

THE SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY
SAULT STE. MARIE, ON



COURSE OUTLINE

Course Title: Introductory Sociology

Code No.: SOC120-3 Semester: Fall/Winter

Program: Various Post-Secondary

Author: Social Sciences Department

Date: August 2001 Previous Outline Date: January 2001

Approved: _____

Dean

Date

Total Credits: 3 Prerequisite(s): None

Length of Course: 3 hours/week Total Credit Hours: 48

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*For additional information, please contact Judith Morris, School of Continuing Education,
(705) 759-2554, ext. 516*

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 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

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

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

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 of technology and culture
- Describe the evolution of society as the evolution of technology
- Relate concepts of cultural diversity to ethnocentrism and cultural relativism
- Reflect on culture and human freedom
- Differentiate the perspectives of society held by Marx, Weber, Durkheim, and the Lenskis
- Explain how social reality is constructed
- Review the theories and methods in observing social behaviour
- Describe the functions of language and the functions of humour

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 the particular socialization challenges characteristic of the distinctive stages of the life course
- Describe how social structure, status, and role influence social behaviour

4. Identify and describe social groups and formal organizations.

Potential elements of the performance:

- Identify the difference between primary and secondary groups
- Describe the various types of leaders associated with social groups
- Explain the research on group conformity
- Understand the relevance of group size to the dynamics of social groups
- Identify and describe the basic characteristics of bureaucracy
- Analyze formal organizations from a cross-cultural perspective

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
2. Culture
3. Socialization
4. Social Interaction
5. Groups and Organization

IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES / TEXTS / MATERIALS:

1. Society: The Basics, 2nd Ed., by Macionis, J.J.; Clarke, J.N.; Gerger, L.M. (1999), Prentice Hall Canada

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

1. Written Assignments: The professor will select two from the following options: **30%**
 - * Journals of reflective thought
 - * Short response papers
 - * Brief social analysis papers
 - * Reports of social experiments
2. Tests: Tests are a combination of short answer, essay and objective. **70%**

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

Note: Students who miss a test must notify the professor in advance if possible or at the earliest opportunity to request a rewrite. Allowing the rewrite is at the professor's discretion if the student has provided a reasonable excuse for the absence. Requests for rewrites will be denied if made one week or more after the test date.

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):

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Grade Point Equivalent</u>
A+	Consistently outstanding	(90% - 100%) 4.00
A	Outstanding achievement	(80% - 89%) 3.75
B	Consistently above average achievement	(70% - 79%) 3.00
C	Satisfactory or acceptable achievement in all areas subject to assessment	(60% - 69%) 2.00
R	Repeat - The student has not achieved the objectives of the course, and the course must be repeated	(less than 60%) 0.00

METHOD OF ASSESSMENT (Continued):

- 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, learning 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 *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 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.

Advanced Standing

Students who have completed an equivalent post-secondary course must bring relevant documents to the Coordinator, Social Sciences Department:

- a copy of course outline
- a copy of the transcript verifying successful completion of the equivalent course

Note: A copy of the transcript must be on file in the Registrar’s office.

Retention of Course Outlines

Students are responsible for retaining all course outlines for possible future use in gaining advanced standing at other post-secondary institutions.

Substitute course information is available at the Registrar’s office.

VII. PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT

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

