

Course Outcomes Guide

Directions: Please complete this form to document your progress toward improving student learning. For each item, indicate your progress and your anticipated next steps. Thank you!

Course/Program Title: SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology

Date: Spring 2011

Course/Program Team: Daniel Beckett Ryan DJ Madron

Expected Learning Outcomes:

1. Explain how sociological concepts can be found in everyday situations.
2. Use the sociological perspective to analyze and discuss several major social issues affecting the nation and the world in the twenty-first century.
3. Obtain a working knowledge of those sociological concepts and skills which provide the expected foundation for advanced educational offerings in sociology and other related social sciences.
4. Show how sociological concepts and skills can be utilized in careers outside of sociology.

Assessment (How do or will students demonstrate achievement of each outcome?)

Beginning Spring 2011, we are piloting a pre and post assessment exam consisting of multiple choice questions pertaining to the four course outcomes. This assessment is being distributed in all introductory sections at the beginning (first two weeks) and end (last two weeks) of the semester. The results of the assessment will be calculated in an excel spreadsheet when data collection is complete.

The assessment is designed to measure basic knowledge of sociological concepts (outcome 3), terminology (outcome 3), real-life application of concepts (outcomes 1 and 2) and how sociological methods/research are used in various sectors of the economy (outcome 4).

Topical areas covered in the common assessment are derived from recommended curriculum guidelines from the American Sociological Association and include: (1) theoretical foundations of sociology (i.e. functionalism and conflict theory), (2) research methods, (3) stratification (race, class and gender), (4) social movements/human agency, and (5) socialization.

Validation (What methods have you used or will you use to validate your assessment?)

Pre-test and post-test multiple-choice questions are derived directly from the textbook used in all sections: *In Conflict and Order: Understanding Society*.

Results (What do your assessment data show? If you have not yet assessed student achievement of your learning outcomes, when is assessment planned?)

N/A-- Results will be determined at the conclusion of the Spring 2011 semester.

Follow-up (How have you used or how will you use the data to improve student learning?)

After results are calculated at the end of the semester, we will meet to discuss what areas need to be addressed and what areas students comprehend. Depending on the assessment results, modifications to the assessment exam will be implemented.

Budget Justification (What resources are necessary to improve student learning?) N/A