

## **GEM Course Alignment Document**

### **1. Course prefix, number, and name and General Education Matriculation (GEM) Competency Area:**

Sociology 101: Introduction to Sociology

GEM Competency Area: Social and Behavioral Ways of Knowing

### **2. Course Description:**

This course is an introduction to the basic concepts, theoretical perspectives, and substantive issues in sociology. You will learn about culture and socialization, social interactions and institutions, and social change in order to develop new ways of understanding your life and the lives of others in the context of the broader society. This process will involve your active engagement with readings, lectures, discussions, films, and in-class activities.

### **3. Statewide General Education Learning Outcomes (GELOs):**

#### **General Education Learning Outcomes**

This course is designed to help you develop the competencies stipulated by the Idaho State Board of Education for the Social and Behavioral Ways of Knowing component of the General Education Core. Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to do the following:

- i. Demonstrate knowledge of the theoretical and conceptual frameworks of a particular Social Science discipline (sociology).
- ii. Develop an understanding of self and the world by examining the dynamic interaction of individuals, groups, and societies as they shape and are shaped by history, culture, institutions, and ideas.
- iii. Utilize Social Science approaches, such as research methods, inquiry, or problem-solving, to examine the variety of perspectives about human experiences.
- iv. Evaluate how reasoning, history, or culture informs and guides individual, civic, or global decisions.
- v. Understand and appreciate similarities and differences among and between individuals, cultures, or societies across space and time.

#### **4. Course Specific/Additional Learning Outcomes (optional):**

##### **Course Specific Learning Outcomes**

In this course you will do the following, which are linked to the above General Education Learning Outcomes as noted in parentheses:

- gain knowledge of how society operates on the micro and macro levels (ii, iv, v).
- learn how to interpret a broad range of human behaviors and social processes by applying key sociological theories and concepts (i, ii, iii, iv, v).
- develop what C. Wright Mills called a “sociological imagination,” enabling you to understand your life and the diverse lives of others in the context of broader historical trends and social processes (i, ii, iv, v).
- discuss social issues in an informed, critical, and civil manner and in the process gain experience speaking to an audience of your peers (i, ii, iv, v).
- write evidence-based essays in which you analyze and interpret social phenomena (i, ii, iii, iv, v).

##### **5. Assignments:**

Your grade in this course will be based on the following, which correspond to the General Education Learning Outcomes (GELOs) as noted in parentheses:

Papers: You will write two formal essays during the semester. These are brief, 3-4 page papers in which you exhibit your understanding of and ability to critically reflect on the assigned readings, lectures, and films and apply key sociological theories and/or concepts. Specific instructions for these papers will be distributed and discussed in class. (GELOs: i, ii, iii, iv, v)

Pop Quizzes: A pop quiz may await you in class on any given day. These quizzes are my way of ensuring that you are keeping up with the assigned readings, and they may also test your knowledge of previously covered lecture material. (GELOs: i, ii, iv, v)

First Exam: The first examination will consist of a combination of multiple choice, true/false, and essay questions on material covered during Weeks 1-5. (GELOs: i, ii, iv, v)

Second Exam: The second examination will consist of a combination of multiple choice, true/false, and essay questions on material covered during Weeks 7-10. (GELOs: i, ii, iv, v)

Final Exam: The final is a comprehensive exam consisting of a combination of multiple choice, true/false, and essay questions. It will test your knowledge of

material covered throughout the semester and especially emphasize material covered during Weeks 12-14. (GELOs: i, ii, iv, v)

**Table of Statewide GELOs and corresponding assignments for SOC 101**

General Education Learning Outcomes	Assignments through which students will demonstrate the General Education Learning Outcome
i. Demonstrate knowledge of the theoretical and conceptual frameworks of a particular Social Science discipline.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Papers</li><li>• Pop Quizzes</li><li>• First, Second, Final Exams</li></ul>
ii. Develop an understanding of self and the world by examining the dynamic interaction of individuals, groups, and societies as they shape and are shaped by history, culture, institutions, and ideas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Papers</li><li>• Pop Quizzes</li><li>• First, Second, Final Exams</li></ul>
iii. Utilize Social Science approaches, such as research methods, inquiry, or problem-solving, to examine the variety of perspectives about human experiences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Papers</li></ul>
iv. Evaluate how reasoning, history, or culture informs and guides individual, civic, or global decisions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Papers</li><li>• Pop Quizzes</li><li>• First, Second, Final Exams</li></ul>
v. Understand and appreciate similarities and differences among and between individuals, cultures, or societies across space and time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Papers</li><li>• Pop Quizzes</li><li>• First, Second, Final Exams</li></ul>