

NEW YORK CITY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
The City University of New York
School of Arts & Sciences
Department of Social Science Course Outline

Course code: SOC 1101

Course title: Elements of Sociology

Class hours/credits: 3 class hours, 3 credits

Prerequisite: ELIGIBILITY FOR ENG 1101 OR COREQUISITE OF ENG 1101CO OR ENG 1101ML

Pathways: Individual and Society

Catalog Description: Perspectives on sociology as an analytical science. The emphasis is on concepts, hypotheses and theories which explain social behavior and social change.

RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOK and MATERIALS*

Title: Sociology, Author: John J. Macionis, Publisher: Prentice Hall

* *The textbook used in a particular section will be chosen by the instructor.*

COURSE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES/ASSESSMENT METHODS

LEARNING OUTCOMES	ASSESSMENT METHODS*
1.Explain and illustrate through examples the ways that social forces shape our everyday lives.	Exams, essays, in-class discussions, small group workshops, and oral presentations focusing on the examples related to the theoretical concepts introduced in readings and lectures.
2.Understand how sociologists analyze social problems, including the different theoretical perspectives they use in attaining this objective.	Combination of multiple-choice and essay questions in exams, in-class discussions, and questions discussed in a small group setting.
3.Understand the role of the Industrial Revolution in creating the conditions for the introduction of sociology as a discipline.	Exams, quizzes, in-class discussions, small group work, and essays.
4.Explain the difference between ethnocentrism and cultural relativism and the relevance of these concepts for everyday lives in multicultural societies.	Exams, essays, quizzes, in-class discussions, small group work.
5.Explain the ways in which social structures and systems of stratification by class, race, and gender impact people's choices and life chances.	Combination of multiple-choice and essay questions in exams, essays, relevant in-class writing assignments and discussions, small group work.
6.Increase ability to synthesize and present information, ideas, and perspectives.	In-class discussions and small group work, oral presentations, written essay assignments.

* *may vary slightly per instructor to suit their own needs*

PATHWAYS INDIVIDUAL AND SOCIETY LEARNING GOALS

1. Identify and apply the fundamental concepts and methods of a discipline or interdisciplinary field exploring the relationship between the individual and society, including, but not limited to, anthropology, communications, cultural studies, history, journalism, philosophy, political science, psychology, public affairs, religion, and sociology.
2. Examine how an individual's place in society affects experiences, values, or choices.
3. Articulate and assess ethical views and their underlying premises.
4. Articulate ethical uses of data and other information resources to respond to problems and questions.

GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OUTCOMES/ASSESSMENT METHODS

LEARNING OUTCOMES	ASSESSMENT METHODS*
KNOWLEDGE: Develop an introductory knowledge of the concepts and theories deployed by sociologists in their analysis of society and social phenomena.	Quizzes, exams, essays, class discussions, and oral presentations.
SKILLS: Develop and use the tools needed for communication, inquiry, analysis and productive work.	Combination of class discussions, oral presentations, in-class small group work, essays, and exams.
INTEGRATION: Work productively within and across disciplines.	Quizzes, exams, essays, class discussions, and in-class small group work that draws on various resources in sociology and other disciplines.
VALUES, ETHICS, AND RELATIONSHIPS: Understand and apply values, ethics, and diverse perspectives in personal, civic, and cultural/global domains.	Combination of class discussions, oral presentations, in-class small group work, and essays that engage directly with the questions about values, ethics, responsibility, and diversity.

** may vary slightly per instructor to suit their own needs*

SCOPE OF ASSIGNMENTS AND OTHER COURSE REQUIREMENTS*

Quizzes; midterm and final exams including multiple-choice and short answer questions; essay assignments; participation in-class discussions; participation and contribution to small-group projects; oral presentations

* may vary slightly per instructor to suit their own needs

FINAL GRADE DISTRIBUTION*

Midterm exam: 30%

Final exam: 30%

Quizzes: 30% of the grade

Essay: 10%

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Grade Scale:

A	100-93
A-	92.9-90
B+	89.9-87
B	86.9-83
B-	82.9-80
C+	79.9-77
C	76.9-70
D	69.9-60
F	59.9-0

ATTENDANCE POLICY

It is the conviction of the Department of Social Science that a student who is not in a class for any reason is not receiving the benefit of the education being provided. Missed class time includes not just absences but also latenesses, early departures, and time outside the classroom taken by students during class meeting periods. Missed time impacts any portion of the final grade overtly allocated to participation and/or any grades awarded for activities that relate to presence in class.

Instructors may including a reasonable “Participation” grade into their final grade calculations for this course.

STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY

City Tech is committed to supporting the educational goals of enrolled students with disabilities in the areas of enrollment, academic advisement, tutoring, assistive technologies, and testing accommodations. If you have or think you may have a disability, you may be eligible for reasonable accommodations or academic adjustments as provided under applicable federal, state, and/or city laws. You may also request services for temporary conditions or medical issues under certain circumstances. If you have questions about your eligibility and/or would like to seek accommodation services and/or academic adjustments, please email the [Student Accessibility Center](#).

