



1. General Course Information

1.1 Course Details

Course Code:	1014HSV
Course Name:	Introduction to Social Theory
Trimester:	Trimester 3, 2019
Program:	Diploma of Social and Psychological Science
Credit Points:	10
Course Coordinator:	David Fannon
Document modified:	09/09/2019

Course Description

This course provides an introduction to contemporary debates in the social sciences and their relevance to social interventions in the health and human services arena. The social sciences provide health and human services practitioners with theoretical and methodological frameworks for professional practice. Frameworks, informed by the discipline of sociology, connect important concepts such as class, race, sex and age to social inequalities.

Assumed Knowledge

Nil.

1.2 Teaching Team

Your lecturer/tutor can be contacted via the email system on the portal.

Name	Email
David Fannon	david.fannon@staff.griffithcollege.edu.au

1.3 Staff Consultation

Your lecturer/tutor is available each week for consultation outside of normal class times. Times that your lecturer/tutor will be available for consultation will be given in the first week of lectures. A list of times and rooms will be published on the Griffith College Portal under the "Support and Services/Teacher Consultation Times" link.

1.4 Timetable

Your timetable is available on the Griffith College Portal at Class Timetable in Student and Services.

1.5 Technical Specifications

All students must have access to a computer or suitable mobile device.

2. Aims, Outcomes & Generic Skills

2.1 Course Aims

This course aims to expose students to the wider social and cultural context in which health and human services operate, including an understanding of culture, globalisation, environmental sustainability and issues surrounding disadvantage.

2.2 Learning Outcomes

After successfully completing this course you should be able to:

1. Compare the approaches of three theoretical paradigms to a variety of social issues.
2. Identify a range of sociological factors that influence the wellbeing of individual service users.
3. Apply social theories in relation to social issues relevant to future practice/individual wellbeing.
4. Critically evaluate one's own perspective of individual and societal issues, using research skills and academic literature.

2.3 Generic skills

For further details on the Generic Skills please refer to the Graduate Generic Skills and Capabilities policy.

Griffith College aims to develop graduates who have an open and critical approach to learning and a capacity for lifelong learning. Through engagement in their studies, students are provided with opportunities to begin the development of these and other generic skills.

Studies in this course will give you opportunities to begin to develop the following skills:

Generic Skills	Taught	Practised	Assessed
Written Communication	Yes	Yes	Yes
Oral Communication		Yes	Yes
Information Literacy	Yes	Yes	Yes

Secondary Research	Yes	Yes	Yes
Critical and Innovative Thinking	Yes	Yes	Yes
Academic Integrity	Yes	Yes	Yes
Self Directed Learning		Yes	Yes
Team Work		Yes	Yes
Cultural Intelligence	Yes	Yes	Yes
English Language Proficiency		Yes	Yes

3. Learning Resources

3.1 Required Resources

Textbook:

Carl, J. D., Baker, S., Robards, B., Scott, J., Hillman, W. & Lawrence, G. (2012). Think Sociology (1st Australian ed.). Sydney, Australia: Pearson.

3.2 Recommended Resources

A list of recommended readings will be available on the 1014HSV MyStudy course site on the Griffith College student portal.

3.3 College Support Services and Learning Resources

The College provides many facilities and support services to assist students in their studies. Links to information about College support resources that are available to students are included below for easy reference.

[Digital Library](#) – Databases to which Griffith College students have access to through the Griffith Library Databases.

MyStudy – there is a dedicated website for this course via MyStudy on the Griffith College Portal.

[Academic Integrity Tutorial](#) - this tutorial helps students to understand what academic integrity is and why it matters. You will be able to identify types of breaches of academic integrity, understand what skills you will need in order to maintain academic integrity, and learn about the processes of referencing styles.

Services and Support provides a range of services to support students throughout their studies including personal support such as Counselling; Academic support; and Welfare support.

Jobs and Employment in the [Student Hub](#) can assist students with career direction, resume and interview preparation, job search tips, and more.

[IT Support](#) provides details of accessing support, information on s numbers and internet access and computer lab rules.

