I. **BASIC COURSE INFORMATION:**

A. **Course Description:**

*Introductory Sociology 1301.* Three hours credit.

Introductory Sociology is the scientific study of human society, including ways in which groups, social institutions, and individuals affect each other. Causes of social stability and social change are explored through the application of various theoretical perspectives, key concepts, and related research methods of sociology. Analysis of social issues in their institutional context may include topics such as social interaction, gender, race/ethnicity, and deviance. Three lecture-interaction hours will be conducted each week.

B. **Intended Audience:** The intended audience is any student who desires to improve their knowledge and understanding of sociology and meet the requirement of their academic program.

C. **Instructor:**

Name: Courtney Trotti, LMSW  
Office Hours: By Appointment per student request.  
E-mail address: Campus Connect - ctrotti@angelina.edu  
NOTE: Do not email instructor through Blackboard!

II. **INTENDED STUDENT OUTCOMES:**

**Statement of Purpose**

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.

A. **Core Objectives Required for this Course**

1. **Critical Thinking (CT):** To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
2. **Communication Skills (COM)** – to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
3. **Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS)** – to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.
4. **Social Responsibility (SR)** – to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.  

(Found in the *Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board: Lower-Division Academic Course Guide Manual, Spring 2013* )

B. **Course Learning Outcomes for all Sections** *(Found in the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board: Lower-Division Academic Course Guide Manuel, Spring 2013)*

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Compare and contrast the basic theoretical perspectives of sociology.  
2. Identify the various methodological approaches to the collection and analysis of data in sociology.  
3. Describe the key concepts in sociology.  
4. Describe the empirical findings of various subfields of sociology.  
5. Explain the complex links between individual experiences and broader institutional forces.
III. ASSESSMENT MEASURES

A. Assessments for the Core Objectives:

1. Critical Thinking – Students will demonstrate the ability to think creatively, to innovate, inquire, and analyze, evaluate and synthesize information. Students will correctly answer exam questions testing their knowledge, interpretation, and synthesis of comparative theories, current research, and social issues. Outcome will be assessed using a rubric which incorporates the Angelina College Institutional Critical Thinking Rubric.

2. Communication – Students will demonstrate the ability to effectively develop, interpret and express ideas through written, oral and visual communication. Students will satisfactorily complete in-class group work (written, oral, and visual); complete a Journal assignment (written, oral presentation, and visual); and complete writing quizzes; and randomly selected students will be selected to orally respond – Socratic style - to questions posed during lectures (oral). Students will correctly answer exam questions testing their effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication. Outcome will be assessed using a rubric which incorporates the Angelina College Institutional Communication Rubric.

3. Empirical and Quantitative Skills – Students will demonstrate the ability to manipulate and to analyze numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions. Students will correctly answer exam questions testing their ability to identify, calculate, and interpret, data reports and statistical measures relating to human behavior, including correct interpretation of graphs and charts. Outcome will be assessed using a rubric which incorporates the Angelina College Institutional Empirical and Quantitative Rubric.

4. Teamwork – N/A Sociology

5. Social Responsibility – Students will demonstrate the ability to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities. Students will create a Social Responsibility Flyer that incorporate their knowledge of the impact and ethics of organized religion, politics, education, on life-chances of regional, national, and global social groups and individuals. This assignment is in conjunction with the Journal Assignment in which the student is required to: 1) write six Personal Experience papers covering topics on: family, religion, education, health care or media, government, and economics. 2) collect and submit 12 current event articles on a social problem 3) locate and submit one scholarly/peered review article related to a current social problem of interest to the student. The Social Responsibility Flyer serves as an introduction to the Journal and should reflect a culmination of the student’s papers and current events and how they plan to engage “responsibly in the larger community. Outcome will be assessed using the Angelina College Institutional Social Responsibility Rubric.

6. Personal Responsibility – N/A Sociology

B. Assessments for Course Learning Outcomes –

1. Students will demonstrate the ability to identify, compare and contrast the basic theoretical perspectives of sociology by correctly answering exam questions, and successfully completing group work, class discussions, and assignments. Outcome will be assessed using the Angelina College Institutional Critical Thinking Rubric. This will be covered in a series of lectures, class discussions, student outlines, and class presentations by students. There will be assigned readings and information will be covered on a major exam.

2. Students will demonstrate the ability to identify the various methodological approaches to the collection and analysis of good social scientific research design by giving correct answers to exam questions, and by participating in class discussions, and completing a quiz on chapter two. Methodological terms will include but not limited to: validity, reliability, quantitative, and sampling methodologies. Outcome will be assessed using the Angelina College Institutional Empirical & Quantitative Rubric.

3. Students will demonstrate the ability to describe the key concepts and use terminology unique to the study of sociology by correctly answering exam questions, participating in class discussions, and writing a journal and giving an oral class presentation in which the student is required to incorporate sociological terms. Outcome will be assessed using the Angelina College Institutional Communication Rubric. Students will demonstrate the ability to describe the empirical findings of various subfields of sociology by correctly answering exam questions, participating in class discussions, and assignments.

