**Sociology (SO102) Syllabus**

Instructor: Elizabeth Kiefer

Meadow Heights High School

 ekiefer@meadowheights.k12.mo.us

Phone: (573) 866.2924

**MISSION:** TO GRADUATE STUDENTS THAT ARE MOTIVATED, DEDICATED TO LEARNING, AND SUCCESSFUL MEMBERS OF SOCIETY.

**VISION:** TO DEVELOP LIFE-LONG LEARNERS THAT ARE PREPARED FOR THE FUTURE, SELF DISCIPLINED, COMMITTED TO LEARNING, AND PROFICIENT IN LEADERSHIP AND CHARACTER.

**Course Resources:**

Students should come prepared for class each day with something to write with and notebook paper. Each student will need a folder or small binder to keep track of class notes, handouts, and other class materials. **All textbooks used in the class will be kept in the classroom, as we rent them from SEMO for dual enrollment. Students may check out a book, if needed.** Students will receive one documented verbal warning for behavior issues, and discipline referrals will occur for each additional recurrence, following student handbook point system. **Chromebooks will be used in class for educational purposes only. Failure to comply with proper use of Chromebook within the classroom will result in no use of the Chromebook within my classroom.**

Proper classroom behavior is expected of all students in the classroom at all times. The student should:

1. Be on time and ready to go.
2. Check the board everyday for important messages.
3. Be respectful of everyone/everything in the room.
4. Participate in class discussions.

**Course Objectives:**

SO 102. Society, Culture and Social Behavior. A series of lectures, projects and discussions analyzing the impact of society and culture on human social behavior. (University Studies course) (3).

This course is designed to provide you an understanding of social systems. How they work and interact, and, how social structure and cultures influence human behavior. This course will begin to give you an understanding of how the understanding of sociology will apply to you in both your personal life and your professional career.

**Units of Study: This is a semester long course. This information should be fairly accurate, as we follow SEMO’s guidelines from year to year for both dual enrollment and non-dual enrollment.**

***Unit 1:*** *In this first unit of the course you will be introduced to the science of sociology, its history and major contributors. A key component to the course is to examine aspects of society & culture through the framework of three primary theoretical perspectives. You will also realize that sociology, like all sciences, is based in research with regard to both design or methodology, and interpretation of results.*

***Unit 2:*** *This unit will address the questions of how do we become socialized? How is the process structured? And how does change occur? Building on the concept of culture, Chapter 4 addresses the many ways & levels that social orientation occurs. Chapter 5 examines the components of social structure (groups, organizations and social networks). And Unit 2 concludes (Ch 7) with a look at deviance: sociological perspectives on deviance; types of crime; and a brief look at crime statistics.*

***Unit 3:*** *Typically this unit on inequality challenges our thinking, beliefs & values (Ch 8,10,11). Chapter 8 looks at the basic structure of stratification (social class) and movement both upward and downward and presents the argument that stratification is a 'cultural universal' (Ch 3) based on several theoretical perspectives. Chapter 10 focuses on racial & ethnic inequality, an issue that has always been topical throughout our history, but has especially escalated in the past few years. The unit closes with a look at gender inequality using the framework of the major theoretical perspectives. The overarching course learning objective for this unit is to examine the structure of inequality within our culture and enhance understanding of its impact in society.*

***Unit 4:*** *This fourth and final unit of the course (Chapters 6,9, and 16) expands our view of society & culture to a global scale. Chapter 6 addresses through the theoretical perspectives, the power of media. Chapter 9 looks at global inequality, addressing the legacy of colonialism on developing countries. And the final chapter (16) of the course examines social change and types of social movements.*

*I cannot stress enough that this is a college level class. Students enrolled in Sociology will be expected to write and perform as a college level student. For those taking this course as dual enrollment, it is key to read the chapters and communicate with your professor if you have questions or are planning to be absent when an assignment is due or a test it to be taken.*

**Grading Policy:**

Dual credit will receive a Meadow Heights grade on SIS and they will also be working with a program called Moodle through SEMO. This is where their work will be turned in, and also where their grades will be recorded for their college transcripts. At any time you want to know what your students’ college grade is, feel free to email me and I will get it to you within the day.

I will try to work diligently in inputting grades once every two weeks, if not more. Students should make all attempts to pass this class. Mrs. Kiefer is always available to discuss support structures for your child’s education. If the student, the parent and the teacher all act proactively, we shall achieve success together.

Students with continuous missing work and/or a failing grade at designated checkpoints will be assigned to after school tutoring in the subject(s) until work/grade is brought current or passing. Grades included in checkpoints are mid-quarter grades and end-of-quarter grades.

Repeatedly not turning in minor in-class work, etc. would result in tutoring assignment after three missing assignments during the quarter. **Please refer to the student handbook for further details regarding district wide grading policy.**

**Attendance Policy:**

Students have the equivalent amount of days to make up all assignments as the number of days missed due to an excused absence. Work may be made up before or after school and must be scheduled with the course instructor. It is the student’s responsibility to collect ALL missed work during their absences.

**Plagiarism/Academic Dishonesty Policy:**

Plagiarism and academic dishonesty are serious offenses. The academic work of a student is expected to be his/her own effort. Students must give the author(s) credit for any source material used. To represent ideas or interpretations taken from a source without giving credit is a flagrant act. To present a borrowed passage after having changed a few words, even if the source is cited, is plagiarism. Students who commit any act of academic dishonesty will receive a failing grade in that portion of the coursework. Acts of academic dishonesty will be reported to the administration.