



**I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is designed to provide students with the means to achieve a sociological orientation or perspective for analysis of social events. The basis of sociology, i.e. its approaches to the study of society, community, and social change is presented.

**II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:****A. Learning Outcomes:**

1. Define and use the basic terminology common to sociology
2. Explain how social behaviour, including deviant behaviour, is patterned and created by a social context
3. Describe how individuals are linked through socialization to social structure, culture, and society
4. Identify and describe social groups and formal organizations
5. Explain deviance and crime as social constructions

**B. Learning Outcomes and Elements of the Performance:**

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

1. Define and use the basic terminology common to sociology.

**Potential elements of the performance:**

- Define what is the sociological perspective and distinguish it from the perspectives of the other social sciences
- Define the "sociological imagination"
- Define basic sociological theoretical paradigms
- Define science and relate scientific process to the goal of objectivity
- Define objectivity, value-free and unbiased
- Define culture, the components of culture, social control, and cultural change
- Define the key terminology associated with socialization
- Define social structure, status and role
- Define key terminology associated with social organization
- Define deviance and crime, and social control and punishment

2. Explain how social behaviour is patterned and created by a social context.

**Potential elements of the performance:**

- Review the historical origins of sociology
- Describe the significance of the sociological imagination
- Describe the relationship among components of culture
- Describe the relationship of technology, ideology and culture
- Relate concepts of cultural diversity to ethnocentrism and cultural relativism
- Reflect on culture as freedom and as constraint
- Differentiate the perspectives of society held by Marx, Weber, Durkheim, and feminist sociologists such as M. Eichler
- Explain how social reality is constructed
- Review the theories and methods in observing social behaviour
- Describe crime and deviance as a social construction

3. Describe how individuals are linked through socialization to social structure, culture, and society.

**Potential elements of the performance:**

- Describe how social control shapes individual behaviour
- Describe the influence of nature vs. nurture in development of self
- Describe how social structure, status, and role influence social behaviour
- Describe current trends in social control
- Describe current social trends that are altering and challenging socialization practices

4. Identify and describe social groups and formal organizations.

**Potential elements of the performance:**

- Identify the difference between primary and secondary groups
- Explain the relationship of power and social organization
- Identify and describe the basic characteristics of bureaucracy
- Understand the relevance of size and structure to the dynamics and problems of bureaucracies
- Analyze formal organizations as part of a social context

5. Explain deviance and crime as social constructions.

**Potential elements of the performance:**

- Distinguish crime and deviance
- Explain the role of power in the social construction of crime and deviance
- Identify and distinguish motivational and constraint theories of crime and deviance
- Describe modern trends of punishment including prison and its alternatives

### III. TOPICS:

Note: These topics sometimes overlap several areas of skill development and are not necessarily intended to be explored in isolated learning units or in the order below.

1. The Foundations of Sociology: The Sociological Perspective and Research in the Social Sciences
2. Culture
3. Socialization
4. Social Interaction and Social Organization
5. Deviance and Crime

### IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES / TEXTS / MATERIALS:

1. *Sociology: Your Compass for a New World. Brief Canadian Edition*; by Robert J. Brym, John Lie, & Adie Nelson (2005). Published by Thomson Nelson.
2. *Study Guide for use with Sociology: Your Compass for a New World. Brief Canadian Edition*, by Annette Reynolds.

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

**GRADING:**

- |                                      |            |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Written Assignments/Presentations | <b>25%</b> |
| 2. Tests                             | <b>75%</b> |

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

**NOTIFICATION POLICY IN BRIEF**

(Mutual Respect, Courtesy and Accountability)

If a student misses a test due to a verifiable illness or incident, the professor will determine if the student is eligible for an extension for an assignment or re-scheduling of a test. The student is ultimately responsible and obligated to contact the professor by phone, in person or in writing prior to the assigned due date or test time. The 24-hour voice mail number allows you to immediately notify the professor with your name, message and phone number.

Upon returning to the college, (i.e. first day back) the student will immediately contact the professor to make arrangements for the test or assignment. Call, or come by the professor's office, or leave a note under his/her office door with a telephone number where you can be reached. Failure to do so will result in a zero grade.

**TIME FRAME**

Introductory Sociology SOC120-3 involves three periods per week for the semester. Students are expected to attend class and to participate in class activities and class discussion.

**METHOD OF ASSESSMENT (GRADING METHOD):**

The following semester grades will be assigned to students in post-secondary courses:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Grade Point Equivalent</u>
A+	90 – 100%	
A	80 – 89%	4.00
B	70 - 79%	3.00
C	60 - 69%	2.00
D	50 – 59%	1.00
F (Fail)	49% and below	0.00
CR (Credit)	Credit for diploma requirements has been awarded.	

S	Satisfactory achievement in field /clinical placement or non-graded subject area.
U	Unsatisfactory achievement in field/clinical placement or non-graded subject area.
X	A temporary grade limited to situations with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the requirements for a course.
NR	Grade not reported to Registrar's office.
W	Student has withdrawn from the course without academic penalty.

**Note:** For such reasons as program certification or program articulation, certain courses require minimums of greater than 50% and/or have mandatory components to achieve a passing grade.

It is also important to note, that the minimum overall GPA required in order to graduate from a Sault College program remains 2.0.

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

## VI. SPECIAL NOTES:

### Special Needs:

If you are a student with special needs (e.g. physical limitations, visual impairments, hearing impairments, or learning disabilities), you are encouraged to discuss required accommodations with your instructor and/or the Special Needs office. Visit Room E1101 or call Extension 2703 so that support services can be arranged for you.

### Retention of course outlines:

It is the responsibility of the student to retain all course outlines for possible future use in acquiring advanced standing at other postsecondary institutions.

**Communication: Sault College has implemented WebCT/LMS as a tool of communication. The professor will inform students as to how this tool will be used in this course, and students are responsible for using this tool as directed.**

### Plagiarism:

Students should refer to the definition of "academic dishonesty" in the *Student Code of Conduct*. Students who engage in "academic dishonesty" will receive an automatic failure for that submission and/or such other penalty, up to and including expulsion from the course/program, as may be decided by the professor/dean. 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.

Course outline amendments:

The professor reserves the right to change the information contained in this course outline depending on the needs of the learner and the availability of resources.

Substitute course information is available in the Registrar's office.

**VII. PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT:**

Students who wish to apply for advance credit transfer (advanced standing) should obtain an Application for Advance Credit from the Social Sciences Co-ordinator or the Academic Assistant, Community Services regarding a general education transfer request. Students will be required to provide an unofficial transcript and course outline related to the course in question.

Credit for prior learning will also be given upon successful completion of a challenge exam or portfolio.