

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) Report for Non-Accredited Programs

(updated 9/19/23)

Program Type: Non-Accredited Program

Program Name: Sociology

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Submission Date:

Review Cycle:

Even Year

o Odd Year

Review Round:

Round A (Associate Dean review)

Round B (Associate Dean + VPAA review)

All SLO reports are archived here: https://www.eiu.edu/assess/majorassessment.php

DUE: October 15th to your Associate Dean or designee

Each academic program is expected to prepare a Summary of the Assessment Data by Student Learning Outcome. This summary may take the form of a chart or other means of presentation that describes the annual data collected, when it is collected, in which course(s), through which assignment or activity, and by whom. This summary should clearly indicate what the program seeks to discover in its students' learning. The summary should correspond to the record-keeping documents maintained by the academic program.

Program Name: Sociology

The Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology has created an assessment instrument for the Sociology Program. This instrument includes thirty-six items covering a range of key ideas, concepts, and topics in the discipline plus nine demographic questions. Each section of the assessment instrument addresses a student learning outcome as listed below.

The assessment is given in Students will be assessed in SOC 2721: Social Stratification (the first non-Gen Ed core requirement) during the spring semesters, and SOC 4700: Current Issues in Sociology (the major's capstone) in the last week of the fall and spring semesters.

A copy of the full assessment inventory is attached to this report, along with the item-by-item response for both SOC 2720 and SOC 4700 learners.

PART 1. OVERVIEW OF STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND MEASURES

Student Learning Outcome (SLO)	What measures and instruments are you using? This could be an oral or written exam, a regularly assigned paper, a portfolio—administered early and later in coursework.	How are you using this info to improve student learning? What are you hoping to learn from your data? Include target score(s) and results , and specify whether these were met, not met, or partially met for each instrument.	Does your SLO correspond to an undergraduate learning goal (ULG): writing, speaking, quantitative reasoning, critical thinking, responsible citizenship?
SLO 1 Students will recognize key sociological concepts and definitions	SLO 1 will be assessed using Questions 1 -10 (key concepts & definitions) of the assessment instrument. These questions assess content covered in the required introductory core classes: SOC 1838G & ANT 2200G.	We expect students in SOC 4700 to score 70% or higher in this category since they would have taken all other required courses prior to taking SOC 4700. We have no specific score expectation for SOC 2721 since students may not have taken the required introductory classes in our department.	Critical Thinking and Responsible Citizenship
	Students will be assessed in SOC 2721 (the first non-Gen Ed core requirement) at the beginning of the spring semester, and SOC 4700 (the capstone) in the last week of the fall and spring semesters.	Results: MET: Based on an average percent of correct responses from 40 total respondents from SOC 4700 over the Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, and Spring 2024 semesters, 82.00% of key concepts and definitions can be recognized.	

Student Learning Outcome (SLO)	What measures and instruments are you using?	Target score and results	Does your SLO correspond to an undergraduate learning goal (ULG)?
SLO 2 Students will identify characteristics of the "sociological imagination"	SLO 2 will be assessed using Questions 11 -15 (sociological imagination) of the assessment instrument. These questions assess content covered in the required introductory core classes: SOC 1838G & ANT 2200G.	We expect students in SOC 4700 to score 70% or higher in this category since they would have taken all other required courses prior to taking SOC 4700. We have no specific score expectation for SOC 2721 since students may not have taken the required introductory classes in our department.	Critical Thinking and Responsible Citizenship
	Students will be assessed in SOC 2721 (the first non-Gen Ed core requirement) at the beginning of the spring semester, and SOC 4700 (the capstone) in the last week of the fall and spring semesters.	Results: MET: Based on an average percent of correct responses from 40 total respondents from SOC 4700 over the Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, and Spring 2024 semesters, 75.64% of key concepts and definitions can be recognized.	

