

**Note:**

**Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form.**

# MOODY DISTANCE LEARNING

## Course Description

GSU-2213 Introduction to Sociology, 3 credit hours

A survey course dealing with the principles of social structure, social institutions, social processes, and social change. Gives special attention to religious institutions to help the student understand and relate Christianity to a secular society.

Fulfills the 3-semester-hour General Studies social science requirement.

*Prerequisites:* None.

## Course Goals

In this course you will:

- Investigate how social forces and institutions influence our daily life in obvious and not-so obvious ways
- Apply sociological principles to the topics of class, race and ethnicity, and gender
- Examine how social institutions (and the institution of religion in particular) provide a framework for the social world
- Explore how Christianity and sociology can inform each other

## Course Objectives

By the completion of this course you should be able to:

1. Define the “sociological imagination” and apply it to your daily life
2. Articulate sociological perspectives on topics like race/ethnicity and social inequality
3. Apply sociological concepts and ideas to contemporary social problems as well as current events
4. Describe how a worldview informed by sociology is compatible with Christianity

## Course Textbook(s) and/or Supplemental Information

Required textbooks for all Moody Online classes can be found on the [Required Textbooks](#) section of the Moody website.

## Assignments

All assignments are due according to the Course Schedule.

1. **READING & READING QUIZZES:** The completion of the course reading is an important part of the course. You are expected to complete the reading prior to completing the assignments. For Lessons # 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6, you will be required to complete a reading quiz that will test comprehension of the reading. These are open-book quizzes, and are comprised of 10 multiple-choice and true/false questions.
2. **EXAMS:** There will be two exams: the first is during Lesson 3, the second is during Lesson 7. Unlike the reading quizzes, the exams are **not** open-book. Also, unlike the reading quizzes, which are designed only to test comprehension, the exams will require thinking critically about the topics covered in the course and applying concepts we have discussed. The exams will be made up of short-answer essay questions covering the material discussed in

the previous weeks. Exam 1 will cover material discussed in Lessons 1 and 2, and Exam 2 will cover material discussed from Lessons 3 to 6.

3. **DISCUSSION BLOG POSTS:** The bulk of the points in this course are earned through participation in weekly discussion blog posts.

You are responsible for eight (8) blog posts during the course. Each blog post should be the equivalent of 2-3 typed, double-spaced pages (around 600-700 words.) The blog posts should demonstrate a good grasp of the material covered that week, and incorporate the textbook readings, the supplement readings, or other outside sources that you find useful. The blog posts should not be used to summarize the material, but instead should be used as opportunities to think critically about the material and to apply the concepts we are learning about to your own life, social problems, and to current events.

4. **DISCUSSION BLOG COMMENTS:** You must maintain a significant presence in the blog posts. You must make one (1) comment in another student’s blog post for all eight weeks. You may comment on other students’ blog posts each week, but you must post to at least one student each week. Your comments should be thorough, but concise.

### Assessments

Your grade for this course will consist of:

Reading Quizzes (5 total, 3% each)	15%
Exams (2 total, 10% each)	20%
Discussion Blog Posts / Comments (8 total, 8.125% each)	65%
	100%

Letter grades are determined by the following scale:

Letter Grade	Percentage Equivalent	Letter Grade	Percentage Equivalent
A	96% or higher	C	73 - 76.9%
A-	90 - 95.9%	C-	70 - 72.9%
B+	87 - 89.9%	D+	67 - 69.9%
B	83 - 86.9%	D	63- 66.9%
B-	80 - 82.9%	D-	60 - 62.9%
C+	77 - 79.9%	F	Below 60%

### Course Resources

Online students have access to the Moody Library. Though students may wish to check out books via inter-library loan, the online database has a number of articles and reviews available for download. You can access the online database by logging into your account at [my.moody.edu](http://my.moody.edu). If you have not previously accessed the library database you may wish to complete the database tutorial at <http://library.moody.edu>.

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