4. Students will demonstrate the ability to describe the empirical findings of various subfields of sociology by correctly answering exam questions, participating in class discussions, and assignments. Outcome will be assessed using the Angelina College Institutional Empirical & Quantitative Rubric.
5. Students will demonstrate the ability to explain the complex links between individual experiences and broader institutional forces by creating a Social Responsibility Flyer that incorporate their knowledge of the impact and ethics of organized religion, politics, education, on life-chances of regional, national, and global social groups and individuals. Outcome will be assessed using the Angelina College Institutional Social Responsibility Rubric.

IV. INSTRUCTIONAL PROCEDURES:
This course is taught principally by lecture with integration of class discussions, class activities, and group work with oral presentations, audio-visual presentations and critical thinking exercises. Student outlines are posted on Blackboard. These outlines correlate with lecture material, group activities, and oral presentations. Students will also write six personal experience papers and collect twelve current event articles to create a journal related to sociological concepts.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES:
A. Required Textbooks, Materials, and Equipment —
2. Access Blackboard: http://online.angelina.edu — The Supplemental Unit to Critical Thinking. Students may access at any time in the course to improve their critical thinking skill. All chapter outlines and exam reviews are in Blackboard. Students are asked to print off chapter outlines and bring to class on the day of related lecture. Check course syllabus for class schedule.
*SMARTTHINKING is an on-demand student tutorial support service which is available through Blackboard. This online tutorial service is a valuable resource to assist students in a variety of academic studies.
3. Special Material - Folder or notebook with seven tabs for journal assignment.

B. Course Policies – This course conforms to the policies of Angelina College as stated in the Angelina College Handbook.
1. Academic Assistance — If you have a disability (as cited in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990) that may affect your participation in this class, you should see Karen Bowser, Room 208 of the Student Center. At a post-secondary institution, you must self-identify as a person with a disability; Ms. Bowser will assist you with the necessary information to do so. To report any complaints of discrimination related to disability, you should contact Dr. Patricia McKenzie, Administration Building, Room 105 or 936-633-5201.

2. Attendance — Attendance is required as per Angelina College Policy and will be recorded every day. Any student with three (3) consecutive absences or four (4) cumulative absences may be dropped from the class. Records will be turned in to the academic dean at the end of the semester. Do not assume that non-attendance in class will always result in an instructor drop. You must officially drop a class or risk receiving an F. This is official Angelina College Policy.

3. Additional Policies Established by the Instructor: If a student is late for class, it is his responsibility to ask the instructor to erase the “absence” for the class. Should the student not take responsibility to do so, then the student will automatically be counted as absent. Consistent and punctual attendance is mandatory. Students who leave class early or habitually come to class late (door is closed) will be counted as absent.

RESPECT ISSUES
Respect for your fellow class members and the instructor is expected at all times. You are expected to conduct yourself in a professional manner at all times. Disrespect for the instructor or fellow classmates will not be tolerated. No talking, whispering, gesturing to other students or making remarks aloud while the instructor or another student is talking. Do not work on studies from other classes during this class. Students will be asked to leave class if student sleeps or dozes. Disruptive or inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated. Disruptive and inappropriate behavior will result in permanent expulsion from the class and the issuance of a grade of “F” for the class.

CELL PHONE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
Cell phones, computers, pagers, recorders, headphones or other similar devices are NOT allowed in the classroom. There is a zero tolerance policy for this unacceptable behavior. Possession or Use of these devices will result in permanent expulsion form the class and the issuance of a grade of “F” for the class.
All assignments including the journal will require the use of a computer and a printer. All assigned work must be typed and correctly cited.

PLAGIARISM/CHEATING
Plagiarism (Intentional or Unintentional), collusion, or cheating (in any form) will result in an "F" in the course. Each student's work must be original and their own work. Cheating will be defined as using unauthorized materials during an exam (notes, books, etc.); using, or being in possession of a pirated exam, copying from or "conferencing" with another student during a test or exam, and plagiarizing journals, papers, or other written assignments. If a student is directly observed to be cheating or if there is ample evidence of cheating then the student guilty of cheating will be result in an "F" in the course.

Any work which requires research requires appropriate documentation. All sources must be documented completely and accurately. Failure to accurately and completely cite your research sources will be considered as plagiarism; therefore, resulting in an "F" in the course.

