

Mizan-Tepi University
College of Social Science and Humanities
Department of Sociology
Course Outline

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Instructor's Name: Demelash Belay

Consultation Hours: Monday (8:20-10:20 Local Time)
Wednesday (8:20-10:20 Local Time)
Friday (8:20-10:20 Local Time)

Module Name: Introduction to Behavioral Science

Module Code: SohM1032

Course Name: Introduction to Sociology

Course Code: SOCI1031

Course ECTS: 3 ECTS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course introduces students with the subject matter of Sociology by first briefly covering some of the ideas of the classical sociological thinkers and the major sociological theories and then goes on to provide discussions on various sociological concepts (social values, social norms, culture), basic elements of social life (groups, institutions, society), social processes (stratification, social class) and social change. The course also introduces to students foremost social pathologies in Ethiopia, the major theoretical perspectives of sociology, especially in relation to health and medicine. The social context of health and illness, the social causes of diseases, healthy lifestyles, as well as the different types health care systems are also discussed in the course.

COURSE CONTENT

1. The Discipline of Sociology

1.1 Sociology Defined

1.2 Sociology and Other Social Sciences

1.3 The Sociological Perspective: What Is It?

1.4 Benefits of the Sociological Perspective

1.5 Micro and Macro Sociology

2. The Development of Sociology: A Historical Review

2.1 Early Origins and Development

2.2 Founders of Sociology

2.2.1 Auguste Comte

2.2.2 Herbert Spencer

2.2.3 Emile Durkheim

2.2.4 Karl Marx

2.2.5 Max Weber

3. Theoretical Perspectives in Sociology

3.1 Functionalist Perspectives

3.2 The Conflict Paradigm

3.3 The Symbolic-Interaction Paradigm

4. Social Organization and Interaction

4.1 Groups and Institutions

4.2 Social Values, Norms and Social Control

4.2.1 Social Values

4.2.2 Social Norms

4.2.3 Mores and Folkways

4.2.4 Social Control

4.3 Social Structure: Status and Role

4.3.1 Status

4.3.2 Role

5. Culture

5.1. The Concept of Culture

5.1.1 The Components of Culture

5.1.2 Culture Universals

5.1.3 Multiculturalism and Subculture

5.1.4 Prejudice and Discrimination

5.1.5 Assimilation and Accommodation

5.2. Socialization

5.2.1 Why Is Socialization Important?

5.2.2 Agents of Socialization

5.2.3 Gender Socialization

5.2.4 Socialization through the Life Course

5.2.5 Re-Socialization

6. An Overview of Social Pathologies
6.1. The Concept of Social Pathology
6.2. The Universality and Locality of Some Social Pathologies
6.3. The Concepts of Social Deviance and Crime
6.4. A Survey of Social Pathologies in Ethiopia
6.4.1. Vulnerability to Famine and the Problem of Food Insecurity
6.4.2. Prostitution
6.4.3. Unemployment
6.4.4. The Youth and Drug Addiction
6.4.5. Rural to Urban Migration, the Refugee Problem and Health
6.4.6. Population Explosions and Ecological Degradation
6.4.7. Urbanization, Urban Poverty, Housing Problem, Homelessness and Begging
7. The Social Context of Health and Illness
7.1. Major Sociological Perspectives on Health and Medicine
7.1.1. Structural Functionalism
7.1.2. Symbolic Interactionism

7.1. 3. Social Conflict Theory
7.2. Theories of Disease Causation
7.2.1. Germ Theory
7.2.2. The Multi-causal Models of Disease
7.2.3. The Theory of General Susceptibility
7.3. The Social and Psychological Factors of Health, and Health Lifestyles
7.4. Health Lifestyles
7.4.1. Theory of Health Lifestyles
7.4.2. The Poor and Health Lifestyles
7.5. Health Care Systems
7.5.1. What is Health Care?
7.5.2. Types of Health care

MODE OF ASSESSMENT

- ☑ **Assignment** - Students will select one sociological theory on health and provide the basic postulates of the theory. They will also identify strengths, weakness and possible applications of the theory in a particular area of health care. It will account for 20% of the total course mark.
- ☑ **Tests:** Students will take tests which will account for 30% of the total course mark.
- ☑ **Quiz:** will account for 10% of the total mark
- ☑ **Final Examination:** There will also be a final exam at the end of the course which will account for 40 % of the total course mark.

REFERENCES

Giddens, Anthony, 2006. *Sociology*. 5th ed, Polity, Cambridge.

Haralambos, Martin and Holborn, Martin. 2004. *Sociology: Themes and perspective*. 6th ed,
Harpercollins Publishers Limited, London.

Henslin, James, M. 2004. *Essentials of Sociology. A down- to-Earth Approach*. 5th ed. Boston.

Macionis, John & Ken, Plummer. 2008. *Sociology: A Global Introduction* .4th ed. London: Pearson Education Limited.

Ritzer, George and Douglas J. Goodman. 2004. *Sociological Theory*, Sixth Edition. McGrawHill Inc.

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Wallace, Ruth A. & Alison Wolf. 1995. *Contemporary Sociological Theory: Continuing the Classical Tradition*, 4th ed., Prentice-Hall.

Zerihun Doda. 2005. *Introduction to Sociology – Lecture Notes for Health Science Students*: Ethiopia Public Health Training Initiative