SOC 101: Introduction to Sociology

Yellowdig Grading Information and Assignment Schedule

General Assignment Structure

Each week you will be required to participate in course discussions and submit posts using *our Yellowdig discussion board*. These posts are designed for you to share your views on various topics using concepts covered in the course.

Yellowdig allows you to add rich media to your text response, including images, audio, and video, to express your ideas.

Grading Details and Point System

Graded discussion posts count for 10% of your overall course grade. You will earn points when you contribute to discussions. **Always launch Yellowdig from within the course site to ensure points are recorded toward your grade.**

The maximum number of points you can achieve is **380**.

Note: This total sum will accompany your first assignment prompt. The number of points may appear there as a fraction as you contribute to the discussion, but as long as you complete all assignments as required, you will receive full credit at the end of the course. You will also notice that as you post, your progress bar will begin to increase on your progress page.

To learn more about the platform, access [Yellowdig's help site](#) and ask Yellowdig-specific questions via [support email](#).

We strongly encourage you to participate beyond the initial assignment requirements, to share your views with your peers and course team.

Schedule of Assignments

Week 1: Due Tuesday, August 24, 06:59 UTC (50 points toward your grade)
- Post under the Introduce Yourself! tag

Week 2: Due Tuesday, August 31, 06:59 UTC (80 points toward your grade)
- Post under the Week 2 tag

Week 3: Due Tuesday, September 7, 06:59 UTC (50 points toward your grade)
- Post under the Week 3 tag

Week 4: Due Tuesday, September 14, 06:59 UTC (50 points toward your grade)
- Post under the Week 4 tag

Week 5: Due Tuesday, September 21, 06:59 UTC (50 points toward your grade)
- Post under the Week 5 tag

Week 6: Due Tuesday, September 28, 06:59 UTC (50 points toward your grade)
- Post under the Week 6 tag

Week 7 Due Tuesday, October 5, 06:59 UTC (50 points toward your grade)
- Post under the Week 7 tag

Points, Word Count, and Grading

Points: As indicated above, you will earn points when you contribute to discussions on Yellowdig. There are **380 points total** for our Yellowdig board.

Note: Again, this total sum will accompany your first assignment prompt. The number of points may appear there as a fraction as you contribute to the discussion, but as long as you complete all assignments as required, you will receive full credit at the end of the course. You will also notice that as you post, your progress bar will begin to increase on your progress page.

Each weekly assignment is worth 50 points: 40 for your initial post, 10 for comments on others' posts (provided you meet minimum word requirements). You may also receive up to 70 points per week if you continue interacting with your peers. Week 2 has an extra available amount of points in case you missed Week 1. To learn more about points, click on "How to earn points" on your board (or see screenshot below).

⊙ **Points Earned**
This is the total cumulative points you have earned toward the Total Goal set for this community.

▦ **My Period Max**
This value is the maximum cumulative number of points you can earn for the current period. Each community member can only earn up to 0 points per period.

Total Goal
This is the total number of points to get before point earning end for this community on 10/05/2021.

Point Earning Rule	Points
Creating a new Post with minimum 100 words	40
Commenting on another user's Post with minimum 50 words	10

Point earning is enabled from   08/17/2021 12:00 AM   to   10/05/2021 12:00 AM

Each new period starts on   Tue 12:00 AM MST

Word count: Make sure you are meeting the required minimum number of words for initial posts (100) and for comments (50) outlined in the assignment details. There is a bar at the bottom of the text box that tells you whether you have met the word-count requirements.

Grading: To receive full credit for your participation, you must meet both the minimum word count and deadline requirements outlined in the assignment. (Be sure to familiarize yourself with the [UTC time zone](.)) *Yellowdig and your progress page sync every 24 hours.* This means that while points may immediately display on the Yellowdig discussion board, you will not see an update to your progress page until the following day.

Characteristics of Quality Posts

Your posts are a representation of your knowledge and thoughts. They are meant to give you and your instructor a sense of your understanding of key concepts, and your ability to connect those concepts to real-world experiences and events. "Participation" will take the form of composing and submitting one or two posts in which you are responding to and complying with some very specific instructions about the type of content to generate. Typically, your post will consist of explaining your views in response to question-prompts we give you about a particular current event or social issue. One prompt that we give you may contain multiple questions. Thus, when you explain your viewpoint, you will want to make sure that you have answered all the questions contained in the prompt. If a second post is required, it will typically take the form of responding to a classmate's post on the same topic.

Please consider the following guidelines as a checklist for your contributions (from St. John's University in NY):

- **Substantial**: Messages should relate to the subject matter and provide information, opinions or questions about that subject matter.
- **Concise**: Studies have shown that messages that are several screens long do not get many replies. The point of your message should be clear and brief.
- **Provocative**: A good message is one that prompts others to reply or object.
- **Explanatory**: A good message explores, explains, or expands on a concept or connection.
- **Timely**: A good member of the learning community gets on regularly and replies to messages in a timely fashion.
- **Logical**: A good message should contain a clearly stated conclusion of thesis supported by premises, reason, evidence or grounds of belief.
- **Grammatical**: A good, clear, concise message should be well written and free of typos and sentence fragments.