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**East West University**

**Department of Sociology**

**SOC 106: Historical Sociology**

**Fall 2019**

**Course Outline\***

Course Instructor: S. M. Anoawarul Kayes Shimul

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\*course outline is usually renewed every semester.

**Course Description:** This course primarily aims at introducing basic concepts of historical sociology to enhance the sociological imagination of the students so that they can relate and understand the historical development of human societies. For this along with the evolution of human society, this course will discuss how the transformation of the means of production of a certain society contributes to the further changes of the society establishing a new mode of production as well as discuss classical and contemporary theories of sociology in understanding changes. However, at the end of this course students are expected to be able to apply a sociological lens in analyzing the historical development of human society.

**Course Objective:**

* To introduce students with the basic concepts of historical sociology and the evolution of human societies
* To enhance the sociological imagination so that they can relate them with a certain social phenomenon
* To orient students with the classical and contemporary theories of sociology in understanding the evolution of human history

**Teaching Methods:**

* Lecture
* Discussion
* Exercise
* Presentation
* Fieldwork

\*\* Not reduced to these methods only, some other method may be included according to the necessity

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| First Midterm Examination | |
| Topics | Learning Outcomes |
| Introducing Human Societies   * The human condition * Human societies as a sociocultural system * The evolution of human societies * The types of human societies | After completing this chapter you will be able to,   * Define human societies and their place in nature * List the adaptive mechanism of human societies * Identify five basic components of human societies * Illustrate the factors promoting social and cultural continuity, growth, change and development * Classify human societies through historical eras * Outline the role of technology in the sociocultural evolution * Compare biological and sociocultural evolution |

Exam Date: 13 June 2019

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| Second Midterm Examination | |
| Topics | Learning Outcomes |
| Pre Industrial Societies   * The hunting-gathering societies * Horticulture societies * Agrarian societies * Some environmentally specialized societies | After completing this chapter you will be able to,   * Understand the emergence of *Homo Sapiens* and how cultural evolution takes place * Outline the socio-cultural structure of hunting-gathering societies using some theoretical perspectives * Explain the shift of hunting-gathering societies to horticulture societies * Describe simple horticultural societies in Asia and Europe and understand race, environment, and societal development * Identify the difference between simple agrarian societies and advanced agrarian societies * List the specialized society types and the shift of agrarian society to the industrial society |
| Industrial Societies and Industrializing societies   * The industrial revolution * Technologies and economics * Ideologies and politics | After completing this chapter you will be able to,   * Outline the causes of the industrial revolution * Understand the brief history of the industrial revolution * List the technological foundations of the industrial revolution * Explain the ideologies and politics of industrial societies |

Exam Date: 11 July 2019

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| --- | --- |
| Final Examination | |
| Topics | Learning Outcomes |
| Theoretical Approaches: Classical   * Auguste Comte: Three Stages * Karl Marx: The Materialist Conception of History * Sorokin: Ideational; Idealistic; Sensate | After completing this chapter you will be able to,   * Theoretically explain the factors influencing the historical development of human societies |
| Theoretical Approaches: Contemporary   * The Social Origins of Dictatorship * The Source of Social Power * The Modern World-System | After completing this chapter you will be able to,   * Illustrate the contemporary theories regarding the development of human societies |

Exam Date: 22 August 2019

# Suggested Readings

Nolan, P., & Lenski, G. (2009). *Human societies : an introduction to macrosociology*. Paradigm Publishers.

**Policies**

**Grading and Assessment:**

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| --- | --- |
| Tentative distribution of Marks | |
| Quiz | 10 |
| Presentation/ Drama/ Viva | 5+2\* (For Asking Difficult Question) |
| Assignment and Field Work (Essay or Report) | 8 |
| Mid I | 20 |
| Mid II | 20 |
| Class participation and Note Taking | 5 |
| Home Tasks | 5 |
| Final | 25 |
| Total | 100 |

**Grading Policy:** As per EWU Rules and Practice

Numerical Scores Letter Grade Grade Point

**%** of Marks

97 – 100 = A+ 4.00

90 – below 96 = A 4.00

87 – below 90 = A- 3.70

83 – below 87 = B+ 3.30

80 – below 83 = B 3.00

77 – below 80 = B- 2.70

73 – below 77 = C+ 2.30

70 – below 73 = C 2.00

67 – below 70 = C- 1.70

63 – below 67 = D+ 1.30

60 – below 63 = D 1.00

Below 60 = F 0.00

**Other Policies:**

* **Assignment/Presentation:** Group or Individual assignments/presentations must be submitted on the assigned date. **Plagiarism is highly prohibited and should include proper referencing.** If the students are unable to be present in class on that day the students should hand in their assignment before the due date/class to the group leader or the class representative.
* **Late Assignment:** No late assignment will be considered.
* **Exams:** Students missing exam/presentation/midterm will get a zero. In case of an emergency, she should contact the course instructor. The course teacher has the authority to determine whether the excuse is valid and whether the make-up Exam would be scheduled. No lame excuses will be considered.
* **Attendance:** Students who missed more than 4 classes without any valid reason or prior notification will not be allowed to sit for any examination.
* **Homework/ Class Test:** Some homework/class tests may be given if a particular topic demands.
* **Student Hour:** Student is highly encouraged to utilize the student hour described above.
* **Mobile phone:** Please keep it switched off if possible or otherwise silent. Taking pictures of any slide/whiteboard is totally prohibited.

**“Thinking begins when you ask a really difficult question”**

**– Slavoj Zizek**

**Have an excellent Semester!**