LEARNING UNLIMITED PREPARATORY SCHOOL

**SOCIOLOGY 2021 SYLLABUS**

**Welcome!** **Welcome to Ms. Sarah’s Sociology Elective.** Hope you had a wonderful vacation and are set to begin another year of challenges and stimulating discussions!

**Course Description:** This course is a one-semester elective and serves to introduce students to the social studies discipline of Sociology. Sociologists study social behavior in human groups. They look for patterns and study the influence of social relationships on people’s behavior and attitudes. As such, the course is designed so that students will acquire the knowledge and skills to make decisions and act as responsible members of society by acquiring the knowledge and skills to gather, analyze and apply information and ideas.

Since human behavior takes place in a wide variety of groups and circumstances, Sociology has a broad scope. Sociologists might study beliefs, values, rules, the family, education, religion, political and economic systems, race and ethnicity, gender, or sports and entertainment. Specifically, this course will explore topics including culture, social stratification, population, urbanization, social control, deviance, collective behavior, social change, and social movements will be discussed as well as social questions based on how people are members of particular groups.

It is important for students to understand that people form groups throughout Sint Maarten and the World, and that there are issues and challenges that both unite and divide us. This course should facilitate the student’s ability to develop a sociological imagination which should enable them to view their own lives within a larger social, cross-cultural, and historical context, thereby helping students to understand and thus appreciate the rich diversity that is possible in social life.

**Course Objectives:** At the end of this semester, students will be able to:

* understand the three main sociological perspectives and theories.
* apply these perspectives and theories to contemporary social problems and to their lives.
* learn and apply the basic skills of social science research.
* have insight into the critical link between social structures, social forces and individual circumstances.
* have insight into how you shape society and how society shapes you.
* explain how belief systems, knowledge, institutions, traditions, technology, and behavior patterns define culture.
* explain how various human needs are met through interaction in and among social institutions (e.g. government, economy, education, religion, family, sports and entertainment).
* explain how social interactions among individuals and groups assume various forms (e.g. violence, difference of opinion, stereotypes, prejudice, discrimination, genocide, conflict resolution, social movements, social change).

**Course Outline:** This year we will be using the digital version of Macionis, J. J. (2012). *Sociology* (14th ed.). Pearson Education, Inc.

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| **TERM** |  | **CHAPTER** | *Macionis, J. J. (2012). Sociology (14th ed.). Pearson Education, Inc.* |
| Q1 |  | PART I - Foundations of Sociology |  |
|  |  | Ch 1 | Sociological Perspective |
|  |  | Ch 2 | Sociological Investigation |
|  |  | PART II - Foundations of Society |  |
|  |  | Ch 3 | Culture |
|  |  | Ch 4 | Society |
|  |  | Ch 5 | Socialization |
|  |  | Ch 6 | Social Interaction in Everyday Life |
| Q2 |  | Ch 7 | Groups and Organizations |
|  |  | Ch 9 | Deviance |
|  |  | Ch 10 | Social Stratification |
|  |  | Ch 11 | Social Class in the US |
|  |  | PART III - Social Inequality |  |
|  |  | Ch 12 | Global Stratification |
|  |  | Ch 14 | Race & Ethnicity |
|  |  | Ch 8 | Sexuality and Society |
|  |  | Ch 13 | Gender Stratification |
|  |  | Ch 15 | Aging and the Elderly |

**Ground Rules for Dialogue and Interactive Learning in Sociology:**

We will discuss many interesting topics in this course.  And we may argue about different ways to view many topics.  Arguing is fine, but please deliver your comments in a respectful way.  Voice your point, but do not do so in a rude, disruptive, attacking, harassing or combative way.  Among other things, respectful discussions encourage many voices – not just a few.