Student Learning Outcome (SLO)	What measures and instruments are you using?	Target score and results	Does your SLO correspond to an undergraduate learning goal (ULG)?
SLO 3 Students will discern theoretical concepts and perspectives	SLO 3 will be assessed using Questions 16 -21 (sociological theory) of the assessment instrument. These questions assess content covered in the required introductory core classes: SOC 1838G & ANT 2200G.	We expect students in SOC 4700 to score 70% or higher in this category since they would have taken all other required courses prior to taking SOC 4700. We have no specific score expectation for SOC 2721 since students may not have taken the required introductory classes in our department.	Critical Thinking and Writing
	Students will be assessed in SOC 2721 (the first non-Gen Ed core requirement) at the beginning of the spring semester, and SOC 4700 (the capstone) in the last week of the fall and spring semesters.	Results: MET: Based on an average percent of correct responses from 40 total respondents from SOC 4700 over the Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, and Spring 2024 semesters, 71.79% of key concepts and definitions can be recognized.	

Student Learning Outcome (SLO)	What measures and instruments are you using?	Target score and results	Does your SLO correspond to an undergraduate learning goal (ULG)?
SLO 4 Students will indicate key concepts of social stratification	SLO 4 will be assessed using Questions 22 -26 (social stratification) of the assessment instrument. These questions assess content covered in the required introductory core classes: SOC 1838G & ANT 2200G.	We expect students in SOC 4700 to score 70% or higher in this category since they would have taken all other required courses prior to taking SOC 4700. We have no specific score expectation for SOC 2721 since students may not have taken the required introductory classes in our department.	Critical Thinking and Responsible Citizenship
	Students will be assessed in SOC 2721 (the first non-Gen Ed core requirement) at the beginning of the spring semester, and SOC 4700 (the capstone) in the last week of the fall and spring semesters.	Results: MET: Based on an average percent of correct responses from 39 total respondents from SOC 4700 over the Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, and Spring 2024 semesters, 78.46% of key concepts and definitions can be recognized.	

Student Learning Outcome (SLO)	What measures and instruments are you using?	Target score and results	Does your SLO correspond to an undergraduate learning goal (ULG)?
SLO 5 Students will distinguish methods of social inquiry	SLO 5 will be assessed using Questions 27 - 31 (Understanding Sociological Inquiry) of the assessment instrument. These questions assess content covered in the required introductory core classes: SOC 1838G & ANT 2200G.	We expect students in SOC 4700 to score 70% or higher in this category since they would have taken all other required courses prior to taking SOC 4700. We have no specific score expectation for SOC 2721 since students may not have taken the required introductory classes in our department.	Writing, Critical Thinking, and Responsible Citizenship
	Students will be assessed in SOC 2721 (the first non-Gen Ed core requirement) at the beginning of the spring semester, and SOC 4700 (the capstone) in the last week of the fall and spring semesters.	Results: MET: Based on an average percent of correct responses from 39 total respondents from SOC 4700 over the Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, and Spring 2024 semesters, 75.90% of key concepts and definitions can be recognized.	

Student Learning Outcome (SLO)	What measures and instruments are you using?	Target score and results	Does your SLO correspond to an undergraduate learning goal (ULG)?
SLO 6 Students will recall foundations of quantitative methods and statistical literacy	SLO 6 will be assessed using Questions 32 - 36 (Understanding Sociological Inquiry) of the assessment instrument. These questions assess content covered in the required introductory core classes: SOC 1838G & ANT 2200G.	We expect students in SOC 4700 to score 70% or higher in this category since they would have taken all other required courses prior to taking SOC 4700. We have no specific score expectation for SOC 2721 since students may not have taken the required introductory classes in our department.	Writing, Critical Thinking, Quantitative Reasoning, and Responsible Citizenship
	Students will be assessed in SOC 2721 (the first non-Gen Ed core requirement) at the beginning of the spring semester, and SOC 4700 (the capstone) in the last week of the fall and spring semesters.	Results: MET: Based on an average percent of correct responses from 39 total respondents from SOC 4700 over the Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, and Spring 2024 semesters, 70.77% of key concepts and definitions can be recognized.	

PART 2. IMPROVEMENTS AND CHANGES BASED ON ASSESSMENT

A. Provide a short summary (1-2 paragraphs) or bulleted list of any **curricular actions** (revisions or additions) that were approved over the past two years as a result of reflecting on the student learning outcomes data. Are there any additional future changes, revisions, or interventions proposed or still pending?

