SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS & TECHNOLOGY
SAULT STE iVIARIE, ON

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Title; Introduction to Social Sciences

Code No.; SSC 097-3   **Semesten** Winter

Program; General Arts and Science

Author: Social Sciences Department

Date; January 1998   **Previous Outline Dated;** June 1997

Approved; vJ^x^/. *UAAW^^JJ^*   *7)ji^A7*

                 Dean   **Date**

Total Credits; 3   **Prerequisite(s):** None
Length of Course; 3 hrs./week **Total Credit Hours:** 45

I.   COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to introduce students to the various disciplines within the social sciences. Students will develop a basic framework of vocabulary in social sciences, gain an understanding of the spectrum of social sciences and understand why social science is a science. Furthermore, students will learn to appreciate the relevance of social science as it relates to life choices.

II.   LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:

A.   Learning Outcomes:
(Generic Skills Learning Outcomes placement on the course outline will be detennined and communicated at a later date.)

1. Identify the various disciplines that comprise the social sciences
2. Use fundamental terms common to the social sciences
3. Describe the characteristics that make the social sciences scientific
4. Describe how society, the political arena and economic trends are the composition of individual choices

B,   Learning Outcomes and Elements of the Performance:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Identify the various disciplines that comprise the social sciences.

Potential elements of the performance:
*   define social science
*   define each of economics, geography, history, psychology, political science and sociology
*   define perspective
*   describe the distinguishing features of the perspective adopted by each social science

2. Use fundamental terms common to the social sciences.

Potential elements of the performance:
*   define motivation, learning, memory and ergonomics
*   define population, demographics and political economic forces
*   define wori^, economy, government, social institutions and social stratification
*   distinguish democracy, capitalism, political left and right, socialism and communism

II.   LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE (Continued):

3. Describe the characteristics that make the social sciences scientific.

Potential elements of the performance:
- describe the scientific method
- use the scientific method as a learning tool
- define generalization, hypothesis and theory
- define knowledge
- evaluate credibility of information.

4. Describe how society, the political arena and economic trends are the composition of individually made choices.

Potential elements of the performance:
- describe and define social stratification, social values and social structure
- define economic stratification and compare this to political party affiliation
- review statistical reports and demographic reports to explain their relationship to political/economic policy, social stratification and individual choices
- distinguish environmental, biological and psychological features of behaviour

III.   TOPICS:

This course is designed to introduce students to the social sciences through exploration of three themes of social studies:
1. Wori< and employment
2. Health and the environment
3. Sex and gender issues

IV.   REQUIRED RESOURCES / TEXTS / MATERIALS:

See the instructor for assigned reading material.

V.   EVALUATION PROCESS / GRADING SYSTEM
    MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS AND TESTING:

Tests: A combination of short answer and objective   60%

Assignments: A series of activity reports, information reviews and opinion papers   40%

Note: Participation in a minimum of 70% of graded course activities is required for eligibility to succeed in the course.

TIME FRAME

Introduction to Social Sciences SSC 097-3 involves three periods per week for the semester. Students are expected to attend class and to participate in class activities.

METHOD OF ASSESSMENT (GRADING METHOD):

A+	Consistently outstanding	(90%-100%)
A	Outstanding achievement	(80%-89%)
B	Consistently above average achievement	(70% - 79%)
C	Satisfactory or acceptable achievement in all areas subject to assessment	(60% - 69%)
R	Repeat - The student has not achieved the objectives of the course, and the course must be repeated	(less than 60%)
CR	Credit exemption	
X	A temporary grade, limited to situations with extenuating circumstances, giving a student additional time to complete course requirements	

NOTE: Students may be assigned an "R" grade early in the course for unsatisfactory performance.

VI.   SPECIAL NOTES:

Special Needs
Students with special needs (e.g. physical limitations, visual impairments, hearing impairments, leaming disabilities), are encouraged to discuss required accommodations with the professor and/or contact the Special Needs Office.

Plagiarism
Students should refer to the definition of "academic dishonesty" in the "Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities."

Students who engage in "academic dishonesty" will receive an automatic failure for that submission and/or such other penalty, up to an including expulsion from the course.

In order to protect students from inadvertent plagiarism, to protect the copyright of the material referenced and to credit the author of the material, it is the policy of the department to employ a documentation format for referencing source material.

VII.   PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT

Students who have related employment-centered experience should see the Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) Coordinator.