3.4 Other Learning Information

Attendance

You are expected to attend all lectures and tutorials and to actively engage in learning during these sessions. You are expected to bring all necessary learning resources to class such as the required textbook and /or Workbook. In addition, you may BYOD (bring your own device) to class such as a laptop or tablet. This is not a requirement as computer lab facilities are available on campus, however, the use of such devices in the classroom is encouraged with appropriate and considerate use principles being a priority.

Preparation and Participation in Class

In order to enhance learning, prepare before lectures and tutorials. Read the relevant section of your text book before a lecture, and for a tutorial read both the textbook and the relevant lecture notes. If you have been given tutorial exercises, make sure you complete them. Active participation in lectures and tutorials will improve your learning. Ask questions when something is unclear or when you want to bring some issue to your lecturer or tutor's attention; respond to questions to test your knowledge and engage in discussion to help yourself and others learn.

Consultation Sessions

Teachers offer extra time each week to assist students outside the classroom. This is known as 'consultation time.' You may seek assistance from your teacher on email or in person according to how the teacher has explained this to the class. Attendance during consultation time is optional but you are encouraged to use this extra help to improve your learning outcomes.

Course Materials

Lecture notes will be made available to you in MyStudy on the Griffith College Portal and you are advised to either print these out and bring them to each class so that extra notes can be added or BYOD (bring your own device) and add extra notes digitally.

Self-Directed Learning

You will be expected to learn independently. This means you must organise and learn the course content even when you are not specifically asked to do so by your lecturer or tutor. This involves revising the weekly course material. It also means you will need to find additional information for some assessment items beyond that given to you in textbooks and lecture notes, and to construct your own response to a question or topic. All of this requires careful planning of your time. Expect to spend, on average, at least 10 hours per week including class time for each of your courses.

Program Progression

You are reminded that satisfactory Program Progression requires that attendance in classes is maintained at equal to or greater than 80%, and that GPA is maintained at equal to or greater than 3.5 [please see Griffith College Policy Library - Program Progression Policy - for more information].

Teacher and course Evaluation

Your feedback is respected and valued by your lecturers and tutors. You are encouraged to provide your thoughts on the course and teaching, both positive and critical, directly to your lecturer and tutor or by completing course and lecturer evaluations via Griffith College's evaluation tool whenever these are available.

4. Learning and Teaching Activities

Classes for Introduction to Social Theory include the following:

- * **Lectures:** 2 hours per week
- * **Tutorials:** 1 hour per week
- * **Workshops:** 1 hour per week

4.1 Weekly Learning Activities

Week	Topic	Activity	Readings	Learning Outcomes
1	Introduction to Social Theory and Developing a Sociological Imagination	Understanding paradigms	Think Sociology	1, 2, 3, 4

			Chapters 1 & 2	
2	Classism and Social Stratification	Nolan Chart and Assessment 1 preparation	Think Sociology Chapter 3	1, 2, 3, 4
3	Racism and Ethnicity	Discussion: Race and racism, and expanding our sociological imagination	Think Sociology Chapter 4	1, 2, 3, 4
4	Sexism and Gender	Discussion: the social construction of gender	Think Sociology Chapter 5	1, 2, 3, 4
5	Ageism and Aging	Deconstructing media images of age, gender, and race	Think Sociology Chapter 6	1, 2, 3, 4
6	Crime and Deviance	Discussion and debate	Think Sociology Chapter 7	1, 2, 3, 4
7	Education and employment	Applying paradigms to education and discussion	Think Sociology Chapter 8	1, 2, 3, 4
8	Marriage, Family, and Religion	Assessment 3 preparation and discussion	Think Sociology Chapters 9 & 13	1, 2, 3, 4
9	Social Production of Health and Illness	Written activity and discussion on mental health	Think Sociology Chapter 10	1, 2, 3, 4
10	Globalisation, Capitalism, and the McDonaldisaton of Society	Exploring the Globalisation Debate	Think Sociology Chapter 11	1, 2, 3, 4
11	Culture and Subcultures	Applying theory: Culture and Subcultures	Think Sociology Chapter 12	1, 2, 3, 4
12	Social Justice, Environment, and Activism	Exam Practice	Think Sociology Chapter 14	1, 2, 3, 4