There have not been any major changes to the Sociology core curriculum in the last two years. In 2021, however, we began to offer Social Stratification (SOC 2721) only once a year. This is the course in which our first assessment is conducted. We selected this course because it is the first core-course in the curriculum that our transfer students are unlikely to have taken elsewhere (*cf.* Introductory to Sociology). That we are now offering the course only once a year, however, may mean that some our students end up with a semester or more of coursework under their belt before they take their initial assessment. This may inflate our initial assessment scores and narrow the achievement gap between the first and last assessment, although there was nothing previously that required students to take Social Stratification immediately on arrival at EIU.

Last year we began a collaborative partnership with the Department of Human Services to design a Bachelor of Social Work program (BSW). The program has since been approved by the University's Curriculum Committee, and now awaits approval by the Board of Trustees. The Bachelor of Social Work program will include core courses from the sociology curriculum (Introductory Sociology, Introduction to Social Work, Social Research Methods, and Social Statistics) and numerous elective options. The Sociology program also continues to provide curriculum support to the Criminology/Criminal Justice program, and many of our students double major in both Sociology and Criminology. It is not clear how the new Social Work Program will affect future assessment. If we end up with more double majors (Social Work and Sociology), it is possible that additional reinforcement of concepts in both programs will work to raise assessment scores in the second assessment. We suspect this may be happening now for those students now double-majoring in Criminology and Sociology.

B. Provide a brief description or bulleted list of **any improvements (or declines)** observed/measured in student learning. Be sure to mention any intervention made that has not yet resulted in student improvement (if applicable).

We are proud that our learning outcomes for the Sociology program have all been achieved. While there are individual items in the assessment tool that show low comprehension, in the aggregate, the program maintains a quality curriculum and experience for our majors. Additionally, the faculty in the department continue to look for innovative and progressive means to engage and educate our learners. For example, there is currently a discussion in the department to redesign the capstone experience in Sociology and Criminology in order to provide a more efficient and holistic departmental experience. The current capstone for the sociology program has also begun to use a multimodal approach to student research and creative activities, including student podcasting, video, and graphic design projects.

In AY 2023-2024, we hired a new Unit A faculty member, Dr. Wade Smith, to continue to enhance our program's offerings around critical courses in race and ethnicity, including antiracism, organizational theory, and continued development in other key areas. In addition, for AY 2024-2025, we hired a new Unit B faculty member, Dr. Robert Duffy who will also help transform the department, including the introductory sociology course and other key courses in the sociology curriculum. We look forward to reporting on these and other improvements in our 4-year report.

C. HISTORY OF DATA REVIEW OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS

Please document annual faculty and committee engagement with the assessment process (such as the review of outcomes data, revisions/updates to assessment plan, and reaffirmation of SLOs).

Individuals or groups who reviewed the assessment plan	Results of the review (i.e., reference proposed changes from any revised SLOs or from point 2.A. curricular actions)
Department Assessment Committee; Department Chair	N/A
Department Assessment Committee; Department Chair	Work on new BSW program
Department Assessment Committee; Department Chair	Ad hoc capstone experience committee
	Department Assessment Committee; Department Chair Department Assessment Committee; Department Chair Department Chair Department Assessment Committee;

Dean Review and Feedback

The BA in Sociology 2-year assessment report is based on data that are drawn from a 36-item assessment instrument that measures six student learning objectives that are tied to the EIU undergraduate learning goals. The department also collects and tracks student demographic data. The 2024 report indicates that assessment targets were met for each of the departmental SLOs. Assessment data were shared with the faculty in fall 2023 & 2024 and helped inform the decision to develop the collaborative Bachelor of Social Work program with the Department of Human Services. Faculty also opened discussions to redesign the capstone experience and decided to change the frequency that core courses, such as SOC 2721, are offered. Overall, the BA in Sociology assessment program is well developed and provides a solid feedback loop for departmental decision making. It also appears to have solid faculty buy-in.