COMMITMENT TO STUDENT DIVERSITY

The Department of Social Science complies with the college wide nondiscrimination policy and seek to foster a safe and inclusive learning environment that celebrates diversity in its many forms and enhances our students’ ability to be informed, global citizens. Through our example, we demonstrate an appreciation of the rich diversity of world cultures and the unique forms of expression that make us human.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY STATEMENT

Students and all others who work with information, ideas, texts, images, music, inventions, and other intellectual property owe their audience and sources accuracy and honesty in using, crediting, and citing sources. As a community of intellectual and professional workers, the College

recognizes its responsibility for providing instruction in information literacy and academic integrity, offering models of good practice, and responding vigilantly and appropriately to infractions of academic integrity. Accordingly, academic dishonesty is prohibited in The City University of New York and at New York City College of Technology and is punishable by penalties, including failing grades, suspension, and expulsion. The complete text of the College policy on Academic Integrity may be found in the catalog.

SAMPLE SEQUENCE OF TOPICS AND TIME ALLOCATIONS*

Weeks 1-2

I. The Sociological Perspective

The Sociological Imagination

The Importance of Global Perspective High-Income Countries Middle-Income Countries Low-Income Countries

The Usefulness of Sociology The Origins of Sociology The Industrial Revolution Urbanization

Political Change and the French Revolution Science and Sociology

Comte's Positivism Sociological Theory

Theory vs. Fact

The Structural-Functional Paradigm Social Structure

Social Function vs. Social Dysfunction

The Social-Conflict Paradigm

The Symbolic-Interaction Paradigm

Macro-level vs. Micro-level Theoretical Orientation

Weeks 3-4

II. Culture

Material and Nonmaterial Culture

Human Culture as the Product of Learning Socialization

Agents of Socialization

Animal Instincts as Genetically Programmed Behavior Culture and Human Evolution

The Components of Culture

Symbols Language

Functions of Language Communication/Cooperation Cultural Transmission

Values and Norms

Social Control and the Enforcement of Social Norms Ideal vs. Real Culture

Cultural Diversity

Subcultures and Countercultures Multiculturalism vs. Eurocentrism Ethnocentrism vs. Cultural Relativism

Theoretical Analysis of Culture Functionalist Analysis

Culture as a Strategy of Survival Cultural Universals

Conflict Theoretical Analysis Sociobiology

Weeks 5, 6, 7

III. Society

Gerhard Lenski: Society and Technology Sociocultural Evolution

Hunting and Gathering Societies Horticultural and Pastoral societies Material Surplus

Agrarian Societies Industrial Societies Post-industrial societies

Karl Marx: Society and Conflict

Marx's conception of Class and Class Conflict Classes in Modern Capitalist Society Capitalism and Alienation

The Future of Capitalist Society The Structure of the Soviet System

Max Weber: The Rationalization of Society

The Marx-Weber Debate on the Relationship between the Economic and Non-economic Aspects of Social Life

The Protestant Ethic Thesis Rationality vs. Tradition Rationalization of Means

Science, Technology and the Disenchantment

The Rational Social Organization and Bureaucracy Emile Durkheim: The Changing Basis of Social Solidarity

Division of Labor

Mechanical vs. Organic Solidarity Anomie

Weeks 8-9

IV. Social Stratification and Class

Social Stratification and Social Mobility Systems of Social Stratification Closed systems

Stratification Based on Ascription Caste System

Class Systems

Stratification Based on Ascription and Achievement Meritocracy

Ideology

The Functions and Dysfunctions of Social Stratification The Davis-Moore thesis and Tumin's Response

Income vs. Wealth

The Changing Level of Income and Wealth Inequality in the United States

How Income and Wealth Inequality in the U.S Compares to Inequalities in Other High-Income Countries

Weeks 10-11

V. Gender Stratification

Gender and Sex Patriarchy and Sexism

Agents of Socialization and the Social Construction of Gender Family

Peer Groups Schools Mass Media

Gender and Social Stratification

Gender Inequalities in the Workplace Gender Income and Wealth inequality Housework and the 'Second Shift'

Gender and Education Gender and Politics Gender and the Military

Women as a Minority Group

Minority Women: Intersection Theory Violence Against Women
Theoretical Analysis of Gender Structural Functionalism
Parsons: Gender and Complementarity Conflict Theory
Engels: Gender and Class Feminism
Basic Feminist Ideas
Types of Feminism (Liberal, Socialist, Radical)

Weeks 12-13

VI. Race and Ethnicity

Race as a Social Construct Ethnicity Minority groups
Prejudice
Stereotypes
The Social Distance Scale Racism
Theories of Prejudice
Scapegoat Theory
Authoritarian Personality Theory Culture Theory
Conflict Theory Discrimination
Institutional Prejudice and Discrimination Prejudice and Discrimination: The Vicious Circle
Patterns of Interaction between Majority and Minority groups Pluralism
Assimilation Segregation Genocide
Racial and Ethnic Groups in the United States

Weeks 14-15

VII. Population, the Environment and Global Inequalities

Global Stratification Global Wealth and Poverty
Relative vs. Absolute Poverty Poverty and Children
Poverty and Women Correlates of Global Poverty Technology
Population Growth Gender Inequality
Global Power Relationships
Theoretical Analysis of Global Stratification
Modernization Theory
Rostow's Stages of Modernization Dependency Theory
Wallerstein's World-Systems theory Demography
Fertility and Mortality Life Expectancy
Population Growth and Composition History and Theory of Population Growth
Malthusian Theory Demographic Transition Theory
Global Population today
The Low-Growth North The High-growth South
Environment and Society
The Planet as an Ecosystem The PAT formula
Economic Growth and Ecological Limits Areas of Environmental Concern
Solid Waste Water Supply
Water and Air Pollution Deforestation

Global Warming Declining Biodiversity Environmental Racism
Ecological, Social and Economic Sustainability

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Revised by Peter Parides in Spring 2021