STUDENT's PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY
1. Instructors are in no way responsible for advising a student or what assignments or tests he has missed during an absence. It is the student's responsibility to find out what assignments and/or major exams were assigned during their absence.
If the student is absent from a class on the day of the major exam, the instructor is under no obligation to allow him to make up the major exam unless the student can produce a valid or legal excuse. If an absence is unexcused, the instructor is under no obligation to allow a make-up. If absent because of a school trip, you will be expected to complete the major exam before the trip.
The students MUST make-up missed major exams BEFORE the next major examination is given. Students who fail to make-up their major exams before the next exam will not be permitted to take the exam. It is always at the discretion of the instructor to give an essay exam as the make-up test.
2. Students must bring to class the chapter outline from Blackboard that will be lectured on that day.
3. Students are required to bring to class their own pencils and a Scantron (total of 4 for semester) for each major exam.
4. Students need both pen, pencil and their chapter outlines for each class period.
5. Participation by each student in class discussion is expected. Take notes on the lecture or discussion until the instructor dismisses class.
6. Students will need access to a computer and printer for written assignments and for the journal.
6. Do not prepare to leave classroom until class is dismissed.
7. No eating, drinking, dipping, or smoking in class.
8. Visitors are not allowed in class without special permission.
9. Appropriate attire is required.

ACADEMIC FREEDOM
The college experience frequently questions, researches, evaluates and assesses controversial issues. The classroom may serve as a forum for the presentation of a variety of ideas, none of which are intended injuriously.

V. COURSE OUTLINE: Description of the Course Activities including due dates, schedules, and
deadlines.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Chapter Name &amp; Class Work</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Class Day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 8/25</td>
<td>Intro Sociology &amp; Overview</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Understanding Sociology</td>
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<td>Thursday 9/1</td>
<td>Continue Chapter 1 &amp; Group Work</td>
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<td>Sociological Research</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>Thursday 9/8</td>
<td>Continue Chapter 2 &amp; Group Work</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Culture</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>Thursday 9/15</td>
<td>Continue Chapter 3</td>
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<td>Socialization</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>Thursday 9/22</td>
<td>Continue Chapter 4</td>
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<td>Tuesday 9/27</td>
<td><strong>Exam # 1 (Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 9/29</td>
<td>Social Interaction, Groups &amp; Structure</td>
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<td>Deviance &amp; Mass Media</td>
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<td>Thursday 10/6</td>
<td>Stratification &amp; Social Mobility -&quot;People Like Us</td>
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<td>Tuesday 10/11</td>
<td>Social Responsibility Flyer Due</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday 10/13</strong></td>
<td><strong>JOURNAL DUE &amp; PRESENTATIONS</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday 10/18</strong></td>
<td><strong>EXAM # 2 (Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8)</strong></td>
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<td>Thursday 10/20</td>
<td>Racial Inequality &amp; Global Inequality</td>
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<td>The Family and Human Sexuality</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 10/27</td>
<td>Health and the Environment</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday 11/1</strong></td>
<td><strong>EXAM # 3 (Chapters 9, 10, 12, 15)</strong></td>
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<td>Thursday 11/3</td>
<td>Education and Religion</td>
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<td>Continue Chapter 13</td>
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<td>Thursday 11/10</td>
<td>Government and the Economy</td>
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<td>Continue Chapter 14</td>
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<td>Thursday 11/17</td>
<td>Population Control Ideology</td>
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<td>Thursday Dec 1</td>
<td>Extra Credit Offered</td>
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<td>Thursday Dec 8</td>
<td>Review</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday Dec 13</strong></td>
<td><strong>FINAL EXAM (Chapters 13, 14)</strong></td>
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VI.

VII. EVALUATION AND GRADING:
A. Grading Criteria
1. Four major exams valued at 100 points each.
2. Journal grade valued at 100 points. Journals are due at the beginning of the class period or it will be considered late. (See Journal Assignment for further explanations on Journal requirement and grading procedures.)
3. Five quizzes (each worth 20 points). Note: There are a total of seven quizzes given with two of the lowest quiz grades dropped. Quizzes CAN NOT be made up under any circumstances. Students must be present in class to take both in-class quiz and take home quiz. All quizzes are due at the beginning of class. No quizzes (either take-home or class quizzes) accepted late!
4. Online participation valued at 100 points. This will include reading and completing assignments from Blackboard on the opposite day that your class meets.
4. A total of 700 points can be accrued for the semester.

4 Major Exams valued at 100 points per exam = 400
5 Quiz Grades valued at 20 points per quiz = 100
Online Participation valued at 100 points = 100
1 Journal Grade & Flyer at 100 points = 100

TOTAL = 700

Grading Scale for Final Class Letter Grade:

- A = 630-700
- B = 560-629
- C = 490-559
- D = 420-489
- F = 419 or below

B. Determination of Grade
1. The final class letter grade will be based on the total cumulative points from 5 quizzes, 4 major exams, the journal, and participation points.
2. Disruptive or inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated. Disruptive or inappropriate behavior will result in permanent expulsion from the class and the issuance of a grade of “F” for the class.
3. Cheating (in any form) or assisting others to cheat will result in an “F” for the course.
4. Exams and assignments will be discussed individually with students upon request.
5. The instructor will be available for consultation during office hours or by appointment.

The instructor may modify the provisions of the syllabus to meet individual class needs by informing the class in advance as to the changes being made.