

1. Object and subject of sociology

The object of science is a part of material reality that exists independently of the student, but study is directed at it.

The subject is a part or a property of the object that the students themselves identify. Scientific method - the ways in which the object is studied (or a set of basic ways of obtaining new knowledge and methods of solving problems in any science).

Auguste Comte proposed the term "sociology" (general + science) and its main provisions.

Natural methods (used in sociology): observation, experiment. The object of sociology is society as a whole, its subsystems and elements, as well as the processes occurring in it (both statics and dynamics).

Society Learning Levels:

- **Global world community (all people of the Earth)**
- **Traditional national society (it is possible to limit the territory of the state, different historical types, ethnic formations)**
- **Micro-society (all types of social groups and categories)**
- **Individual (considered as a carrier of social qualities (student, teacher, etc.))**

The subject of sociology is the study of social phenomena, processes and relationships, manifested in collective behavior and public opinion, on the basis of which the general laws of the functioning of social objects are revealed and forecasts are made about the prospects for their development.

- **Structure of sociological knowledge**

There are 2 directions defining the structural field of sociology:

1. Social realism (social formations, groups are primary in relation to an individual and have primary significance)

2. Social nominalism (recognizes individuals and their social actions as the main factors of social life)

Levels of soc. knowledge (depending on scale):

1. Macrosociology (studies large-scale systems and processes occurring over a long time) 2. Microsociology (behavior of people in direct interpersonal communication)

A social institution is a historically established organization of people's joint activity, the existence of which is dictated by the need to satisfy the needs of society as a whole or part of it.

The structure of soc. knowledge:

- **Sociological philosophy**
- **General theoretical sociology**

Special sociological theories (social concepts, specifying specific areas of human activity):

- **Theories of soc. institutions (sociology of war, labor, economics, religion, law, politics, family, etc.)**
- **Theories of soc. communities (any set of people: the sociology of youth, city, agrarian)**
- **Theories of specialization of social processes (sociology of revolution, migration, evolution)**

- **Empirical sociology (practical / applied study of the problems described above)**
- **Practical sociology (practical results for work, exclusively practical result)**

3. Sociology functions

The main function - epistemological (cognitive)

- **Critical (the study of negative phenomena in society and the search for ways to eliminate them)**
- **Discriptive (descriptive) - systematization of knowledge**
- **Explanatory (analytical) - establishes cause-effect relationships between objects**
- **Prognostic - making scientific forecasts for the development of social processes in all spheres of social life**
- **Estimated (axiological) - assesses to what extent the system of management existing in a given society / organization corresponds to the main trends of this society, social expectations, needs and interests of the majority of the population**
- **Practical (praxeological) - the accumulated knowledge is not only comprehended, but also used in practice**
- **Management - sociology is directly related to management activities. The scientific results of sociology — recommendations, suggestions, methods, assessments of the various characteristics of the subject, his practice — are the initial material for developing and making managerial decisions.**

- **Place of sociology in the humanities system.**

Economics Psychology Culturological discipline Demography

Anthropology statistics Sociology philosophy

story

All social sciences — anthropology, history, sociology, psychology, economics, and political science — deal with human behavior. Each of them has its own view of things, and they differ from each other.

Of the listed sciences, anthropology and sociology more than others have a common point of application of forces. The main difference between them is that anthropologists profess a historical approach to the way of life of small pre-alphabetical societies. The invaluable contribution of anthropology lies in the concept

"Culture". It is of great importance for sociology and helps students avoid ethnocentrism - the habit of hard thinking in terms of the ideas, beliefs and values of their own group.

If anthropology helps us overcome ethnocentrism, then history helps to get rid of technocentrism — adopting our own country, our own era, and our own biography as a center for sociological understanding of the world or focus to which all other historical periods are attached. Much of the data is a sociologist on the need