



SOC 175

Australian Society

S3 External 2018

Dept of Sociology

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

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Amanda Wise

Credit points

3

Prerequisites

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This is an exciting and innovative unit about Australian life and global societies. It also provides new and engaging ways to develop your understanding of the deep social relationships that bind us together and which, at the same time, underlie the expression of conflict and inequality. We focus in the unit on key areas of social life such as family, gender and sexuality, religion, age, crime, media, work, globalisation and social policy. We also introduce you to sociology and the sociological research process and hope to raise your interest in the social problems and questions confronting Australian society. The unit gives you valuable vocational skills that enable you to enjoy interesting and varied employment in a variety of different commercial, government and non-government positions.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Be familiar with key sociological concepts

Have developed an understanding of theoretical perspectives on social life

Develop an understanding of how the sociological imagination can be used in thinking about social issues and trends

Develop a basic understanding of social research techniques, especially qualitative methods

Be able to read, summarise and apply basic works of sociology to the study of contemporary life

Have developed a rich understanding of social life

Have developed a range of generic skills useful in tertiary education and vocational settings (reading and listening; critique; relational thinking; data collection and analysis; sociological observation; theoretical awareness; written and verbal expression)

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Weekly Quiz	30%	No	Weekly
Weekly summaries	30%	Yes	Weekly
Final Essay	40%	No	Week 6

Weekly Quiz

Due: **Weekly**

Weighting: **30%**

Weekly quiz covering the readings and lecture content for that week (two topics per week)

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Be familiar with key sociological concepts
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- Develop a basic understanding of social research techniques, especially qualitative methods
- Be able to read, summarise and apply basic works of sociology to the study of contemporary life
- Have developed a rich understanding of social life
- Have developed a range of generic skills useful in tertiary education and vocational settings (reading and listening; critique; relational thinking; data collection and analysis; sociological observation; theoretical awareness; written and verbal expression)

Weekly summaries

Due: **Weekly**

Weighting: **30%**

This is a hurdle assessment task (see [assessment policy](#) for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)

Submission of a weekly summary of the reading and lecture content and online interaction

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Be familiar with key sociological concepts
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- Develop an understanding fo how the sociological imagination can be used in thinking about social issues and trends
- Develop a basic understanding of social research techniques, especially qualitative methods
- Be able to read, summarise and apply basic works of sociology to the study of contemporary life
- Have developed a rich understanding of social life
- Have developed a range of generic skills useful in tertiary education and vocational settings (reading and listening; critique; relational thinking; data collection and analysis; sociological observation; theoretical awareness; written and verbal expression)

Final Essay

Due: **Week 6**

Weighting: **40%**

2000 Word Essay on a set question

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Be familiar with key sociological concepts
- Have developed an understanding of theoretical perspectives on social life
- Develop an understanding fo how the sociological imagination can be used in thinking about social issues and trends
- Develop a basic understanding of social research techniques, especially qualitative methods
- Be able to read, summarise and apply basic works of sociology to the study of contemporary life
- Have developed a rich understanding of social life
- Have developed a range of generic skills useful in tertiary education and vocational settings (reading and listening; critique; relational thinking; data collection and analysis; sociological observation; theoretical awareness; written and verbal expression)

Delivery and Resources

This summer session unit is taught entirely online

Unit Schedule

- Week 1A - Introduction and Welcome
- Week 1B What is Sociology ? History/Durkheim on Suicide
- Week 2A Sociology of the Life Course & Biography
- Week 2B Sexuality and Gender
- Week 3A Work, Employment & Society
- Week 3B Social Inequality
- Week 4A Migration, Multiculturalism & Race
- Week 4B - Religion & Society
- Week 5A Globalisation
- Week 5B What do Sociologists do?

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central\)](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#) (**Note:** *The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.*)

Undergraduate students seeking more policy resources can visit the [Student Policy Gateway \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway\)](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway). It is your one-stop-shop for the

key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit [Policy Central \(http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central\)](http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/getting-started/student-conduct>

Results

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au.

WORD LIMITS

Word limits DO NOT include the bibliography. You may be +/- 10% word limit.

LATE PENALTY

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests.

