

Learning Outcomes for SOCL120 Departmental Final Exam

Sociological Perspective, Theory and Research

- Define sociology and explain the sociological perspective.
- Understand the roles that Comte, Durkheim, Marx and Weber played in the development of sociology.
- Compare, contrast and apply the major theoretical perspectives of Functionalism, Conflict Theory and Symbolic Interaction Theory.
- Explain the research process, its stages, and the tools/methods of sociological research.
- Define and apply the following concepts related to sociological research: validity, reliability, population, sample, independent variable, dependent variable, and data analysis.

Culture and Social Organization

- Define culture and explain its components and characteristics.
- Identify the sources and provide examples of cultural change.
- Define and apply the following concepts associated with culture: value, norm, folkway, more, sanction, subculture, counterculture, dominant culture, ethnocentrism, cultural relativism, culture shock and cultural lag.
- Understand the sociological perspective on deviance.
- Explain the socialization process. Understand the socialization process as a method of social control, a balance between conformity and individual adaptation, and as a lifelong process.
- Discuss the roles the various agents of socialization play in the socialization process and how they influence the development of self.
- Understand the process of resocialization and the contexts in which it takes place.
- Analyze Charles Horton Cooley's Theory of the Looking Glass Self.
- Explain Emile Durkheim's theory of how society is held together, focusing on mechanical and organic solidarity.
- Define and apply the following concepts associated with social organization: social structure, society, social institutions, status, status set, status symbol, achieved status, ascribed status, master status, status inconsistency, role, role set, role conflict and role strain.
- Distinguish between the five types of societies, touching on the following characteristics: level of technology, population size, economic activity and social organization.
- Explain the relationship between technology, type of society and societal transformation.

Social Stratification and Social Inequality

- Define social stratification and describe the differences between the four major stratification systems: estate, caste, slavery and class.
- Understand the theories explaining social inequality and assess their strengths and weaknesses.
- Distinguish between the different forms of social mobility and examine the myths and realities of mobility in the U.S.
- Explain the correlation between poverty, gender and race, and discuss how this interrelationship supports the class structure.
- Define and provide examples of the following concepts associated with global stratification: core, semi-periphery and periphery.

- Review the consequences of global stratification in terms of population, health, education, economics and gender.
- Assess the major theories of global stratification: Colonialism, Modernization Theory, Dependency Theory, World Systems Theory and Neo-colonialism.
- Interpret population pyramids (age-sex pyramids) and the demographic processes they represent.
- Understand and assess the theories of population growth, including the Malthusian Theory and the Demographic Transition Model.
- Define and apply the following concepts: stereotype, prejudice, discrimination, institutional discrimination, ethnicity, race, minority group, dominant group, racism, gender, sex, patriarchy, sexism, homophobia and ageism.
- Compare and contrast the major social-psychological and sociological theories of prejudice and discrimination.
- Understand how society is stratified along the lines of race, gender, age, class and sexual orientation, and how this plays out in social institutions.
- Trace the patterns of racial and ethnic intergroup relations, focusing on patterns of genocide, assimilation, population transfer, colonialism, segregation and pluralism.

Social Institutions

- Define family and compare kinship systems.
- Compare and contrast the sociological theories on family.
- Define religion and review its functions and dysfunctions.
- Assess the three major sociological theories of religion represented by Durkheim, Weber and Marx.
- Define and apply the following concepts associated with religion: church, sect, cult, profane, sacred, monotheism, polytheism and animism.
- Explain how social inequality is exhibited in standardized and IQ testing.
- Identify the characteristics of the global economy.
- Compare and contrast the ideologies of capitalism and socialism.
- Define power and identify the types of authority.
- Assess the major theories of power, including the following: pluralist model, power elite model, autonomous state model, and feminist theories.
- Describe and explain the patterns of political participation in the U.S.

Social Change

- Define social change and describe its major characteristics.
- Explain and assess the major theories of social and global change: Functionalist, Conflict, Cyclical, Modernization, World Systems and Dependency Theories.
- Explain and provide examples of the sources of social change, including: cultural diffusion, technological innovation, collective behavior, population change, war, globalization and social movements.
- Describe and give examples of the different types of social movements, including: personal transformation, reform, radical and reactionary social movements.
- Define and give examples of globalization.