Instructor Guide for SOC 204

This course for all college students (course is required for some academic programs) was designed to be taught as an online course with no synchronous meetings, over a 10 week term (with finals week) at Western Oregon University.

This course covers the main sociological concepts and theories. It is an intro course, so even though the number is 204 it can be seen as a 101. The course integrates with the open textbook [Sociology of Everyday Life: An Equity Lens](#).

This course was designed using the Quality Matter rubric as a course design guide.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Recognize and identify the multiple social forces that shape self and society.
2. Distinguish among different sociological theories and concepts.
3. Employ a sociological perspective in recognizing and assessing multiple forms of social inequality associated with race, class, and gender.
4. Employ a sociological perspective in describing and explaining one's own life.

Course Scope and Structure

This course incorporates a variety of instructional materials, such as

Each **weekly module** follows this structure:
- Start Here
- Readings
- Discussion Prompt (Assignment)
  - Option 1
  - Option 2
  - Option 3
- Discussion
- Group Project Log
- Wrap-up

Start Here - informs students about the theme for the week, the learning outcomes and class readings

Reading assignment - (typically one chapter of the OER Textbook and in some cases more open source materials including a chapter from another social problem textbook)

Discussion Prompt (Assignment) - students choose one of three sociological perspectives and answer the prompt. They submit as an assignment for instructor feedback, before they post in the weekly discussion.

Group Projects and Project Logs - This is a weekly assignment in which students complete individual work and also a group assignment

Weekly discussions - based on prompts from various sociological perspectives. students submit one of the three perspectives that they wrote about in the assignment. They post to the discussion board and reply to classmates.

Wrap-up - reminder checklist for students to make sure they completed everything for that week.