



CHRISTIAN HERITAGE COLLEGE

**SO212**

**EMERGING ISSUES IN SOCIOLOGY**

This sample unit outline is provided by CHC for prospective and current students to assist with unit selection.

Elements of this outline which may change with subsequent offerings of the unit include Content, Required Texts, Recommended Readings and details of the Assessment Tasks.

Students who are currently enrolled in this unit should obtain the outline for the relevant semester from the unit lecturer.

<b>Unit code</b>	SO212														
<b>Unit name</b>	Emerging Issues in Sociology														
<b>Associated higher education awards</b>	Bachelor of Applied Social Science														
<b>Duration</b>	One semester														
<b>Level</b>	Intermediate														
<b>Core/Elective</b>	Core														
<b>Weighting</b>	Unit credit points: 10 Course credit points: 240														
<b>Student workload</b>	<p><i>Face-to-face on site</i></p> <table> <tr> <td>Contact hours</td> <td>39 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reading, study, and preparation</td> <td>59 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Assignment preparation</td> <td>52 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTAL</b></td> <td><b>150 hours</b></td> </tr> </table> <p><i>External</i></p> <table> <tr> <td>Engagement with study materials</td> <td>90 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Assignment preparation</td> <td>60 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTAL</b></td> <td><b>150 hours</b></td> </tr> </table> <p>Students requiring additional English language support are expected to undertake an additional one hour per week.</p>	Contact hours	39 hours	Reading, study, and preparation	59 hours	Assignment preparation	52 hours	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>150 hours</b>	Engagement with study materials	90 hours	Assignment preparation	60 hours	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>150 hours</b>
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<b>Delivery mode</b>	Face-to-face on site External														
<b>Prerequisites/ Corequisites/ Restrictions</b>	<i>Prerequisite</i> SO102 Introduction to Applied Social Theories														
<b>Rationale</b>	<p>Unprecedented change and rapid transformation are indicative features of contemporary society. Australia's, and the world's, sociological and cultural landscape has been entirely reshaped since the 1950s with the institutional and sociological evidence of this transformation clearly evident at every level within society.</p> <p>Students who plan to work effectively in the applied social sciences need to understand these changes and build on previous learning. This unit promotes the ability to investigate, analyse and reflect upon contemporary societal issues through the lens of a range of sociological theories, methods, ideas and perspectives, including that of a distinctively Christian worldview.</p>														
<b>Prescribed text(s)</b>	Woodward, K. (2014). <i>Social sciences – the big issues</i> (3rd ed.). New York, NY: Routledge.														