5. Assessment Plan

5.1 Assessment Summary

Item	Assessment Task	Weighting	Learning Outcomes	Due Date
1	Nolan chart and documentary review	10%	1, 3, 4	Week 3
2	Written Debate	20%	2, 4	Week 7
3	Sociological Imagination	30%	1, 2, 3, 4	Week 10

4	Final examination: selected response	40%	1, 2, 3	Final examination weeks
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5.2 Assessment Detail

1. Nolan Chart and Documentary Review

Rationale: This task is designed to assist the student in developing their own perspective of individual and societal issues through critical evaluation. You will apply your theoretical understanding of sociological theories to current social issues affecting the wellbeing of individual members of society.

Assessment details: Students will select a documentary relating to current political and economic structures from a list provided. Using the assessment template provided, students will demonstrate understanding of the social issues provided within the documentary, as well as their own critical response to the film.

Students will complete a series of online quizzes and illustrate an understanding of their results based on content taught in classes. Students will discuss the content in relation to their chosen film.

Marking criteria: Students will be awarded marks based on criteria published on the 1014HSV MyStudy course site on the Griffith College portal. The task is weighted at 10% of the final grade.

Submission: Online submission to Turnitin via link provided on the course site. Students must use the template 'form for submission' provided.

2. Written Debate

Rationale: The purpose of this assessment is to assist students in developing a critical approach to societal issues through the application of research methods and relevant literature. Students will use theoretical paradigms to further illustrate multiple approaches to a given social issue.

Assessment details: Students will select a debate topic relevant to current social issues from the list provided. Students will provide a range of objective literature-supported arguments both for and against the topic statement, and answer a range of subjective personal reflection questions in relation to the topic statement.

Marking criteria: Students will be awarded marks based on criteria published on the 1014HSV MyStudy course site on the Griffith College portal. The task is weighted at 20% of the final grade.

Submission: Online submission to Turnitin via link provided on the course site. Students must use the template 'form for submission' provided.

3. Sociological Imagination

Rationale: This task allows students to develop and illustrate their understanding of the relationship between individual and societal factors in determining human wellbeing and behaviour. Students will use research skills and creativity to identify a range of sociological factors that contribute to individual wellbeing and social change.

Assessment details: Students will demonstrate their understanding of structure and agency in the form of a mind-map (or similar approved structure). Students will select an everyday activity (for example: listening to your favourite music on a smartphone, doing weights at the gym, driving to university) and describe the ways in which sociological structures contribute to the activity, as well as the ways in which the activity influences sociological structures. The paradigms should also be incorporated into the mind-map to demonstrate an understanding of different theoretical approaches to social structures.

Marking criteria: Students will be awarded marks based on criteria published on the 1014HSV MyStudy course site on the Griffith College portal. The task is weighted at 20% of the final grade.

Submission: Online submission to Turnitin via link provided on the course site and/or hardcopy submission in class. Students electing to use computer programs to complete their assessment (example Draw or Prezi) should submit a link as well as a PDF version online. Students electing to submit a cardboard presentation should submit a legible photograph online by the due date, as well as a hardcopy in the class directly preceding or following the due date. The hardcopy must be identical to the photograph.

4. End-of trimester (Final) examination

Rationale: The final examination is intended to test the student's knowledge and understanding of sociological, theoretical and methodological frameworks taught in the course.

Assessment details: The final examination will be held during the end-of-trimester exam period and will comprise series of multiple-choice questions based around key themes in the course.

Marking criteria: Marks will be awarded for evidence that the student has understood, and can apply and evaluate, the content presented in lectures, tutorials, and the required readings. The end-of- trimester examination will be marked against established model answers and undergo a full moderation process.

Further details of assessment item expectations will be provided during class and in each assessment descriptor available on the 1014HSV MyStudy course site on the Griffith College portal.

Requirement to pass this course

In order to pass this course, students must:

- 1. Submit a genuine attempt for ALL assessment items, AND**
- 2. Achieve a minimum cumulative total of 50% from all graded assessments.**

5.3 Late Submission

An assessment item submitted after the due date, without an approved extension from the Course Coordinator, will be penalised. The standard penalty is the reduction of the mark allocated to the assessment item by 5% of the maximum mark applicable for the assessment item, for each working day or part working day that the item is late. Assessment items submitted more than five working days after the due date are awarded zero marks.

