

The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Department of Sociology
First Term 2020 – 2021
SOCI 1001A INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY
Monday: 4:30 – 6:15 p.m. Online Teaching
(updated on 4 Sept)

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Course Description

This course introduces basic concepts and principles in the field of sociology, helping students to make sense of their social life. Ideas such as *social norms, social roles, social interactions, social institutions and social processes* will be examined. This course also gives a brief introduction to *major classical and contemporary sociological theories* which explain *how individuals and society are related to each other*, especially how personal experiences are rooted in a particular social setting. Through these discussions, students should be able to think more critically towards a wide range of social issues and taken for granted social practices.

Learning Outcomes

1. overview of sociology as a discipline;
2. basic understanding of important sociological concepts and theories;
3. basic understanding of sociological research method;
4. thinking critically;
5. reflection on one's values and way of life.

Assessment

Tutorial Presentation and Discussion	30%
Two Written Assignments (2 x 20%)	40%
Final Exam	30%

Tutorial Presentation and Discussion (30%)

Students are required to make 1. *one group presentation* on one topic; and 2. *one group response* to one presentation of another group. Guiding questions for tutorial presentation will be given to students two weeks before the tutorials are held.

Please go to the following webpage for enrolment to tutorial:
<https://cloud.itsc.cuhk.edu.hk/mycuform/view.php?id=648142>

Final Exam (30%) (Due: December 11, 5:00 pm)

All students are required to take a final exam by the end of the semester. The exam will be in a *take-home format* with essay-type questions. (*VeriGuide Assignment Number Three*)

Two Written Assignments (2 x 20% = 40%)

All students are required to write two short papers. These papers require students to observe and reflect sociologically in their daily lives.

Length of the Papers: 1,200-1,600 words in *English* or 1,800-2,400 words in *Chinese*
(hard copy only, double space, double side, 12 font)

First Assignment: Generational Differences, Historical Changes & Biography

(Due: October 23, 5:00 pm)

(*VeriGuide Assignment Number One*)

Reading: Mills, C. Wright. 1959. *The Sociological Imagination*. London: Oxford University Press. Chapter One “The Promise” Pp. 1-13. (*this chapter can be downloaded at CUHK library website: https://julac.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/f/1iv15ah/CUHK_IZ51977212470003407*)

Wright (1959: 5) argues that “the individual can understand his own experience and gauge his own fate only by locating himself within his period.” Select *one issue (such as values, attitudes and practice)* that you find yourself are in a *different* position *from those of the older generations*. Analyze this difference by *locating yourself in your own period* and compare how it is different from those of the older generations. You have to identify the *social forces and contexts* that shape *social structures, institutions, culture and meaning systems* of your own period and lead to such a generational difference between you and the older generations. (you might consult the three questions raised by Wright (1959: 6-7) in analyzing the your own period). Through this exercise, you might able to link your own *biography* to the wider context of *historical changes*.

Second Assignment: Gender Socialization (Due: November 20, 5:00 pm)

(*VeriGuide Assignment Number Two*)

Reading: Henslin, James. 1999. “On Becoming Male: Reflections of A Sociologist on Childhood and Early Socialization.” Pp. 161-172 In *Down to Earth Sociology: Introductory Readings (10th ed)*, edited by James Henslin. New York: Free Press.

Henslin (1999: 142) suggests that early socialization experiences “place males in a distinctive social world and prepare them for dominance”. Reflect your *own experience of gender socialization* in childhood and adolescence and explore how these experience shaped *your self-identity, characters/personality and relationships with others*. Pay attentions to the *norms and boundaries* resulted from this early socialization and link them to *the wider social contexts*. You should also apply concepts learnt in this course in analyzing your experience.

Submission of Written Assignment & Take-Home Exam

1. Upload the soft copy of your answer to **VeriGuide** on or before the due date. Choose the *specific assignment numbers* at the VeriGuide system.

2. Save the file of your answer in the *following format* so that we can easily identify you when we download the zip files from VeriGuide:

surname + first name + assignment type (e.g. Chan_Taiman_Assign_One.docx)

3. Late submission will result in the loss of one sub-grade per day (i.e. from B+ to B).

4. Remember to **sign** the soft copy of your VeriGuide receipt. Please save your signed VeriGuide receipt in the following format:

surname + first name + Assignment_Receipt (e.g. Chan_Taiman_A1_Receipt.pdf)

5. Please upload your signed VeriGuide receipt to the **Blackboard**. We have set up a folder known as “*Collect Assignments VeriGuide Receipt*” in the Blackboard to collect your signed receipt.

