**Wayland Mission Statement**

Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused, and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, and service to God and humankind.

**Contact Information**

**Course**

: SOCI 3303 VC01 – Urban Sociology

**Campus**

: WBUonline

**Term/Session**

**:** Summer 2025

**Instructor**

**:** Dr. Beth Durbin

**Office Phone Number**

**:** cell: 907-460-3226 – text is best

**WBU Email Address**

**:** durbinb@wbu.edu

**Office Hours, Building, and Location**

**:** Email or text so we can schedule a time to meet

**Class Meeting Time and Location**

**:** WBU Online

**Course Information**

**Catalog Description**

**:** The city as a social phenomenon in the modern world; analysis of urban-rural trends, characteristics, functions, ecology, and social organizations.

**There is no prerequisite for this course.**

**Textbook Information**

**Required Textbook(s) and/or Required Materials**

**:** Urban Sociology. Flanagan. Rowan & Little. 5th ed. ISBN: 9780742561762

*The textbook for this course is part of the* ***Wayland’s Automatic eBook*** *program. You will have access to an eBook and interactive learning material on the first day of class through your Blackboard course site. The cost of this Automatic eBook will be billed directly to your student account when you register for the course. You will be notified via email with access instructions and additional information. If you do not wish to participate in the Automatic eBook program, you will have the first 12 days of class to opt-out of the program (additional details will be outlined in your email instructions). For more information on the Automatic eBook program, visit the Wayland Bookstore* [*Automatic eBook FAQ*](https://bookstore.wbu.edu/site_inclusive.asp) *page.*

**Optional Materials**

**:** None

**Course Outcome Competencies**

**:** Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

* Describe major issues that confront urban communities
* Analyze the assets, strengths and deficits found in urban areas
* Identify and discuss different cultural/ethnic/racial groups residing in urban areas
* Communicate effectively in writing sociological/ justice of administration aspects of urban living

**Attendance Requirements**

WBUonline

Students are expected to participate in all required instructional activities in their courses. Online courses are no different in this regard; however, participation must be defined in a different manner. Student “attendance” in an online course is defined as active participation in the course as described in the course syllabus. Instructors in online courses are responsible for providing students with clear instructions for how they are required to participate in the course. Additionally, instructors are responsible for incorporating specific instructional activities within their course and will, at a minimum, have weekly mechanisms for documenting student participation. These mechanisms may include, but are not limited to, participating in a weekly discussion board, submitting/completing assignments in Blackboard, or communicating with the instructor. Students aware of necessary absences must inform the professor with as much advance notice as possible in order to make appropriate arrangements. Any student absent 25 percent or more of the online course, i.e., non-participatory during 2 or more weeks of an 8-week session, may receive an F for that course. Instructors may also file a Report of Unsatisfactory Progress for students with excessive non-participation. Any student who has not actively participated in an online class prior to the census date for any given session is considered a “no-show” and will be administratively withdrawn from the class without record. To be counted as actively participating, it is not sufficient to log in and view the course. The student must be submitting work as described in the course syllabus. Additional attendance and participation policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the university’s attendance policy.

**University Policies**

[Link to Statement on Academic Integrity , and reference one of the following in regard to how generative artificial intelligence (GAI) such as ChatGPT may or may not be used in this course:](https://www.wbu.edu/academics/writing-center/Academic%20Integrity%20Statement%20Pol%208.4.1%20Attch%20Oct%2020222.pdf)

1. No use of any generative AI tools permitted.
   1. Students are required to create and produce all work themselves or with assigned group members. Any work submitted that has used an AI generative tool like Chat GPT will be in immediate violation of the academic integrity policies for the course and WBU.
   2. All assignments must be fully created, designed, and prepared by the student(s).
   3. Any work that uses generative AI will be treated as plagiarism.

**Disability Statement**

**:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Disability Services Coordinator and Academic Coach serves as the coordinator of students with disabilities and must be contacted concerning accommodation requests (office (806) 291-1057. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

Accessibility issues with content in WBUonline courses or in Blackboard should be addressed to the WBU accessibility coordinator, Dr. Rick Hammer, [hammerr@wbu.edu](mailto:hammerr@wbu.edu) or call (806) 292-9150.

**Course Requirements and Grading Criteria**

Required First Assignment on Blackboard: This assignment must be completed as the first assignment for the course – before any other coursework! This counts as attendance for WBU Online and if you do not accomplish it, they will drop you even if you have done other stuff in class. So, get it done first by Wednesday of first week of class!!!!!

