OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE INFORMATION

Students are advised to keep course outlines in personal files for future use.

Shaded headings are subject to change at the discretion of the department and the material will vary
+ see course syllabus available from instructor

FACULTY/DEPARTMENT: SCMS
SOC 205       3
COURSE NAME/NUMBER  FORMER COURSE NUMBER  UCFV CREDITS
COMPARATIVE SOCIETIES
COURSE DESCRIPTIVE TITLE

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:
This course introduces students to the application of sociology at a global level through a comparative study of two or more
societies. By holding up other societies for comparison, students will learn more about their own society and what makes it
distinct. They will also learn more about societies in general, the relationships between them, and the global forces that
shape them, often in the direction of convergence. When this course is taught in the context of a study tour, students have
the opportunity for firsthand observation and comparison of different societies.

PREREQUISITES: None. SOC 101, ANTH 102 and/or LAS 100 recommended.
COREQUISITES:

SYNONYMOUS COURSE(S)
(a) Replaces: (Course #) (Department/Program)
(b) Cannot take: (Course #) (Department/Program)

SERVICE COURSE TO:

TOTAL HOURS PER TERM: 45
TRAINING DAY-BASED INSTRUCTION
STRUCTURE OF HOURS:
Lectures: 15 Hrs
Seminar: 15 Hrs
Laboratory: Hrs
Field Experience: Hrs
Student Directed Learning: 15 Hrs
Other (Specify): Hrs

LENGTH OF COURSE: 
HOURS PER DAY: 

MAXIMUM ENROLLMENT: 36
EXPECTED FREQUENCY OF COURSE OFFERINGS: Once per year
WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (lower-level courses only) ☑ Yes ☐ No
WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (upper-level requested by department) ☑ Yes ☐ No
TRANSFER CREDIT EXISTS IN BCCAT TRANSFER GUIDE: ☑ Yes ☐ No

LEGAL AUTHORIZATION SIGNATURES:
Course Designer(s): Stephen Piper
Chairperson: Raymond Welch (Curriculum Committee)
Department Head: Elizabeth Dennis
Dean: Eric Davis
UPAC Approval in Principle Date: June 2006
UPAC Final Approval Date: March 3, 2006
LEARNING OBJECTIVES / GOALS / OUTCOMES / LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, students should:

• be more aware of the variations and similarities between their own and other societies.
• be able to describe and compare some of the central institutions (e.g. economy, polity, family, education, etc.) of different societies.
• appreciate the interrelatedness of different societies in the global system.
• understand the importance of history, geography, economy, culture and other local and global social forces in shaping societies.

METHODS:

Typically a combination of lectures, seminar discussion and student directed learning to include observational projects, either firsthand or through cultural products (literature, film, etc.)

PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT RECOGNITION (PLAR):

Credit can be awarded for this course through PLAR (Please check:)  ☒ Yes  ☐ No

METHODS OF OBTAINING PLAR:

Portfolio; other methods determined on a case-by-case basis.

TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS:

[Textbook selection varies by instructor. An example of texts for this course might be:]


Sociology 205 coursepack (focusing on current issues)

SUPPLIES / MATERIALS:

STUDENT EVALUATION:

[An example of student evaluation for this course might be:]

Quizzes 10%
Midterm Exam 25%
Final Exam 25%
2 Written Assignments 40%

COURSE CONTENT:

[Course content varies by instructor. An example of course content might be:]

• Introduction to comparative and macro analysis
• The lands and the peoples: Canada and Mexico compared
• Historical influences on modern societies: different experiences of colonialism, independence and modernization
• The Mexican and Canadian economies: metropolis or hinterland, economic integration
• Politics and political institutions: patronage and democracy
• Regionalism
• Stratification and social mobility
• Race and ethnic relations
• Gender and the family
• Religion and culture: the roots of identity?
• Education: successes and challenges
• Population: urbanization and migration
• Societies in a global system: social problems, social movements, social change