

M: Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes:

At the conclusion of the course the successful student will be able to:

1. Define the basic concepts of sociology and communicate these effectively.
2. Identify several key historical figures in the development of the discipline and discuss their contributions to the field.
3. Be able to identify characteristics of the sociological perspective and to distinguish this from that of other scientific perspectives.
4. Identify and compare the dominant sociological theoretical perspectives.
5. Identify the primary stages and agents of socialization.
6. Describe the characteristics of stratification systems, with particular emphasis on social class.
7. Discuss the ways in which social inequality is produced through social factors, especially age, gender, race and ethnicity.
8. Identify some of the primary changes in social and economic organization which have taken place historically, with specific emphasis as well on recent years.
9. Describe the development of social institutions in Canadian society, with particular emphasis on at least one of the following: the family, education, religion, politics, and health and medicine.
10. Identify some of the key features of contemporary demographic change, and describe how they differ from traditional demographic characteristics.
11. Discuss the characteristics of the processes of social change and modernization in Canada and on a global basis.

N: Course Content:

1. Introduction: The Foundations of Sociology
 The historical development of sociology
 Sociology as a science
 Theoretical Perspectives
2. Culture and Social Interaction
 Cultural diversity
 Status, roles, values, norms
 The social construction of reality
 The presentation of self
3. Socialization
 Stages and Processes of Socialization
 Agents of socialization: family, peers, school, media
4. Social Stratification and Inequality
 Caste and class systems: achievement and ascription
 Theoretical perspectives of social inequality
 Dimensions of inequality: age, gender, race and ethnicity
 Inequality and social conflict
 Social classes in Canada; poverty
 Historical development of economic systems
 Comparative economic systems
 Work in the post industrial society
5. Sociological Categories: Sex, Race and Ethnicity
 Gender and socialization
 Gender and stratification
 Theoretical perspectives of gender
 Race and ethnicity in Canada
 Perspectives of racial and ethnic interaction

Course Content Cont'd.

6. Social Institutions (select one or more from the following)
 - The Family, Education, Religion, Health and Medicine
 - Theoretical perspectives of institutions
 - The functions of institutions
 - Social organization of institutions

7. Demography and Urbanization
 - History and theory of population growth
 - Urbanization
 - Human Ecology

8. Modernization and Global Social Change
 - Sociological approaches to modernization
 - Collective behaviour and social movements
 - Global social change
 - Global inequality

O: Methods of Instruction:

The course will employ a variety of instructional methods to accomplish its objectives, including some of the following: lectures, seminar presentations, audio-visual materials, small group discussions and workshops, research projects and term papers.

P: Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students:

Examples of textbooks that may be used for this course include:

Brym, Robert J. and John Lie (2009). Sociology: The Points of the Compass. Scarborough, ON: Nelson Education Canada.

Ravelli, Bruce and Michelle Weber (2010). Exploring Sociology: A Canadian Perspective. Toronto: Pearson Education Canada.

Q: Means of Assessment:

Evaluation will be based on course objectives and will be carried out in accordance with Douglas College policy. The instructor will provide a written course outline with specific criteria during the first week of classes.

An example of a possible evaluation scheme would be:

- exams composed of multiple choice, true/false, short answer and/or short essay questions
- essay assignments
- oral presentations
- participation in class discussion
- student presentations
- group discussions

Means of Assessment Cont'd:

An example of a possible evaluation scheme would be:

Midterm	30%
Essay/Written Assignment	25%
Essay/Outline	5%
Final Exam	30%
Participation	<u>10%</u>
	100%

R: Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition: specify whether course is open for PLAR

No.

Course Designer(s): Melody Hessing, Ph.D.

Education Council / Curriculum Committee Representative

Interim Dean / Director: Catherine Carlson, Ph.D.

Registrar: Ted James