



## Assignment 1

### Introduction to Sociology (SOC 101)

#### **Group Project: Analyzing a Campus Space**

##### **Objective:**

This assignment is designed to help you apply the three major theoretical perspectives (functionalist, conflict, and symbolic interactionist) to analyze a specific place on our university campus.

##### **Step 1: Group Formation**

Form groups of 4-5 students. Each group must choose a specific place on campus to analyze. Options include: Cafeteria, Open Field, Multipurpose Room, Prayer Room. Ensure that your chosen place is unique and not selected by another group.

##### **Step 2: Conduct Research:**

Visit the chosen place and observe its dynamics. Take notes on the physical layout, activities, and interactions that occur within the space. Interview people who use the space to gather different perspectives. Supplement your observations with additional research from books, journal articles, or credible online sources. Please make at least 10 questions for interviews.

##### **Step 3: Theoretical Analysis:**

**Apply the functionalist perspective:** Identify the manifest functions (intended purposes) of the space. Discuss the latent functions (unintended consequences) of the space. Analyze any dysfunctional aspects (elements that may negatively impact the social order).

**Apply the conflict theory perspective:** Examine how the space reflects or reinforces social inequalities (class, gender etc). Identify any power dynamics or struggles among different groups using the space. Discuss how the space may benefit certain groups while

disadvantaging others.

**Apply the symbolic interactionist perspective:** Investigate the meanings and symbols associated with the space. Analyze how individuals and groups interact within the space and the significance of these interactions. Explore how the space contributes to the formation of individual and group identities.

#### **Step 4: Write a research paper:**

Write a comprehensive research paper (2000-2500 words) that includes your findings from the research and theoretical analysis.

Your paper should have a title, an abstract, an introduction, a literature review, a methodology section, results and discussion, and a conclusion.

#### **Format:**

**Title Page:** Include the title of your research, names of group members, ID numbers, section number, course name, and instructor's name.

**Abstract:** Provide a brief summary of the research, including the purpose, methodology, and key findings. **(200 words)**

#### **Introduction:**

Start with a hook to grab the reader's attention (e.g., a quote, a question, a startling fact, or a personal story). Provide some background information about the chosen place and its significance. State the research objectives and questions. **(400 words)**

#### **Literature Review:**

Summarize theoretical perspectives related to your topic. Find three journal articles (one on functionalism, one on Marxist or feminist theory and one on symbolic interactionism). **(300-500 words)**

#### **Methodology:**

Describe the research methods used (observations, interviews, additional research). **(300 words)**

#### **Results and Discussion:**

Present your findings, including detailed descriptions of the place, interactions, and perspectives gathered. Analyze your findings using the three theoretical perspectives. Discuss the implications of your findings for understanding the chosen place and its dynamics. (700-800 words)

**Conclusion:** (100-200 words)

**References:** Include all sources cited in your paper in APA format.

**Deadline and Submission:**

The submission deadline is 20<sup>th</sup> November at 11:59 p.m. (Late submissions will be penalized.)

You need to upload your research paper on Turnitin. Only 15 percent similarity including AI is allowed on Turnitin.

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