**Meet and Greet Discussion Board**: So everyone can get to know each other post information about yourself by Friday of the first week of class and respond to two classmates by Sunday. 20 points

**Email Assignment:** In an effort to ensure that you are capable of communicating with me, you will be required to review the syllabus and email me from your Wayland email address on or before Sunday of the first week of class by 11:59 PM. The email should simply state that the you are fulfilling the email assignment and that you have read the syllabus. You should also address whether or not you have any questions regarding the syllabus. 25 points possible.

**Reading Assignments:** Reading assignments are to be completed on time (i.e., before the corresponding assignments are due). It will be to your benefit to take notes as you read. Additionally, you should be prepared to participate in online discussions about the assigned reading.

**Discussion Board: Regular attendance and participation in online discussions/activities are important and strongly encouraged to facilitate the learning process. Assigned reading is to be completed prior to online interactive sessions for which the reading was assigned. At least one discussion question will be assigned per week that we do not have class. It will require students to share their ideas and concepts with other students. Students are encouraged to share constructive information with the instructor and fellow classmates. The students are required to comment to the teachers’ discussion question by Wednesday at 9:00 pm (CST) and then respond to two other comments by Sunday at 11:59 pm (CST) to receive full credit weekly.**

**Student Journals: Choose 1 of the 13 journals from the list of journals under the content folder on blackboard. You will have a total of 5 of these due during the term. Journals are due the by the Sunday of the week they are assigned.**

**Exams: The exams will be multiple choice, true and false, short answer and essay questions. The midterm will cover chapters 1-5 and the final exam will cover chapters 6-11. These are open book and not proctored.**

M**ethod of determining course grade:**

**Grade Weight: (based on 905 points possible)**

**Meet & Greet DB: 20 points**

**Email Assignment: 25 points**

**Discussion Board: 8 x 20 - 160 points**

**Journal Assignments: 5 x 100 = 500 points**

**Mid Term: 100 points**

**Final Exam: 100 points**

**Total points =905**

**The University has a standard grade scale:**

A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69, F= below 60, W = Withdrawal, WP = withdrew passing, WF = withdrew failing, I = incomplete. An incomplete may be given within the last two weeks of a long term, within the last week of an 8-week session, or within the last two days of a microterm to a student who is passing, but has not completed a term paper, examination, or other required work for reasons beyond the student’s control. A grade of “incomplete” is changed if the work required is completed prior to the last day of the next long 16-week term or 8-week session, unless the instructor designates an earlier date for completion.  If the work is not completed by the appropriate date, the I is converted to an F.

**Student Grade Appeals**

**:** Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Vice President of Academic Affairs to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.

**Tentative Schedule**

**Week 1 June 2: Chapter 1 & 2**

**Required First Assign. On Blackboard: Due Wed.**

**Meet & Greet Discussion Board: Due Friday @ 11:59 PM**

**Initial Discussion Board Response: Due Wednesday @ 11:59 PM**

**Classmate DB Response: Due Sunday @ 11:59 PM**

**Email Assignment: Due Sunday @ 11:59 PM**

**Week 2 June 9: Chapter 3**

**Discussion Board Response: Wednesday @ 11:59 PM**

**Classmate DB Response: Due: Sunday @ 11:59 PM**

**Journal 1: Due Sunday @ 11:59 PM**

**Week 3 June 16: Chapter 4 and 5 and 6**

**Discussion Board Response: Wednesday @ 11:59 PM**

**Classmate DB Response: Due: Sunday @ 11:59 PM**

**Journal 2: Due Sunday @ 11:59 pm**

**Week 4 June 23 Initial Discussion Board Response: Wednesday @ 11:59**

**Classmate DB Response: Due: Sunday @ 11:59 PM**

**Midterm- Due Sunday @ 11:59 PM**

**Week 5 June 30: Chapter 7 and 8**

**Discussion Board Response: Wednesday @ 11:59 PM**

**Classmate DB Response: Due: Sunday @ 11:59 PM**

**Journal 3 – Due Sunday @ 11:59 PM**

**Week 6 July 7: Chapter 9 and 10**

**Discussion Board Response: Wednesday @ 11:59 PM**

**Classmate DB Response: Due: Sunday @ 11:59 PM**

**Journal 4 –Due Sunday @ 11:59 pm**

**Week 7 July 14: Chapter 11**

**Discussion Board Response: Wednesday @ 11:59 PM**

**Classmate DB Response: Due: Sunday @ 11:59 PM**

**Journal 5 - Due Sunday @ 11:59 PM**

**Week 8 July 21: Discussion Board Response: Wednesday @ 11:59 PM**

**Classmate DB Response: Due: Saturday @ 11:59 PM**

**Final Exam due Saturday @ 11:59 pm**

**Additional Information**

**Census Date, last day to drop without record: June 9, 2025**

**Last day to drop with a W: July 7, 2025**

**Last day to drop with WP/WF: July 18, 2025**

<http://catalog.wbu.edu>