

Central Ohio Technical College  
General Studies Division  
Fall Quarter  
Sept 22- Dec 12, 2004  
Syllabus Part II

Course Title: Sociology

Course Number: 1381

Course Goals:

- 1.00 Explain the sociological perspective, including the major theoretical perspectives and the research methods used in social science.
- 2.00 Explain the significance of culture and trace the evolution of society from preindustrial to postindustrial.
- 3.00 Describe the socialization process, showing the importance of interaction between the self and society.
- 4.00 Explain the current theories of deviance.
- 5.00 Explain the systems of social inequality in the United States.
- 6.00 Describe the evolution and structure of contemporary institutional systems.
- 7.00 Discuss the major current issues related to social change.

Performance Objectives: Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

Goal 1: Explain the sociological perspective including the major theoretical perspectives and the research methods used in social science.

- 1.01 Define sociology, showing how Durkheim's analysis of suicide typifies the sociological perspective.
- 1.02 Explain the sociological perspective, showing how sociology sees the "strange in the familiar" and "individuality in social context."
- 1.03 Explain why the global perspective is important to the study of sociology.
- 1.04 Explain the following theoretical perspective in sociology: the structural-functional paradigm, the social-conflict paradigm and the symbolic-interaction paradigm, explaining how the popularity of sports in the U.S. exemplifies each of these.
- 1.05 Explain correlation as a research method and discuss the relationship between correlation and cause.

- 1.06 Explain the following research methods: surveys, participant and nonparticipant observation and surveys.
- 1.07 Explain the problems associated with conducting research with Hispanics.

Goal 2: Explain the significance of culture and trace the evolution of society from preindustrial to postindustrial.

- 2.01 Define *culture*.
- 2.02 Explain the relationship between culture and human intelligence as a survival strategy.
- 2.03 Explain the importance of symbols and language to the existence of culture. Explain the link between language and gender (page 96).
- 2.04 Describe the animal research on language development.
- 2.05 Explain the *Sapir-Whorf hypothesis*.
- 2.06 Explain the importance of values in any culture and be able to describe Robin Williams' list of ten core American values.
- 2.07 Differentiate between Folkways, Mores and Sanctions.
- 2.08 Explain the importance of cultural norms and show how societies enforce these rules of behavior.
- 2.09 Describe the evolution of societies from hunting and gathering through postindustrial societies. (Including pages 265-268, 312-316 and 368-372).
- 2.10 Explain the following aspects of cultural diversity: subcultures, multiculturalism, countercultures, ethnocentrism and cultural relativity.
- 2.11 Explain the evidence for a "global culture".

Goal 3: Describe the socialization process showing the importance of the relationship between self and society.

- 3.01 Define *socialization*.
- 3.02 Explain the *nature v. nurture* controversy.
- 3.03 Explain the research on the effects of social isolation.

- 3.04 Describe the following perspectives on socialization: Freud, Piaget, Kohlberg, Gilligan and Meade.
- 3.05 Describe the effects of the following agents of socialization: the family, schools, peer groups, the mass media and public opinion.
- 3.06 Show how socialization changes through the life cycle.

Goal 4: Explain the sociological theories of Deviance.

- 4.01 Define deviancies.
- 4.02 Explain the research on the biological causes of deviance.
- 4.03 Explain Durkheim's basic insight on deviance.
- 4.04 Explain the following theories of deviance: Merton's strain theory, Cloward and Olin's deviant subcultures theory and Hirschi's control theory.
- 4.05 Explain labeling as the symbolic-interaction approach to deviance, using labeling and mental illness as an example.
- 4.06 Explain why labeling theory has led to the medicalization of deviance.
- 4.07 Explain the differential association theory of deviance.
- 4.08 Describe the extent of white collar crime and explain this from a conflict perspective.
- 4.09 Explain the relationship between crime and gender.
- 4.10 Describe the motivation of a hate crime offender.
- 4.11 Identify the two sources of statistics on crime.
- 4.12 Describe the "typical" street criminal.
- 4.13 Explain the global perspective on crime.

Goal 5: Explain the systems of inequity in the United States.

- 5.01 Describe the characteristics of social stratification.
- 5.02 Describe caste and class systems.

