

## Sociology

This course is an introductory study in sociology, the study of social behavior and the organization of human society. Students will learn about the historical development of the field of sociology and the procedures for conducting research in sociology. Students will also learn the importance and role of culture, social structure, socialization, and social change in today's society.

### Foundations and Research

**SSSocFR1: Students will explain the origins of sociology and the sociological perspective, and how sociology relates to the other social sciences.**

- a. Explain sociology, sociological perspective, and the sociological imagination.
- b. Describe the origins of sociology as a social science and the significance of its historical framework.
- c. Explain the relationship of sociology to the other social sciences.
- d. Identify careers where sociological knowledge is applicable.

**SSSocFR2: Students will explain the research methodologies used in sociology.**

- a. Identify the major research methods used in sociology.
- b. Explain how various methods are used to conduct research in sociology.
- c. Evaluate the strengths and weakness of the methods of sociology research
- d. Explain the importance and influence of ethics in guiding research and data collection in sociology.

**SSSocFR3: Students will explain the major theoretical perspectives in sociology.**

- a. Explain and apply the theoretical perspectives of Structural Functionalism, Symbolic Interaction, and Conflict Theory.
- b. Compare and evaluate the theoretical perspectives of Structural Functionalism, Symbolic Interaction, and Conflict Theory.

### Culture and Social Structure

**SSSocC1: Students will explain the development and importance of culture.**

- a. Describe how culture is a social construction.
- b. Identify the basic characteristics of culture.
- c. Explain the importance of culture as an organizing tool in society.
- d. Describe the components of culture to include language, symbols, norms, and values.

**SSSocC2: Students will evaluate how cultures develop and evolve.**

- a. Explain cultural change and diversity include ethnocentrism, cultural relevance, folk culture, pop culture, counterculture, subculture, and culture shock.
- b. Compare material and non-material culture.
- c. Analyze the impact of globalization on US and other world cultures.

**SSSocC3: Students will analyze social structure and interaction within society.**

- a. Explain the components of social structure; include status, role and social institutions.
- b. Describe and compare various types of societies.
- c. Categorize groups within a society by comparing primary and secondary groups, in and out groups, reference groups, and social networks.
- d. Analyze the components, varieties, and functions of group dynamics; include such factors as group size, leadership and authority, and such processes as bystander effect and groupthink.
- e. Analyze the strengths and weaknesses of formal organizations and bureaucracies.

**Socialization and Social Control**

**SSSocSC1: Students will explain the process of socialization.**

- a. Identify and describes the roles and responsibilities of an individual in society.
- b. Analyze the individual development theories of Cooley and Mead.
- c. Identify and evaluate the stages of socialization; include childhood, adolescence, adulthood, and death/dying.
- d. Evaluate the factors that socialize the individual; include family, peers, education, media, and religion.
- e. Analyze how individuals are socialized by gender and race/ethnicity.

**SSSocSC2: Students will analyze deviance in society.**

- a. Explain the socially constructed nature of deviance.
- b. Explain the relationship of social control and power in society.
- c. Analyze the causes of deviant behavior.
- d. Explain the impact of deviance on society.

**SSSocSC3: Students will analyze the impact of social control on deviance in society.**

- a. Explain theories of social control; include control and labeling theories.
- b. Explain conformity in relationship to deviance and social control.
- c. Describe adaptation, cooperation, accommodation, and competition in the context of social control.

**SSSocSC4: Students will analyze the function of social institutions as agents of social control across differing societies and times.**

- a. Analyze the function of social institutions in society; include family, education, religion, economy, government/politics, health care, and media.
- b. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of various social institutions.
- c. Evaluate other possible social institutions such as sports and science.
- d. Analyze the functions and inequalities of the criminal justice system in relationship to a society's construct of crime and punishment.
- e. Explain the role of total institutions.
- f. Analyze the re-socialization process.

**Social Inequalities and Change**

**SSSocIC1: Students will analyze forms of social inequality.**

- a. Explain how unequal distribution of power and resources affects the life chances of individuals in that society.
- b. Analyze the sources and effects of stratification on the basis of social class; race and ethnicity; gender; age; and emotional, mental, and physical disabilities.
- c. Analyze the sources of global stratification and inequality.
- d. Evaluate the impact of global stratification and inequality on global relations.

**SSSocIC2: Students will analyze social change processes in a society.**

- a. Describe the various forms of collective behavior.
- b. Explain the impact of globalization on social change.
- c. Evaluate the impact of technology on social change.
- d. Analyze the impact of demographic changes and changes in settlement patterns on a society.