Other Requirements

6. Please state clearly *the course code, course name, teacher’s name, your full name (both Chinese and English), student ID, major subject, date and word count* on the first page of your answers. Please add **page number** as well.

7. Be sure to SAVE all files of your answers and keep backups for yourself.

8. You MUST acknowledge all printed/multi-media/online reference materials (books, TV programmes, magazines, other newspapers, online news, Internet websites and all other reference and all other reference materials) in your answers. Both **in-text citation** and **bibliography/reference section** at the end of answers are required. Plagiarisms will be severely penalized.

9. Remember to sign the VeriGuide receipt and upload it to the Blackboard. *Answers without the receipt cannot be graded by teachers.* Save the file of the receipt by using your surname and first name in the above format (see point 4).

Academic Honesty

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at: <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/> .

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures.

For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via the plagiarism detection engine, VeriGuide, the declaration, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students’ uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. *Assignments without the receipt cannot be graded by teachers.*

Grade Descriptors

A	Outstanding performance on all learning outcomes.
A-	Generally outstanding performance on all (or almost all) learning outcomes.
B	Substantial performance on all learning outcomes, OR high performance on some learning outcomes which compensates for less satisfactory performance on others, resulting in overall substantial performance.
C	Satisfactory performance on the majority of learning outcomes, possibly with a few weaknesses.
D	Barely satisfactory performance on a number of learning outcomes.
F	Unsatisfactory performance on a number of learning outcomes, OR failure to meet specified assessment requirement.

Textbook

Giddens, Anthony & Philip Sutton. 2013. *Sociology (7th ed.)*. Cambridge: Polity.
(Hard copies of the text book are being reserved at CUHK library. You may also get more advanced editions of this book by purchasing it at the bookstore or ordering online.)

Reference

Berger, Peter. 1963. *Invitation to Sociology: A Humanist Perspective*. New York: Anchor Books.
(this book can be downloaded at the library website:
https://julac.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/f/1iv15ah/CUHK_IZ511015854120003407)

Conley, Danlton. 2011. *You May Ask Yourself: An Introduction to Thinking like a Sociologist (2nd ed.)*. New York: W. W. Norton.

Croteau, David., and William. Hoynes. 2013 *Experience Sociology*. New York: McGraw-Hill Higher Education.

Giddens, Anthony & Philip Sutton. 2017. *Essential Concepts in Sociology (2nd ed.)*. Cambridge: Polity. (this book can be downloaded at the library website:
https://julac.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/f/1iv15ah/CUHK_IZ511020834730003407)

Haralambos, Holborn, Chapman, Moore, Holborn, Martin, Chapman, Steve, and Moore, Stephen. 2013. *Sociology : Themes and Perspectives (8th ed)*. London: Collins Educational.

Lecture Schedule

** are required readings. The others are recommended and optional.*

Lecture 1 What is Sociology (7 Sept)

* Giddens & Sutton (2013) Chapter 1 “What is Sociology?” Pp. 1-9, 25-29.

Durkheim, Emile. (2009 [1895]) “What make sociology different?”, Pp. 19-26 in *Reading for Sociology* (6th ed.), edited by Garth Massey. New York: W. W. Norton.

Lecture 2 The Development of Sociological Theories I (14 Sept)

* Giddens & Sutton (2013) Chapter 1 “What is Sociology?” Pp. 9-25.

Giddens, Anthony. (1986) *Sociology: A Brief but Critical Introduction* (2nd ed.). London: MacMillan Education. Chapter 1 “Sociology: Issues and Problems.” Pp. 1-22.

Lecture 3 The Development of Sociological Theories II (21 Sept)

* Giddens & Sutton (2013) Chapter 3 “Theories and Perspectives” Pp. 69-96.

Lecture 4 Research Methods (28 Sept)

* Giddens & Sutton (2013) Chapter 2 “Asking & Answering Sociological Questions” Pp. 32-66.

Lecture 5 Individuals-Society I: Social Structure & Social Control (5 Oct)

* Conley (2011) Chapter 6 “Social Control and Deviance” Pp. 177-203, 210-217.

Berger, Peter. (1963) Chapter 4 “Sociological Perspective – Man in Society.” Pp. 66-92.

Lecture 6 Individuals-Society II: Social Role, Socialization & Identity (12 Oct)

* Giddens & Sutton (2013) Chapter 8 “Social Interaction and Everyday” Pp. 299-322.

* Giddens & Sutton (2013) Chapter 9 “The Life Course” Pp. 334-348.