- 5.03 Explain the Davis-Morre Theorem as a structural-functional explanation of social class.
- 5.04 Explain Karl Marx's theories of class conflict, showing why Marx's predictions of the fall of capitalism have failed to materialize.
- 5.05 Explain Weber's three criteria for determining social stratification.
- 5.06 Explain the dimensions of social inequality in the U.S.
- 5.07 Describe the social classes in the U.S.
- 5.08 Explain how one's social class affects nearly every dimension of social life in the U.S.
- 5.09 Explain the myths and realities of social mobility in the U.S.
- 5.10 Describe the 2 ways of defining poverty (page 193)
- 5.11 Explain the extent of poverty in the U.S., including who is most likely to be poor.
- 5.12 Explain the theories for why poor people are poor.
- 5.13 Describe the extent of and reasons for homelessness in the U.S.
- 5.14 Explain what is meant by the terms: *first world*, *second world* and *third world*.
- 5.15 Describe the severity and extent of global poverty, showing how it disproportionately affects women.
- 5.16 Explain the five correlates of global poverty.
- 5.17 Explain why race is a social rather than a biological construct.
- 5.18 Explain the meaning of the term *ethnicity*.
- 5.19 Explain the two major characteristics of minorities.
- 5.20 Define the following terms: prejudice, racism and stereotypes.
- 5.21 Explain the theories of prejudice.
- 5.22 Differentiate between personal, institutional and de jure discrimination, giving examples of each.
- 5.23 Describe the vicious circle of prejudice and discrimination, using *Jim Crow* as an example.

- 5.24 Describe the following patterns of majority/minority interactions: pluralism, assimilation, segregation, population transfer and genocide.
- 5.25 Explain the cultural history and life chances of the following racial and ethnic groups in the U.S.: Native Americans, WASPS, African Americans, Asian Americans and Hispanic Americans.
- 5.26 Compare the health risks of blacks with those of other groups for AIDS, diabetes, heart disease, cancer and stroke. (Lecture)

Goal 6: Describe the evaluation and structure of contemporary institutional systems.

- 6.01 Define: kinship, family, marriage, families of affinity.
- 6.02 Explain the global variations on the family.
- 6.03 Explain the structural-functional and conflict analyses of the family.
- 6.04 Describe the four stages of family life.
- 6.05 Explain how social class, ethnicity, race and gender relate to family life.
- 6.06 Describe the alternative family forms: one-parent families cohabitation and gay/lesbian couples.
- 6.07 Identify the statistics on divorce and remarriage.
- 6.08 Describe the phenomenon of family violence.
- 6.09 Explain the structural-functional, symbolic interaction and conflict analyses of religion.
- 6.10 Explain Weber's theory on the relationship between Protestantism and capitalism.
- 6.11 Explain the term "liberation theology."
- 6.12 Identify the extent of religious commitment in the U.S.
- 6.13 Explain the relationship between religion and social stratification.
- 6.14 Compare schooling in preindustrial and industrial societies with schooling in Japan, GB, and USA today.
- 6.15 According to a structural-functional analysis, what are the functions of schooling.
- 6.16 Explain the relationship between schooling and social inequality.

- 6.17 Discuss the following problems in schools: discipline and violence, student passivity, the silent classroom, dropping out, and changing academic standards.
- 6.18 Explain the sociological definition of *medicine*.
- 6.19 Explain the relationship between health and culture in preindustrial and industrial societies.
- 6.20 Explain the meaning of *social epidemiology* and describe the patterns of social epidemiology in the U.S.
- 6.21 Discuss the effects of the following on public health: the environment, cigarette smoking and sexually transmitted diseases.
- 6.22 Compare the structural-functional, symbolic interaction and social conflict analyses of health and medicine in the U.S.

Goal 7: Discuss the major current issues related to social change.

- 7.01 Explain the causes of social change.
- 7.02 Define "modernity" and explain its characteristics.
- 7.03 Explain the characteristics of "mass society" and explain its relationship to modernity.
- 7.04 Explain the relationship between persistent class inequality and modernity.
- 7.05 Define "postmodernity", and differentiate between postmodernity and modernity.