

# HSS Learning Outcomes

## Sociology

### **Goal #1 – Apply Sociological Imagination**

Outcome #1 – Understand the discipline of sociology and the sociological perspective, and the contribution to our understanding of social reality

Component #1 – Describe how sociology differs from and is similar to other social sciences and give examples of these differences and similarities.

Outcome #2 - Apply the sociological imagination and sociological concepts and principles to her/his own life.

Component #1 - Participate actively in civic affairs

### **Goal #2 – Understand Sociological Concepts**

Outcome #1 - Understand the basic concepts in sociology and their fundamental theoretical interrelations,

Component #1 - define, give examples, show interrelationships, and demonstrate the relevance of sociological concepts

Outcome #2 - Show how social issues can be better understood by emphasizing the micro/macro connections

Component #1 - Synthesize information by pulling together disparate pieces of the sociology major.

### **Goal #3 – Understand the Role of Theory in Sociology**

Outcome #1 - To understand the role of theory in sociology

Component #1 - Define theory and describe and illustrate its role in building sociological knowledge

Component #2 - and contrast basic theoretical orientations in reference to social phenomena

Outcome #2 - Understand the macro-micro emphasis and compare and contrast theories at one level with those at another

Component #1 - Understand and show how theories reflect the historical and social contexts of the times and cultures in which they were developed

**Goal #4 - Understand the Role of Evidence and Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Sociology**

Outcome #1 - Identify basic methodological approaches and describe the general role of methods in building sociological knowledge

Component #1 - Compare and contrast the basic methodological approaches for gathering data

Outcome #2 - Design a research study in an area of choice and explain why various choices were made

Component #1 - Use computers and statistical procedures in gathering, analyzing and interpreting data

Component #2 - Critically assess a published research report and explain how the study could have been improved

Outcome #3 - Understand ethical codes that govern the conduct of sociologists

Component #1 – Demonstrate how sociological knowledge may be applied to people and lives.

**Goal #5 - Understand how Social Structure Operates**

Outcome #1 - Show how institutions interconnect in their effects on each other and on individuals.

Component #1 - Demonstrate how societal and structural factors influence individual behavior and the self's development.

Outcome #2 - Demonstrate how social change factors, such as population, urbanization, or technology affect social structure and individuals.

Component #2 - Demonstrate how social change affects social structure and individuals and show how structure is constantly in a process of becoming

### **Goal #6 – Understand and Gain Awareness of Inequality and Diversity**

Outcome #1 – Understand the internal diversity of U.S. society and the significance of variations by race/ethnicity, gender, sexuality, class, age

Component #1 – Demonstrate the social construction of race/ethnicity, gender, sexuality, age and class

Component #2 - The importance of reducing the negative effects of social inequality

Outcome #2 – Understand the cultural diversity among societies.

Component #1 – Demonstrate the effects of globalization on inequality and diversity

### **Goal #7 – Critical Thinking**

Outcome #1 - Apply critical thinking skills to sociological data and theory.

Component #1 - Easily move from memorization to analysis and application to synthesis and evaluation.

Component #2 - Identify underlying assumptions in particular theoretical orientations or arguments.

Outcome #2 - Identify underlying assumptions in particular methodological approaches to an issue.

Component #1 - Show how patterns of thought and knowledge are directly influenced by political-economic social structures.

Component #2 - Present opposing viewpoints and alternative hypotheses on various issues.