Berger, Peter. (1963) Chapter 5 “Sociological Perspective – Society in Man.” Pp. 93-121.

Lecture 7 Individuals-Society III: Agency, Conflict & Resistance (19 Oct)

* Giddens & Sutton (2013) Chapter 22 “Politics, Government and Social Movement” Pp. 967-974, 994-1006.

Berger, Peter. (1963) Chapter 6 “Sociological Perspective – Society as Drama” Pp. 122-150.

(Holiday after Chung Yeung Festival 26 Oct)

Lecture 8 Globalization and Social Change (2 Nov)

* Giddens & Sutton (2013) Chapter 4 “Globalization and Social Change” Pp. 110-151.

Lecture 9 Class Inequalities & Social Mobility (9 Nov)

* Giddens & Sutton (2013) Chapter 12 “Stratification and Social Class” Pp. 477-522.

Lecture 10 Gender and Racial Inequalities (16 Nov)

* Giddens & Sutton (2013) Chapter 15 "Gender and Sexuality" Pp. 621-659.

* Giddens & Sutton (2013) Chapter 16 "Race, Ethnicity and Migration" Pp. 671-686.

Lecture 11 Politics, Governments & Social Movements (23 Nov)

* Giddens & Sutton (2013) Chapter 22 "Politics, Government and Social Movement" Pp. 974-994.

* Giddens & Sutton (2013) Chapter 23 "Nations, War and Terrorism" Pp. 1018-28.

Lecture 12 Family, Marriage & Intimate Relationships (30 Nov)

* Giddens & Sutton (2013) Chapter 10 "Families and Intimate Relationships" Pp. 379-432.

Tutorial Schedule

Tutorial Format:

- students will be divided into 4 groups
- each group takes up 1 presentation and 1 group response to others' presentation
- presentation: 30 minutes
- group response: 10 minutes
- discussion: 45 minutes
- guiding questions for tutorial presentation will be given to students two weeks before the tutorials are held.

1st Session: Sociology and Common Sense & Group Presentation Arrangement

(only discussion but no presentation for this session)

Berger, Peter. 1963. *Invitation to Sociology: A Humanist Perspective*. New York: Anchor Books.
Chapter Two "Sociology as a Form of Consciousness", pp. 25-43.

Bauman, Zygmunt. and Tim May. 2001. *Thinking Sociologically*, 2nd ed. Oxford: Blackwell.
Introduction "The Discipline of Sociology", pp. 5-12. (this chapter can be downloaded at CUHK library website)

2nd Session: Functionalism, Stigma Management & Sex Work

Davis, Kingsley. 1937. "The Sociology of Prostitution." *American Sociological Review* 2(5): 744-755.

Kong, Travis S. K. 2009. "More Than a Sex Machine: Accomplishing Masculinity Among Chinese Male Sex Workers in the Hong Kong Sex Industry", *Deviant Behavior* 30(8): 715-745.

3rd Session: Front/Back-stage and Foreign Domestic Helpers

Goffman, Erving. 2010. "Presenting the Self in Social Life." Pp. 203-205 in *Sociology: Introductory Readings* (3rd ed.), edited by Anthony Giddens and Philip Sutton. Cambridge: Polity.

Lan, Pei-Chia. 2006. *Global Cinderella: Migrant Domestic and Newly Rich Employers in Taiwan*. Durham: Duke University Press. *Chapter Five "Cinderella with a Mobile" pp. 161-192, 197-198.*

4th Session: McDonald, Globalization and Local Culture

Ritzer, George. 2009. "The McDonald's System." Pp. 466-472 in *Reading for Sociology* (6th ed.), edited by Garth Massey. New York: W. W. Norton.

Watson, James. 1997. "McDonald's in Hong Kong: Consumerism, Dietary Change and the Rise of Children's Culture." Pp. 77-109 in *Golden Arches East: McDonald's in East Asia*, edited by James Watson. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

5th Session: Parenting Style and Class Difference

Lareau, Annette. 2009. "Concerted Cultivation and the Accomplishment of Natural Growth." Pp. 278-287 in *Reading for Sociology* (6th ed.), edited by Garth Massey. New York: W. W. Norton.

Wong, Thomas. 2003. "Parent's Choice: A Note on Parental Values and Social Class." Pp. 184-208 in *Indicators of Social Development: Hong Kong 2001*, edited by Siu-Kai Lau, Ming-kwan Lee, Po-San Wong and Siu-lun Wong. Hong Kong: Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies, the Chinese University of Hong Kong.