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Develop a basic understanding of social research techniques, especially qualitative methods
- Have developed a rich understanding of social life
- Have developed a range of generic skills useful in tertiary education and vocational settings (reading and listening; critique; relational thinking; data collection and analysis; sociological observation; theoretical awareness; written and verbal expression)

Assessment task

- Final Essay

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Have developed an understanding of theoretical perspectives on social life
- Develop an understanding of how the sociological imagination can be used in thinking about social issues and trends
- Develop a basic understanding of social research techniques, especially qualitative methods

- Have developed a rich understanding of social life
- Have developed a range of generic skills useful in tertiary education and vocational settings (reading and listening; critique; relational thinking; data collection and analysis; sociological observation; theoretical awareness; written and verbal expression)

Assessment task

- Final Essay

Commitment to Continuous Learning

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Be familiar with key sociological concepts
- Have developed an understanding of theoretical perspectives on social life
- Have developed a rich understanding of social life
- Have developed a range of generic skills useful in tertiary education and vocational settings (reading and listening; critique; relational thinking; data collection and analysis; sociological observation; theoretical awareness; written and verbal expression)

Assessment tasks

- Weekly summaries
- Final Essay

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Be familiar with key sociological concepts

- Have developed an understanding of theoretical perspectives on social life
- Develop an understanding fo how the sociological imagination can be used in thinking about social issues and trends
- Develop a basic understanding of social research techniques, especially qualitative methods
- Be able to read, summarise and apply basic works of sociology to the study of contemporary life
- Have developed a rich understanding of social life

Assessment tasks

- Weekly Quiz
- Weekly summaries
- Final Essay

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Be familiar with key sociological concepts
- Have developed an understanding of theoretical perspectives on social life
- Develop an understanding fo how the sociological imagination can be used in thinking about social issues and trends
- Develop a basic understanding of social research techniques, especially qualitative methods
- Be able to read, summarise and apply basic works of sociology to the study of contemporary life
- Have developed a rich understanding of social life
- Have developed a range of generic skills useful in tertiary education and vocational settings (reading and listening; critique; relational thinking; data collection and analysis; sociological observation; theoretical awareness; written and verbal expression)

Assessment tasks

- Weekly Quiz

- Weekly summaries
- Final Essay

Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Have developed an understanding of theoretical perspectives on social life
- Develop an understanding fo how the sociological imagination can be used in thinking about social issues and trends
- Develop a basic understanding of social research techniques, especially qualitative methods
- Be able to read, summarise and apply basic works of sociology to the study of contemporary life
- Have developed a rich understanding of social life
- Have developed a range of generic skills useful in tertiary education and vocational settings (reading and listening; critique; relational thinking; data collection and analysis; sociological observation; theoretical awareness; written and verbal expression)

Assessment tasks

- Weekly Quiz
- Weekly summaries
- Final Essay

Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Develop a basic understanding of social research techniques, especially qualitative

methods

- Have developed a rich understanding of social life
- Have developed a range of generic skills useful in tertiary education and vocational settings (reading and listening; critique; relational thinking; data collection and analysis; sociological observation; theoretical awareness; written and verbal expression)

Assessment task

- Final Essay

Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Be familiar with key sociological concepts
- Develop an understanding fo how the sociological imagination can be used in thinking about social issues and trends
- Be able to read, summarise and apply basic works of sociology to the study of contemporary life
- Have developed a rich understanding of social life
- Have developed a range of generic skills useful in tertiary education and vocational settings (reading and listening; critique; relational thinking; data collection and analysis; sociological observation; theoretical awareness; written and verbal expression)

Assessment tasks

- Weekly Quiz
- Weekly summaries
- Final Essay

Socially and Environmentally Active and Responsible

We want our graduates to be aware of and have respect for self and others; to be able to work with others as a leader and a team player; to have a sense of connectedness with others and country; and to have a sense of mutual obligation. Our graduates should be informed and active participants in moving society towards sustainability.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Be familiar with key sociological concepts
- Have developed an understanding of theoretical perspectives on social life
- Develop an understanding fo how the sociological imagination can be used in thinking about social issues and trends
- Be able to read, summarise and apply basic works of sociology to the study of contemporary life
- Have developed a rich understanding of social life
- Have developed a range of generic skills useful in tertiary education and vocational settings (reading and listening; critique; relational thinking; data collection and analysis; sociological observation; theoretical awareness; written and verbal expression)

Assessment tasks

- Weekly Quiz
- Weekly summaries
- Final Essay

Changes from Previous Offering

The unit has been updated since the last S3 offering in 2017/18. Topics and lecture content updated, and revised assessments.

The unit is also much modified from the S1 offering to compress it into the 5 week summer intensive format.