

DEREE COLLEGE SYLLABUS FOR: SO 1001 LE SOCIOLOGY OF MODERN LIFE**UK LEVEL 4
UK CREDITS: 15
US CREDITS: 3/0/3**

(Updated Spring 2022)

PREREQUISITES:

None

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Discussion of various social institutions, such as the economy, politics, family, religion, education and medicine, with emphasis on modern society. Presentation of social change in its different forms, both locally and globally.

RATIONALE:

Discussion of social institutions helps students to understand the ways in which larger societal forces and processes enable as well as constrain human behavior and people's choices. In addition, the emphasis on social change makes students realize their position in the social world. The course is relevant to many disciplines, primarily in the social sciences and the humanities.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

As a result of taking this course, the student should be able to:

1. Identify the structure and interdependence of core social institutions such as the family, religion, education, medicine, politics and the economy.
2. Demonstrate understanding of social institutions in the context of globalization.
3. Explain the transition from traditional to modern society and social change at large.
4. Identify social processes of social change and their collective dimension.

METHOD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING:

In congruence with the teaching and learning strategy of the college, the following tools are used:

- Classes consist of lectures, discussions of selected issues, showing of video documentaries and in-class illustrations of various issues.
- Office hours: students are encouraged to make full use of the office hours of their lecturer, where they can address issues and ask questions pertinent to the course material.
- Use of a blackboard site, where instructors post lecture notes, assignment instructions, timely announcements, as well as additional resources.

ASSESSMENT:

Summative:

First assessment: Midterm Examination (essay questions)	40
Final assessment: Final Examination (essay questions)	60

Formative:

In-class discussion sessions - formative	0
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The formative in-class discussion sessions aim to prepare students

	<p>for the examination.</p> <p>The first assessment tests Learning outcomes 1, 2, and 3 The final assessment tests Learning outcomes 1,2,3,4.</p> <p><i>The final grade for this module will be determined by averaging all summative assessment grades, based on the predetermined weights for each assessment. If students pass the comprehensive assessment that tests all Learning Outcomes for this module and the average grade for the module is 40 or higher, students are not required to resit any failed assessments.</i></p>
INDICATIVE READING:	<p>REQUIRED READING:</p> <p>Ritzer, George and Wendy Wiedenhof Murphy (2020). <i>Introduction to Sociology</i>. London: Sage (or latest edition).</p> <p>RECOMMENDED READING:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Alexander, Jeffrey C. and Thompson, Kenneth (2008) <i>A Contemporary Introduction to Sociology: Culture and Society in Transition</i>. Boulder: Paradigm Publishers. — Scott, John and Marshall, Gordon (2009) <i>A Dictionary of Sociology</i>. Oxford: OUP. — Ritzer, George (Ed.) (2007) <i>The Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology</i>. Oxford: Blackwell.
INDICATIVE MATERIAL: <i>(e.g. audiovisual, digital material, etc.)</i>	<p>REQUIRED MATERIAL: N/A</p> <p>RECOMMENDED MATERIAL: N/A</p>
COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS:	Verbal skills using academic / professional English.
SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS:	Word
WWW RESOURCES:	<p>www.Sociolog.com Originating from Princeton University, it has links with a wide range of topics.</p> <p>www.bsa.org.uk: The site of the British Sociological Association.</p> <p>www.sonic.net/~markbl/socioweb One of the most Comprehensive and accurate sociological sites on the Internet.</p>
INDICATIVE CONTENT:	<p>1. An introduction to Sociology in the Global Age</p> <p>1.1 The sociological Imagination 1.2 The Micro-Macro Relationship 1.3 The Agency-Structure Relationship 1.4 Globalization</p> <p>2. The Three Tenets of Sociological Theory – Contemporary Sociological Theory</p> <p>2.1 Structural-Functionalism/Functionalism</p>

2.3 Conflict/Critical Theories

2.3 Symbolic-Interactionism

3. The Family

3.1 Family, Marriage, and Intimacy

3.2 Broad changes in marriage and the family

3.3 Alternative family forms

3.4 Theorizing the family: structural/functional, conflict/critical, inter-actionist theory

4. Politics

4.1 Politics, Power and Control: types of Government

4.2 Pluralism, the Power Elite

4.3 Global politics: the nation and the nation-state

4.4. Capitalism, Socialism and Communism

5. The Economy

5.1 Historical changes: industrial revolution, scientific management, post-Fordism

5.2 The Economy: Production and Consumption

5.3 Work and Leisure

5.4 Globalization and the Economy

6. Religion

6.1 Components of Religion, Types of religious organization.

6.2. Religion today

6.3 Theorizing Religion; structural/functional, conflict/critical, inter/actionist theory

6.4 Religion and Globalization

7. Education

7.1 Components of Education

7.2 Contemporary Changes in Education

7.3 Theorizing Education; structural/functional, conflict/critical, inter/actionist theory

7.4 Inequality in Education

8. The Body, Medicine, Health, and Health Care

8.1 The Body: Foucault

8.2 The Healthy Body: Lifestyle, Beauty, and Fitness

8.3 The Sociology of Health and Medicine

8.4 The Internet, Consumption of Health Care

8.5 Inequality in Health

8.6 Globalization and Health

9. Population, Urbanization and the Environment

9.1 Population growth and Population change: the demographic transition, migration.

9.2 Urbanization, Cities and Globalization

9.3 The Environment

9.4 Local and Global Environmental problems

10. Organizations, Societies, and the Global

10.1 Organizations: bureaucracies

10.2 Network Organizations / informationalism

10.3 Societies: *Gemeinschaft* and *Gesellschaft*

10.4 The Global Society

11. Social Change, Social Movements and Collective Behavior

11.1 Social Movements

11.2 Collective behavior: crowds, riots, disasters.

11.3 Globalization and hyper-activism

11.4 The Internet