<p><b>Recommended readings</b></p>	<p><b>Books</b></p> <p>Cox, D., &amp; Pawar, M. (2013). <i>International social work: Issues, strategies, and programs</i> (2nd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.</p> <p>Furze, B., Savy, P., Brym, R., &amp; Lie, J. (2012). <i>Sociology in today's world</i> (2nd ed.). Melbourne, VIC, Australia: Cengage Learning.</p> <p>Giddens, A., &amp; Sutton, P. (2013). <i>Sociology</i> (7th ed.). Cambridge, UK: Polity Press.</p> <p>Ife, J. (2012). <i>Human rights and social work: Towards right-based practice</i> (3rd ed.). UK: Cambridge University Press.</p> <p>Mahdavi, P. (2013). <i>From trafficking to terror: Constructing a global social problem (Framing 21<sup>st</sup> century social issues)</i>. New York, NY: Routledge.</p> <p>Tweedell, C. B. (2010). <i>Sociology: A Christian approach for changing the world</i> (2nd ed.). Marion, IN: Triangle.</p> <p>Van Krieken, R., Habibis, D., Smith, P., Hutchins, B., Haralambos, M., &amp; Holborn, M. (2010). <i>Sociology: Themes and perspectives</i> (4th ed.). Sydney, NSW, Australia: Pearson Education.</p> <p><b>Journals</b></p> <p><i>The Journal of Sociology</i></p> <p><i>The Australian and New Zealand Journal of Sociology</i></p> <p><i>The Journal of Contemporary Human Services</i></p> <p><i>The Journal of Contemporary Social Services</i></p> <p>In addition to the resources above, students should have access to a Bible, preferably a modern translation such as The Holy Bible: The New International Version 2011 (NIV 2011) or The Holy Bible: New King James Version (NKJV).</p> <p>These and other translations may be accessed free on-line at <a href="http://www.biblegateway.com">http://www.biblegateway.com</a>. The Bible app from LifeChurch.tv is also available free for smart phones and tablet devices.</p>
<p><b>Specialist resource requirements</b></p>	<p>Nil</p>
<p><b>Content</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Defining the field of sociology and social change</li> <li>2. The Macro and Micro sociological theories</li> <li>3. The self (agism, eating disorders, sexual preferences, bullying)</li> <li>4. The family (celebration of dysfunctionality, the modern family, surrogacy, adoption, abortion, domestic violence)</li> <li>5. Secularisation, religion in Australian society, global trends and the rise of militant Islam and anti-semitism</li> <li>6. Australian identity through history – First Australians, colonialism, postcolonialism</li> <li>7. The nation (sexualisation of society, feminism, stolen generation, forced adoption, the rise of national curriculum, inequality, violence, racism, culture, and identity)</li> <li>8. The world of power (globalisation, glocalisation, tribalism, political theory, political science, developing world, Church authority)</li> <li>9. The world (poverty, human rights, trafficking, terrorism, AIDS and other international diseases)</li> <li>10. Christian responses to social change</li> <li>11. Society in the digital age: social media</li> <li>12. Discovering sociological answers to society's problems: Inequality (cultural and gender issues) , multicultural sensitivities, and class in Australia</li> <li>13. Discovering sociological answers to society's problems: deviance or difference?</li> </ol>

<p><b>Learning outcomes</b></p>	<p>On completion of this unit, students will have demonstrated that they have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. described the broad theoretical foundations upon which social inquiry is based in relation to current and emerging issues;</li> <li>2. demonstrated an understanding of the use of ascribed attributes to delineate social groupings, and the social inequalities that may result;</li> <li>3. analysed a range of important social issues in contemporary society, including multiculturalism/cultural sensitivity, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and relations, and the societal impact on the individual, families, groups, the nation and the world;</li> <li>4. reflected on foundational sociological and social theories and issues from a distinctively Christian perspective; and</li> <li>5. communicated at an appropriate tertiary standard with special attention to correct grammars, punctuation, spelling, vocabulary, usage, sentence structure, logical relations, style, referencing, and presentation.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Assessment tasks</b></p>	<p><b>Task 1: Group Presentation</b></p> <p>Option 1: Digital Media Presentation and Individual Report</p> <p>Discuss and reflect on personal and professional learning relating to one current or emerging issue discussed in the unit.</p> <p>Option 2: Poster Presentation and Individual Report</p> <p>Choose a form of popular culture (from a novel, piece of music, television show or film, DVD, or Youtube™) and relate it to one of the current or emerging issues discussed in the unit.</p> <p>Word Length/Duration:    Presentation - 10 minutes; Individual Report - 1,000 words</p> <p>Weighting:                    40%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes:        1, 3-5</p> <p>Assessed:                      Weeks 2, 11 - Option 1; Weeks 7-12 - Option 2</p> <p><b>Task 2: Essay</b></p> <p>Write an essay on one of several topics related to contemporary society to be given by the unit coordinator. Examine different sociological perspectives related to the topic, and reflect on how this subject might be viewed from a Christian perspective. Six to eight academic references are required.</p> <p>Word Length/Duration:    2,500 words</p> <p>Weighting:                    60%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes:        1-5</p> <p>Assessed:                      Week 13</p>
<p><b>Unit summary</b></p>	<p>This unit is designed to equip students to be able to investigate, analyse and reflect upon contemporary society to assist them to work effectively in the applied social sciences. In this unit, students will be given the opportunity to gain greater insight into local, national and global issues in society from a sociological view, and to examine a broad range of current and emerging issues including multiculturalism, Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander history and relations, and the societal impact on the individual, families, groups, the nation and the world.</p>