COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School/Department: Communications, Arts and Social Sciences

Programme: Combined Studies
BA Social Media and Digital Communication

FHEQ Level: 3

Course Title: Foundations of Sociology

Course Code: SCL 3100

Course Leader: Alex Seago

Student Engagement Hours: 120
Lectures: 22.5
Classroom discussion/ Tutorials: 22.5
Independent / Guided Learning: 75

Semester: Fall and Spring

Credits: 12 UK CATS credits
6 ECTS credits
3 US credits

Course Description:
An introduction to the study of society. Topics include: the origins and nature of sociology and the social sciences; society and culture; social institutions such as family, education, and work; socialization; social stratification, power, and social change; industrialization; and urbanization.

Prerequisites: None

Aims and Objectives:
The course provides an overview of the main theoretical perspectives of sociology and evaluates their relevance in analyzing the emerging global society. The objective of the course is to equip students with the ability to use sociology as a tool to understand the society of today – how it differs from previous social formations and what challenges it is likely to face in the near future.

Programme Outcomes:
A3(i); B3(i); C3(i); D3(i).

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by Registry and located at:
https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/

Learning Outcomes:
- Awareness and understanding of fundamental sociological concepts.
- Development of a basic understanding of the ideas of 'classical' sociological theorists.
- Development of a critical approach to the subject, and a broader sense of one's cultural attitudes and assumptions.
- Ability to evaluate differing sociological perspectives' approach to a range of social issues and social institutions.
- Awareness of key elements of globalization processes and their impact of intercultural issues.
- Can complete assigned tasks through the effective communication of arguments, and in so doing can demonstrate the ability to gather, organise and deploy relevant ideas and evidence.
- Understands basic methods used in sociology.
- Understand the impact of new and emerging media technologies on society.

Indicative Content:
- Introductory sociological theory
- Introductory sociological method
- Social Stratification
- Family & kinship
- Race & ethnicity
- Religion
- Globalization
- Digital Sociology

Assessment:
This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board.

Teaching Methodology:
The course will combine lectures (supplemented by handouts), seminar discussions inspired by recommended readings, and audio-visual screenings.

Bibliography:
See syllabus for complete reading list

IndicativeText(s):
Cuff E.C et al (2016) *Perspectives in Sociology (6th edition)* Routledge.
Giddens, A. and P. Sutton (2017) *Sociology* (8th ed). Polity

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

Change Log for this CSD:

Major or Minor Change?	Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or AB)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry
Minor	Added Social Media for Prog; updated reading list		