



蘇州大學
Soochow University

SOC 111 Social Sciences and Research

Summer 2024

Course Credits: 4

Contact Hours: 56 hours

Instructor: TBA

Email: TBA

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This is a foundational course designed to introduce students to the core principles, methodologies, and interdisciplinary perspectives of social science disciplines. This course acts as a gateway for further studies in sociology, anthropology, economics, politics, law, and business studies. Emphasizing critical thinking, analytical skills, and academic writing, students will explore key concepts, theories, and methods in the social sciences while developing a strong foundation for future academic pursuits and professional endeavors.

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a basic understanding of core concepts, theories, and methodologies across various social science disciplines;
2. Apply social science research methods to analyze societal phenomena and issues;
3. Develop effective academic writing skills, including essay composition and argumentation;
4. Engage in interdisciplinary thinking and recognize the interconnectedness of social phenomena;
5. Demonstrate ethical awareness and sensitivity to diverse perspectives within the social sciences.

PREREQUISITES

None



GRADING

Grades will be determined by accumulating points, with 100 points being the maximum, as follows:

ITEM	POINTS
2 Assignments	20 Points
2 Quizzes	20 Points
Midterm Exam	25 Points
Final Exam	35 Points
Total	100 Points

Late submissions will be graded at the end of the course. Grades will be assigned according to the following rule:

$$A \geq 90 > B \geq 80 > C \geq 70 > D \geq 60 > F.$$

We reserve the right to make adjustments to the overall grading policy.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required Texts:

Colander, David & Elgin Hunt, *Social Science: An Introduction to the Study of Society*, 18th Edition. Routledge, 2022.

Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:

None

COURSE TOPICS

MODULE	TASKS
Module 1	<p>Topics: Topic 1: Social Science and Its Methods Topic 2: Human Origins Topic 3: Society, Culture, and Cultural Change Topic 4: Geography, Demography, Ecology, and Society</p> <p>Assessments: Assignment #1</p>



Module 2	<p>Topics: Topic 5: Technology and Society Topic 6: The Family Topic 7: Religion Topic 8: Education</p> <p>Assessments: Quiz #1</p>
Module 3	<p>Topics: Topic 9: Social and Economic Stratification Topic 10: Stratification, Minorities and Discrimination Topic 11: The Functions and Forms of Government Topic 12: Governments of the World</p> <p>Assessments: Assignment #2 Midterm Exam</p>
Module 4	<p>Topics: Topic 13: The Organization of Economic Activities Topic 14: Government and the Economy Topic 15: International Political Relations Topic 16: International Economic Relations</p> <p>Assessments: Quiz #2</p>
Module 5	<p>Topics: Topic 17: Philosophical Anthropology Topic 18: Holism and Antireductionism in Sociology and Psychology Topic 19: Research Ethics in Social Inquiry Topic 20: Facts and Values in the Human Sciences</p> <p>Assessments: Final Exam</p>

ATTENDANCE

1) Class attendance is required. Missing classes without permission will lead to decrease in overall grade.

Missing less than two classes: no penalty.

Missing more than two classes: 7% will be taken off from the overall grade.

If the instructor reports a student's frequent missing of class to the Soochow University Academic Administration Office, the student might get a written warning and might be prohibited from attending final exam.



2) Participants in this course are expected to arrive in class promptly and adequately prepared. The primary objective of this course is to critically engage with the readings and the subject matter. Therefore, course participants are expected to have completed the reading prior to class and prepare thoughtful reflections/commentaries to share with fellow colleagues.

LEARNING REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Late assignments are not acceptable and are subjected to grade deductions.
- 2) Assignments submitted in the wrong format will be counted as not submitted.
- 3) Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.
- 4) Make-up for midterm and final exams only with valid excuses, as defined by the University.
- 5) In order to earn a Certificate of Completion, participants must thoughtfully complete all assignments by stated deadlines and earn an average quiz score of 50% or greater.

TECHNOLOGY POLICY

The use of electronic devices in class is distracting, both for the user and for the rest of the class. Only non-programmable calculators can be used in the tests and exam. Any attempts to use cell phones and other electronic communication devices will be seemed as cheating. Laptops are discouraged, unless you use them for activities DIRECTLY related to the course (eg., note taking, reading course documents).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Soochow University highly values the academic integrity and aims to promote the academic fairness, honesty and responsibility. Any academic dishonesty behaviors and any attempts to cheats and plagiarism will be reported to the university administration office. A written warning and the relevant penalties will be imposed. The record might be shown on the official university transcript.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION



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Soochow University is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at Soochow University. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome.

Note:

Please contact the University Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material.