1. Safety and confidentiality - create an open atmosphere where people feel free to share without being attacked.  If you want your remarks to be kept confidential, preface your comments about confidentiality.  Outside of class, keep others’ perspectives anonymous.
2. Listen respectfully – assume others are doing their best to learn from each other.  Listen carefully for others’ meanings.  Don’t judge others’ intentions.  At least, don’t interrupt.
3. Be gentle - topics of politicized and personal detail will be explored.  As you share and ask questions, try to express yourself in ways that do not attack, incite or blame others.  Agree to disagree, reflect, suspend your own beliefs, and use silence.
4. Seek to learn - pose questions in neutral tones and seek to understand people’s meanings and underlying assumptions BEFORE challenging others.  Ask, *“What do you think led you to believe?”* Or *“I don’t really understand.  Could you tell me what you mean when you say?”*
5. Speak from your perspective – each is invited to advocate one’s position on topics. Please be aware that others may not agree and that you do not have the total truth.  Use personal statements such as *“I feel”* and *“I believe”* so that others may also have their right to hold their feelings and beliefs.
6. Acknowledge oppression exists - stereotypes, misinformation, silencing, and marginalization are processes of oppression.  Eliminate oppression by seeking to include everyone and valuing others’ contributions.

*(Adapted from Dr. R. Jueng)*

**Course Policies & Expectations:**  Your success in this class is dependent upon your willingness and motivation to work and learn beyond the allotted class time.

* Set aside at least **30 minutes** every night to read sections of the textbook AND to review material covered/discussed in class. DO YOUR HOMEWORK INDIVIDUALLY AND SUBMIT IN A TIMELY FASHION!!!
* Throughout the year, you will be expected to write research reports and utilize various reference sources. You will be expected to cite your references accordingly or be penalized with a failing grade for the assignment.
* Group work is expected. Please remember to work collaboratively and harmoniously!
* Assignments, projects, lab reports, etc. are expected to be turned in as per deadline date AND time. After 1 day post-deadline date, late assignments WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED*.* An assignment submitted a day after the expected due date will be subject to a 30% penalty. To better prepare you for college life, **LATE WORK IS PROHIBITED**! *If extenuating circumstances should arise, it is YOUR responsibility to communicate with the teacher prior to deadline date(s).*
* Please prepare for weekly quizzes, especially those associated with chapter vocabulary. **Review daily** and be prepared for Section Review “pop quizzes”. Learning, remembering, and utilizing the proper scientific terminology is crucial for basic success in the course.
* Those absent (unexcused) during the day of a quiz/exam will not be permitted to “make it up”. If the absence is excused, you are responsible for arranging to write the quiz/exam within one week of the absence; failure to do so, results in a score of “F”.

Students are responsible for their own academic success. **This means a student who misses a class period for any reason is responsible for determining the day’s assignment and completing the requisite work.**

**Supplies & Materials:** You are expected to provide your own supplies, unless otherwise provided by the teacher. You are solely responsible for acquiring and maintaining these items: personal notebook/folder; USB flash drive, scientific calculator. **Access to a computer, tablet or e-Reader will be necessary to utilize the digital format of the textbook AND to complete assignments.**

Daily lessons will be available at: **msbeland.weebly.com** or on a downloadable file. Every day you will be expected to bring your laptop/tablet for the day’s activity.

\*\*\*Contents of this syllabus, course policies and procedures are subject to change, by the teacher, with prior notice to students before implementation.

**REMEMBER: CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM ARE PROHIBITED!!**

**NO FOOD OR BEVERAGES IN THE CLASSROOM!**

**Grading Distribution:** Your grades will reflect a weighting distribution according to the following categories:

ASSIGNMENTS [Homework/Participation/Class Work/Discussions] = 50% ASSESSMENTS [Quizzes/Tests] = 50%

**Grading Scheme: A** = 90 -100% **B** = 80 – 89% **C** = 70 – 79% **D** = 65 – 69% **F** = <65%

**Quarter 1**: 50 % **Quarter 2**: 50%

**School Policies & Procedures:** Please refer to the Student Parent Handbook located online (*http://www.luschool.com/student-parent-handbook.html*) for further information regarding school-wide policies and procedures.

**Contact:** Daily lessons can be viewed on: **msbeland.weebly.com**. You may address any further concerns, deliver assignments, projects, lab reports, etc. to the following email address: [sbeland@luschool.com](mailto:sbeland@luschool.com). If you desire immediate feedback/response, please send me a **Google Hangout Chat**.

**\*\*”I am not what I think I am; and I am not what you think I am. I am what I think you think I am.”** – Charles Cooley**\*\***