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11/26/24

Dean or Designee

Date

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The recognized violation of social and cultural norms is referred to as	3	is the study of humankind.	74	38	93.67%	95.00%
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6 Relatively stable patterns of social behavior are known as	5	The lifelong social experience by which people develop their human potential and learn culture is .	61	30	77.22%	75.00%
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Today, anthropologists and sociologists adopt this perspective when trying to 1	7	· · · ·	56	34	70.89%	85.00%
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Which of the following studies would not be included within the field of anthropology?	8		61	29	77.22%	72.50%
Mono Percent 78.73% 82.000	9	Which of the following statements is not true about race and human variation?	41	21	51.90%	52.50%
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11 Which of the following statements best represents the sociological imagination? 3 3 4 48.10% 87.18%		Sociological imagination			_	N = 39
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College students who graduated during the 2008 recession and were not able to find a job, but recognized that it was not due to any fault of their own but to larger recognized that it was not due to any fault of their own but to larger 34 24 43.0% (61.54% (6						
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Ideal-types of social action, Justin's motivation to join the navy indicates	10	_	40	20	30.23/0	00.07%
African-American executives often report feeling torn between a mostly white corporate environment and their black communities. According to Du Bois, these executives are experiencing	10			22	62.200/	FC 410/
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			Mean	Percent	67.59%	70.77%

Sociology/Anthropology Assessment Inventory

Welcome to the Eastern Illinois University Department of Sociology and Anthropology Assessment Inventory! This assessment is designed to gauge the stock of knowledge of departmental majors as required by the university. This assessment is NOT a test and cannot and will not be applied or utilized in any manner as a test. Responses will remain anonymous, leaving no potential for your submission to be linked to your individual progress through the program. You may not know the answer to some items, and this is okay. Respond to each as best you can, based on your progress to this point in the program. This assessment is solely for the department to track, over time, the level of knowledge of our majors and critically evaluate and continually develop and re-evaluate a more solid curriculum. Therefore, as you progress through the core and elective curricula, your stock of knowledge should reflect this same development. Thank you for your time and energy responding to this assessment as best as you can! Once again, this assessment is not a reflection on you as a student, but rather a means for the department faculty to measure the potential and the capacity to sustain a high-quality learning experience for students.

If you have any questions or comments, contact Professor Gillespie, Department Assessment Chair: mgillespie@eiu.edu.

Basic Sociological/Anthropological Concepts

1.	is the systematic study of human society. a) Anthropology b) Sociology c) Biology
2.	are the ways of thinking, acting, and the material objects that combine to form a people's way of life. a) Culture b) Socialization c) Values
3.	is the study of humankind. a) Anthropology b) Sociology c) Psychology
4.	The recognized violation of social and cultural norms is referred to as a) Crime b) Deviance c) Law breaking
5.	The lifelong social experience by which people develop their human potential and learn culture is a) Socialization b) Social interaction c) Social construction

6.	Rel	atively stable patterns of social behavior are known as
	b)	Society Culture Social structure
	Cj	Social Structure
7.	a) b)	ich of the following is not a characteristic of culture? Culture changes over time. Culture is innate. Culture is learned through socialization.
8.	cula a) b)	lay, anthropologists and sociologists adopt this perspective when trying to understand tural differences: Cultural relativism Natural selection Ethnocentrism
9.		ich of the following statements is not true about race and human variation? There is more variation in traits such as skin color <i>within</i> a particular human population than <i>between</i> two different populations.
	_	Biological race is a correct scientific way to classify human differences. Human variation occurs in gradual shifts.
10.		ich of the following studies would not be included within the field of anthropology?
	b)	A study of the kinship system of a village in Papua New Guinea. An excavation of the skeleton of a dinosaur. Analysis of the language spoken by members of the Navajo Nation.
Soc	iolo	ogical Imagination
11.	Wh	ich of the following statements best represents the sociological imagination?
	a) b)	Recognition that larger social forces that shape individual lives Recognition that people's lives reflect only their personal choices Realization that people get out of life what they put into
12.	a)	ich of the following theorist is associated with the sociological imagination. George Herbert Mead
		Charles Wright Mills Max Weber
13.	rec	lege students who graduated during 2008 recession and were not able to find a job, but ognized that it was not due to any fault of their own but to larger structural forces were ploying
	a)	techniques of neutralization sociology
		agency theory the sociological imagination
14.	~	riologist Peter Berger described the sociological perspective as
	a) b)	seeing the general in the particular seeing personal problems as the result of poor personal choices
	c)	seeing personal troubles as the result of mental illness

