 3. Students will understand and compare American society with Chinese society
- 4. Students will understand Chinese institutions
- 5. Students will study and discuss the reasons for Chinese ascendancy

### **V. Evaluation:**

A. Testing Procedures:

There will be a comprehensive final exam the last day of class worth 50% of the grade

B. Other Evaluation Methods:

There will be a service learning project worth 25% and three written assignments OR a film project to be determined with the instructor worth 25%

C. Grading Scale:

90-100	= A
80-89	= B
70-79	= C
60-69	= D
Below 65	= F

## **VI. Policies:**

### **A. Attendance Policy:**

Attendance is of utmost importance in study abroad courses. There are no unexcused absences permitted. Multiple unexcused absences are grounds for removal from the program. Being in class on time is also very important. Frequent tardiness will be considered an absence and appropriate action will be taken. Absences due to illness must be reported immediately to the program director.

### **B. Academic Dishonesty:**

Academic misconduct committed either directly or indirectly by an individual or group is subject to disciplinary action. Prohibited activities include but are not limited to the following practices: Cheating, including but not limited to unauthorized assistance from material, people, or devices when taking a test, quiz, or examination; writing papers or reports; solving problems; or completing academic assignments. In addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions that may be imposed as a result of academic misconduct, the instructor has the authority to assign either (1) an F or zero for the assignment or (2) an F for the course.

## **VII. Instructional Hours:**

This course will consist of a minimum of 37.5 full hours of formal instruction.