

# Course Expectation Resource Sheet - SOC 150

*“What can students expect if they choose this course?”*

**Course:** SOC 150 - Introduction to Society

**Department:** Sociology, Anthropology, & Gerontology

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Prerequisite:** None

**Catalog Description:** The study of society including its structure and operation from the perspective of sociology. The course focuses on ways society is constructed by people and, in turn, on the ways society shapes people. This general education course supplies students with a community as well as global, multicultural understanding of society.

**Catalog:** 2025-2026 **Last Updated:** 9/19/2025

**Gen Ed Course:** Yes

**Gen Ed Area:** HUMAN CULTURES

**Gen Ed Requirement:** Social & Behavioral Sciences (GEC 110)

**CORE-42 Course:** Yes

**CORE-42 Area:** Social & Behavioral Sciences

**MOTR Code - MOTR Title:** SOCI 101 - General Sociology

**Is credit also available through:**

[Advanced Placement \(AP\)?](#): No

[College Level Exam Program \(CLEP\)?](#): No

[International Baccalaureate \(IB\)?](#): No

*(click link for more information and required scores)*

## Responses and Advice from Department Representatives

*Last Updated: 2/17/2026*

**The following responses apply to:** Both seated and online courses

### What expectations do you have for students in this course?

Seated Sections:

Students are expected to come to class prepared, having completed assigned readings or media, and ready to participate in discussion. This course emphasizes curiosity, respectful engagement with diverse perspectives, and a willingness to examine taken-for-granted assumptions about everyday social life. Students should take responsibility for managing deadlines, asking for help when needed, and actively contributing to a learning environment where multiple viewpoints are valued.

Online Sections:

Students are expected to watch the lectures and complete readings/media, and assignments weekly. This course emphasizes curiosity, respectful engagement with diverse perspectives, and a willingness to examine taken-for-granted assumptions about everyday social life. Students should take responsibility for managing deadlines, asking for help when needed, and actively contributing to a learning environment where multiple viewpoints are valued.

### What types of study skills do you expect students to use in this course?

Students should practice active reading, note-taking, and reflection. This includes identifying key concepts, connecting examples from class to real-world social issues, and summarizing arguments in

their own words. Time management, careful attention to assignment instructions, and regular review of course materials are essential.

**What study techniques seem to work best for students who do well in this course?**

Successful students tend to take notes and review them shortly after class, form small study groups to talk through concepts, and relate sociological ideas to current events or their own experiences.

**What behaviors or habits seem to cause students to struggle in this course? What types of struggles do you see most often? What recommendations do you give to students who struggle in this course? What other advice do you offer to students for success in this course?**

Students often struggle when they miss a lot of class or lectures, fall behind on readings, rely only on lecture notes without engaging with course materials, or treat the course as primarily based on memorization. Avoiding participation, missing deadlines, and not seeking clarification when confused can also limit progress.

We recommend that students attend office hours, use tutoring or academic support services, and talk through material with classmates.

**How do you describe the course to students when they ask “What is this class about?” (without using the catalog description)?**

I describe this course as a way of learning how to “see the social world.” We examine how personal experiences—such as family life, education, work, media, and relationships—are shaped by larger social forces like culture, inequality, institutions, and power. The course helps students understand how individual lives are connected to broader social patterns.

**Beyond meeting a General Education requirement, what benefits can students realize from choosing this course?**

Students develop stronger critical thinking, communication, and analytical skills. They learn how to evaluate information, recognize bias, and better understand people whose experiences differ from their own. These skills are valuable for civic engagement, workplace collaboration, and informed decision-making in everyday life.

**Other than your major/minor/certificate students, what groups of students could find this course relevant to their degree program or career path?**

This course is especially relevant for students in education, health sciences, criminal justice, business, social work, psychology, political science, and communications. Any student interested in working with people, understanding social systems, or navigating diverse professional environments can benefit from a sociological perspective.

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