Please refer to the Griffith College website - Policy Library > Assessment Policy for guidelines and penalties for late submission.

5.4 Other Assessment Information

Retention of Originals

You must be able to produce a copy of all work submitted if so requested. Copies should be retained until after the release of final results for the course.

Requests for extension

To apply for an extension of time for an assignment, you must submit an [Application for Extension of Assignment](#) form to your teacher at least 24 hours before the date the assignment is due. Grounds for extensions are usually: serious illness, accident, disability, bereavement or other compassionate circumstances and must be able to be

substantiated with relevant documentation [e.g. [Griffith College Student Medical Certificate](#)]. Please refer to the Griffith College website - Policy Library - for guidelines regarding extensions and deferred assessment.

Return of Assessment Items

1. Marks awarded for in-trimester assessment items, except those being moderated externally with Griffith University, will be available on the Student Portal within fourteen [14] days of the due date. This does not apply to the final assessment item in this course (marks for this item will be provided with the final course result).
2. Students will be advised of their final grade through the Student Portal. Students can review their exam papers after student grades have been published (see relevant Griffith College Fact Sheet for allocated times at Support> Factsheets). Review of exam papers will not be permitted after the final date to enrol.
3. Marks for **all** assessment items including the final exam (if applicable) will be recorded in the Moodle Course Site and made available to students through the Moodle Course Site.

The sum of your marks overall assessment items in this course does not necessarily imply your final grade for the course. Standard grade cut off scores can be varied for particular courses, so you need to wait for the official release of grades to be sure of your grade for this course.

6. Policies & Guidelines

Griffith College assessment-related policies can be found in the [Griffith College Policy Library](#) which include the following policies:

Assessment Policy, Special Consideration, Deferred Assessment, Alternate Exam Sitting, Medical Certificates, Academic Integrity, Finalisation of Results, Review of Marks, Moderation of Assessment, Turn-it-in Software Use. These policies can be accessed using the 'Document Search' feature within the [Policy Library](#)

Academic Integrity Griffith College is committed to maintaining high academic standards to protect the value of its qualifications. Academic integrity means acting with the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility in learning, teaching and research. It is important for students, teachers, researchers and all staff to act in an honest way, be responsible for their actions, and show fairness in every part of their work. Academic integrity is important for an individual's and the College's reputation.

All staff and students of the College are responsible for academic integrity. As a student, you are expected to conduct your studies honestly, ethically and in accordance with accepted standards of academic conduct. Any form of academic conduct that is contrary to these standards is considered a breach of academic integrity and is unacceptable.

Some students deliberately breach academic integrity standards with intent to deceive. This conscious, pre-meditated form of cheating is considered to be one of the most serious forms of fraudulent academic behaviour, for which the College has zero tolerance and for which penalties, including exclusion from the College, will be applied.

However, Griffith College also recognises many students breach academic integrity standards without intent to deceive. In these cases, students may be required to undertake additional educational activities to remediate their behaviour and may also be provided appropriate advice by academic staff.

As you undertake your studies at Griffith College, your lecturers, tutors and academic advisors will provide you with guidance to understand and maintain academic integrity; however, it is also your responsibility to seek out guidance if and when you are unsure about appropriate academic conduct.

In the case of an allegation of a breach of academic integrity being made against a student he or she may request the guidance and support of a Griffith College Student Learning Advisor or Student Counsellor.

Please ensure that you are familiar with the Griffith College Academic Integrity Policy; this policy provides an overview of some of the behaviours that are considered breaches of academic integrity, as well as the penalties and processes involved when a breach is identified.

For further information please refer to the Griffith College website - Policy Library > Academic Integrity Policy

Reasonable Adjustments for Assessment – The Disability Services policy

The Disability Services policy (accessed using the Document Search' feature with the [Policy Library](#)) outlines the principles and processes that guide the College in making reasonable adjustments to assessment for students with disabilities while maintaining academic robustness of its programs.

Risk Assessment Statement

There are no out of the ordinary risks associated with this course.

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