



**EFFECTIVE: SEPTEMBER 2004**  
**CURRICULUM GUIDELINES**

**A:** Division: **INSTRUCTIONAL** Effective Date: **SEPTEMBER 2004**

**B:** Department / **SOCIOLOGY** Revision  New Course   
 Program Area: **FACULTY OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES**

If Revision, Section(s) **C, J**  
 Revised:  
 Date of Previous Revision: **MAY 2002**  
 Date of Current Revision: **APRIL 2004**

**C: SOCI 1125 D: SOCIAL PROCESSES E: 3**

Subject & Course No.	Descriptive Title	Semester Credits
<b>F: SOCI 1125</b>	<b>Calendar Description: Social Processes introduces the student to the general matter and perspectives of sociology. The course investigates the relations of the individual to society, and the processes by which groups and institutions change</b>	<b>3</b>

**M: Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes:**

At the conclusion of the course the successful student will be able to:

1. Define the basic concepts of sociology and communicate these effectively.
2. Identify several key historical figures in the development of the discipline and discuss their contributions to the field.
3. Be able to identify characteristics of the sociological perspective and to distinguish this from that of other scientific perspectives.
4. Identify and compare the dominant sociological theoretical perspectives.
5. Identify the primary stages and agents of socialization.
6. Describe the characteristics of stratification systems, with particular emphasis on social class.
7. Discuss the ways in which social inequality is produced through social factors, especially age, gender, race and ethnicity.
8. Identify some of the primary changes in social and economic organization which have taken place historically, with specific emphasis as well on recent years.
9. Describe the development of social institutions in Canadian society, with particular emphasis on at least one of the following: the family, education, religion, politics, and health and medicine.
10. Identify some of the key features of contemporary demographic change, and describe how they differ from traditional demographic characteristics.
11. Discuss the characteristics of the processes of social change and modernization in Canada and on a global basis.

**N: Course Content:**

1. Introduction: The Foundations of Sociology  
 The historical development of sociology  
 Sociology as a science  
 Theoretical Perspectives
2. Culture and Social Interaction  
 Cultural diversity  
 Status, roles, values, norms  
 The social construction of reality  
 The presentation of self
3. Socialization  
 Stages and Processes of Socialization  
 Agents of socialization: family, peers, school, media
4. Social Stratification and Inequality  
 Caste and class systems: achievement and ascription  
 Theoretical perspectives of social inequality  
 Dimensions of inequality: age, gender, race and ethnicity  
 Inequality and social conflict  
 Social classes in Canada; poverty  
 Historical development of economic systems  
 Comparative economic systems  
 Work in the post industrial society

**Course Content Cont'd.**

5. Sociological Categories: Sex, Race and Ethnicity
  - Gender and socialization
  - Gender and stratification
  - Theoretical perspectives of gender
  - Race and ethnicity in Canada
  - Perspectives of racial and ethnic interaction
  
6. Social Institutions (select one or more from the following)
  - The Family, Education, Religion, Health and Medicine
  - Theoretical perspectives of institutions
  - The functions of institutions
  - Social organization of institutions
  
7. Demography and Urbanization
  - History and theory of population growth
  - Urbanization
  - Human Ecology
  
8. Modernization and Global Social Change
  - Sociological approaches to modernization
  - Collective behaviour and social movements
  - Global social change
  - Global inequality

**O: Methods of Instruction:**

The course will employ a variety of instructional methods to accomplish its objectives, including some of the following: lectures, seminar presentations, audio-visual materials, small group discussions and workshops, research projects and term papers.

**P: Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students:**

A suitable introductory sociology text approved by the discipline such as:

Macionis, John J. (2002). Sociology: Canadian Edition (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). Scarborough: Prentice-Hall.

Texts will be updated periodically.

**Q: Means of Assessment:**

Evaluation will be based on course objectives and will be carried out in accordance with Douglas College policy. The instructor will provide a written course outline with specific criteria during the first week of classes.

An example of a possible evaluation scheme would be:

- exams composed of multiple choice, true/false, short answer and/or short essay questions
- essay assignments
- oral presentations
- participation in class discussion

<b>Means of Assessment Cont'd:</b>	
An example of a possible evaluation scheme would be:	
Midterm	30%
Essay/Written Assignment	25%
Essay/Outline	5%
Final Exam	30%
Participation	10%
<b>R: Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition: specify whether course is open for PLAR</b>	
No.	

\_\_\_\_\_  
Course Designer(s): Melody Hessing

\_\_\_\_\_  
Education Council / Curriculum Committee Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dean / Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Registrar