

SPRINGFIELD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Course Number: SOCL 100 Department: Sociology

Course Title: Intro. To Sociology Semester: Spring Year: 1997

**Objectives/Competencies**

<b>Course Objective</b>	<b>Competencies</b>
1. The Sociological Perspective	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Describe the sociological imagination and explain its importance in understanding people's behavior.</li><li>2. Identify Auguste Comte, Harriet Martineau and Herbert Spencer, and explain their unique contributions to early sociology.</li><li>3. State the major assumptions of functionalism, conflict theory, and interactionist and identify the major contributions to each perspective.</li><li>4. Distinguish between microlevel and macrolevel analyses and state which level of analysis is utilized by each of the major theoretical perspectives.</li></ol>
2. Sociological Research Methods	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Differentiate between quantitative and qualitative research and give examples of each.</li><li>2. Indicate the relationship between dependent and independent variables in a hypothesis.</li><li>3. Distinguish between a representative sample and a random sample and explain why sampling is an integral part of</li></ol>

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<p>3. Culture</p>	<p>quantitative research.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Explain why validity and reliability are important considerations in sociological research.</li> <li>5. Describe the major ethical concerns in sociological research.</li> </ol> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Describe the importance of culture in determining how people think and act on a daily basis.</li> <li>2. List and briefly explain five core values in U.S. society.</li> <li>3. Contrast ideal and real culture and give examples of each.</li> <li>4. Explain what culture is and describe how it can be both a stabilizing force and a source of conflict in societies.</li> <li>5. Describe subculture and countercultures; give examples of each.</li> <li>6. State the definitions for culture shock, ethnocentrism, and cultural relativism, and explain the relationship between these three concepts.</li> </ol>
<p>4. Socialization</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Define socialization and explain why this process is essential for the individual and society.</li> <li>2. State the major agents of socialization and describe their effects on human development.</li> <li>3. Explain what is meant by gender socialization.</li> <li>4. Outline your view of the stages of the life course and explain how each stage varies based on gender, race/ethnicity, class, and positive or negative treatments.</li> </ol>

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<p>5. Social Structure and Interaction in Everyday Life</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. State the definition of social structure and explain why it is important for society and individuals.</li> <li>2. State the definition of status and distinguish between ascribed and achieved status.</li> <li>3. Explain what is meant by master status and give at least three examples.</li> <li>4. Define role expectations, role performance, role conflict, and give examples of each.</li> <li>5. Define nonverbal communication and personal space and explain how these concepts relate to our interactions with others.</li> <li>6. Describe the process of “resocialization” and explain why it often takes place in a total institution.</li> </ol>
<p>6. Deviance and Crime</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explain the nature of deviance and describe its most common forms.</li> <li>2. Discuss the functions of deviance from a functionalist perspective and outline the principal features of strain, opportunity, and control theories.</li> <li>3. Distinguish between legal and sociological classifications of crime.</li> <li>4. State four functions of punishment and explain how disparate treatment of the poor, all people of color, and white women is evident in the U.S. prison system.</li> <li>5. Explain why official crime statistics may not be an accurate reflection of the actual number and kinds of crimes committed in the U.S.</li> </ol>



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9. Sex and Gender	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Distinguish between sex and gender and explain their sociological significance.</li> <li>2. Explain why sex is not always clear-cut. Differentiate between hermaphrodites, transsexuals, and transvestites.</li> <li>3. Describe the relationship between gender roles, gender identify, and body consciousness.</li> <li>4. Define sexism and explain how it is related to prejudice and discrimination.</li> <li>5. Describe the process of gender socialization and identify specific ways in which parents, peers, teachers, sports, and mass media contribute to the process.</li> </ol>
10. Families and Intimate Relationships	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explain why it has become increasingly difficult to develop a concise definition of family.</li> <li>2. Describe kinship ties and distinguish between families of orientation and families of procreation.</li> <li>3. Describe the different forms of marriage found across cultures.</li> <li>4. Distinguish between patriarchal, matriarchal and egalitarian families.</li> <li>5. Define and describe, with specific examples, endogamy and exogamy.</li> </ol>
11. Education	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Describe the functionalist perspective on education and note the societal importance of manifest and latent functions fulfilled by this social institution.</li> <li>2. Describe conflict perspective on education and note how</li> </ol>

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<p>12. Collective Behavior and Social Change</p>	<p>they differ from a functionalist perspective.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Discuss interactionalist perspective on education and describe the significance of the self-fulfilling prophecy and labeling on educational achievements, and religious beliefs.</li> <li>1. Define mass behavior and describe the most frequent types of this behavior.</li> <li>2. Describe social movements and note when and where they are most likely to develop.</li> <li>3. Differentiate among the five major types of social movements based on their goals and the amount of change they seek to produce.</li> <li>4. Describe new “social movements” and give examples of issues of concern to participants in these movements.</li> <li>5. Identify the stages in social movements and explain why social movements may be an important source of social change.</li> <li>6. Describe the effects of physical environment, population trends, technological development, and social institutions on social change.</li> </ol>