15.	Which of the following is most closely associated with the concept of <i>free will?</i> a) structure b) agency c) sociological imagination
Soc	iological Theory
16.	 Which of the following is not true about sociological theories? a) They explain and predict social phenomena b) They produce falsifiable hypotheses c) They are derived from Catholic Christian ideologies
17.	According to Marx, the nature of individuals depends on a) their belief in a higher power b) the material conditions determining production c) their level of education
18.	The totality of beliefs and sentiments common to average citizens of the same society is what Durkheim called a) social solidarity b) collective conscience c) collective effervescence
19.	Justin enlisted in the US Navy after learning that military would pay for him to attend college. Based on Weber's ideal-types of social action, Justin's motivation to join the navy indicates a) instrumental-rational action b) value-rational action c) traditional action
20.	African-American executives often report feeling torn between a mostly white corporate environment and their black communities. According to Du Bois, these executives are experiencing a) double-consciousness b) cultural asymmetry c) a blasé attitude
21.	Mead departed from many scholars before him by declaring that the self a) is no different from the physiological organism b) is not initially there at birth c) in not the result of social experience

Social Stratification

- 22. Social stratification includes
 - a) the arrangement of social groups into a hierarchy
 - b) an equal distribution of power across social groups
 - c) an equal distribution of resources and opportunities across social groups
- 23. Social capital refers to capital in the form of
 - a) wealth and income
 - b) valuable social networks
 - c) cultural practices and etiquette
- 24. Karl Marx argued that revolutionary movements that disrupt and replace stratification systems are brought about by
 - a) sociologists
 - b) class consciousness
 - c) wealthy landowners
- 25. Max Weber observed that privileged social groups often seek to preserve their status by monopolizing their access to valuable opportunities and privileged positions, thus creating
 - a) social closure
 - b) social mobility
 - c) social solidarity
- 26. According to world systems theory, core countries
 - a) are characterized by poorly educated populations
 - b) do not exchange goods or services with other countries
 - c) exploit other countries and control the majority of the world's wealth

Undertaking Sociological Inquiry

- 27. What is the methodological approach used by cultural anthropologists today?
 - a) Survey questionnaires
 - b) Participant observation
 - c) Controlled laboratory experiments
- 28. Which sociological research method is best used to study what cannot be directly observed, such as attitudes and values, among large numbers of people?
 - a) An experiment
 - b) A survey
 - c) Participant observation

29.	Informed consent is absolutely essential in social research when a) Making inferences about individuals based on group data b) Research participants are exposed to substantial risks c) Conducting survey research only
30.	Methodology is defined as the science of a) Knowing b) Finding out c) Concluding
31.	Suppose that we construct the following question: "Please describe how you feel about divorce in America." This exemplifies a(n) a) Contingency question b) Open-ended question c) Closed-ended question
Qu	antitative Methods and Statistical Literacy
32.	a) average case b) exact middle of the distribution c) most frequently occurring category
33.	Probability: a) is a measure of central tendency b) is the likelihood of one event happening given all possible outcomes c) is the relative frequency of one category to another for a single variable
34.	The null hypothesis is the statement of: a) no difference between groups b) statistical significance c) equal probability of selection of a sample
35.	estimate characteristics of a population based on a sample. a) Parameters b) Statistics c) Z-scores
36.	When making an estimate of a population parameter, statistical best practice is to report the point estimate as well as the a) cumulative frequency b) null hypothesis c) 95% confidence interval

Demographic Information

37.	In what class are you currently enrolled? a) SOC 2721 Social Stratification
	b) SOC 4900 Current Issues in Sociology
38.	Fill in the circle for each course you have taken, including those in which you are currently enrolled. a) Introduction to Sociology (SOC 1838G) b) Introduction to Anthropology (ANT 2200G) c) Social Stratification (SOC 2271) d) Sociological Theory (SOC 3050) e) Research Methods for Collecting Social Data (SOC 3620)
39.	Fill in the circle for each course you have taken, including those in which you are currently enrolled. a) Statistical Analysis of Social Data (SOC 3630) b) Current Issues in Sociology (SOC 4900)
40.	What is your cumulative grade point average? a) 4.0 b) 3.0-3.99 c) 2.0-2.99 d) 1.0-1.99
41.	What is your current class standing? a) Freshman b) Sophomore c) Junior d) Senior
42.	Are you a transfer student? a) Yes b) No
43.	If you are a transfer student, from where did you transfer? (Write in the space provided)
44.	Please tell us your gender identity. (Write in the space provided)
45.	Please tell us your race/ethnicity. (Write in the space provided)