

Sociology BA/BS

1. Achieve Sociological Competency: Entry Level

Goal Description:

Students who take introductory sociology classes will gain basic knowledge of social life, social change, and the causes and consequences of human behavior.

Providing Department: Sociology BA/BS

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Demonstrate Sociological Competency: Entry Level

Learning Objective Description:

Students who take introductory sociology classes that are included in the SHSU Core Curriculum will be able to demonstrate their understanding of the basic core concepts of the discipline and the sociological perspective.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Comprehension Of Basic Core Concepts: Entry Level

Indicator Description:

A sample of students enrolled in the two introduction-level sociology courses in the SHSU Core Curriculum (SOCI 2319 in Component Area IV: Humanities and Visual and Performing Arts and SOC: I1301 in Component Area V: Social and Behavioral Sciences) is chosen in the Spring semester for evaluation. Employing an extra credit opportunity format, students responded to a ten-question evaluation instrument for the Component Area V courses (see Attachment #1) and five question evaluation for the Component Area IV course (see Attachment #2) to measure their understanding of basic core concepts in Sociology. The selection of these indicators conforms to disciplinary standards for sociological research.

In this cycle, we included item-by-item analyses to assess students' understanding of the sub-concepts of basic core concepts of the discipline indicated by the SHSU Core Curriculum.

1. Two sub-concept areas corresponding to Component Area IV: Humanities and Visual and Performing Arts: (a) Concept 1- To understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within a historical and social context (questions 1, 2, and 4); and (b) Concept 2 - to demonstrate knowledge of the influence of literature, philosophy, and/or the arts on intercultural experiences (questions 3 and 5).
2. Five sub-concept areas corresponding to the Component Area V: Social and Behavioral Sciences: (a) Concept 1- to employ the appropriate methods, technologies, and data that social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition. (Q2, Q7); (b) Concept 2 - to examine social institutions and processes across various historical periods, social structures, and cultures. (Q4, Q9); (c) Concept 3 - to use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories. (Q1, Q6); (d) Concept 4 - to develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues. (Q3, Q8); and (e) Concept 5 - to identify and understand differences and commonalities within diverse cultures. (Q5, Q10).

Attached Files

[Attach1.BA.BSEntryLevelCompAreaV.Questions.19.20.docx](#)

[Attach2.BABSEntryLevelCompAreaIVQuestions19.20.docx](#)

Criterion Description:

At least 85% of participating students should have 3 correct answers out of 5 questions for Component Area IV and 85% oat least 6 correct answers out of the 10 questions for Component Area V. For Component Area IV: At least 85% of participating students should have at least 2 correct answers out of the 3 questions for Concept 1, and at least 1 correct answer out of the 2 questions for Concept 2. For Component Area V: Social and Behavioral Sciences, at least 85% of participating students should have at least 1 correct answer out of the 2 questions for each of the five concepts.

Findings Description:

For Component Area IV (SOCI 2319), 159 students participated in the assessment. Overall, 94% of students had at least three out of five correct answers. For concept 1, 96% of students had at least two out of three correct answers. For concept 2, 91% of the students had at least one out of two answers.

For Component Area V (SOCI 1301), 120 students participated in the assessment. Overall, 84% of the students had at least six out of ten correct answers. For the five concepts, the percent of participating students who got 1 out of 2 correct answers are as follows:

- Concept 1: 97%
- Concept 2: 80%
- Concept 3: 83%
- Concept 4: 95%
- Concept 5: 86%

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Comprehension Of Basic Core Concepts: Entry Level

Action Description:

For Component Area IV, the department exceeded its goal.

For Component Area V, student performance improved slightly over the previous year. The department just missed its goal of 85% of students answering six or more of the assessment questions correctly. While student performance improved in concepts 2 and 3 from the previous year, the department is still below its benchmark. The department will continue to work with SOCI 1301 instructors to strengthen these dimensions of the curriculum.

In Spring 2025, SOCI 1301 instructors will be given access to interactive learning exercises targeting the application of theoretical perspectives, and encouraged to use them, for each topical, substantive textbook chapter (i.e., all content after Ch. 5).

2. Sociological Competency: Mid-level

Goal Description:

Students who complete the mid-level assessment course, SOCI2399: Writing in Sociology, will gain knowledge and skills in thinking and writing sociologically.

Providing Department: Sociology BA/BS

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS -----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Demonstrate Sociological Competency: Mid-level

Learning Objective Description:

Sociology majors will be able to demonstrate the ability to think and write sociologically.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Sociological Mid-level Papers

Indicator Description: