

American University of Beirut
Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences

SBHS 101, Freshman Sociology

1. **Course Learning Outcomes:** By the end of the semester students will have been introduced to the basic concepts, principles, and theoretical perspectives of sociology, as well as the basic research methods. They will have become familiar with a variety of areas of interest within the discipline.

2. **Resources Available to Students:**
 1. Textbook: “Sociology” 5th edition by Anthony Giddens
 2. Articles by various social scientists relevant to the topic being discussed. These are put on closed reserve in the Jafet Library.
 3. Class discussion. This elaborates and adds to the material in the textbook.

3. **Grading Criteria:** The overall evaluation of students shall be based on their performance in two hour-long exams (30% of the course grade for each) and the final exam (40% of the course grade). However this mathematical calculation is not rigid. Attendance, class participation and attitude will be taken into consideration.

4. **Schedule:** Topics and Weekly Assignments
 1. What is Sociology

Readings: 1. Textbook chapters
2. Mills, C.W. The sociological Imagination, pp. 3-24 (reserve shelf)
3. Durkheim, E., “Suicide and Social Integration”. (reserve shelf)

 2. Sociological Research Methods:

Readings: Textbook chapter

 3. Culture and Society:

Readings: 1. Textbook chapter.
2. Ammar, H., “Aims and methods of Socialization in Silwa” (reserve shelf)

 4. Crime and Deviance:

Readings: 1. Textbook chapter.
2. Becker, H.S., “The Outsiders” (reserve shelf)

First Hour Exam

 5. Population and Society:

Readings: Textbook chapter.

6. Class, Stratification and Inequality:

Readings: 1. Textbook chapter.

2. Khalaf, S. and Kongstad, P., “Hamra’, Social Structure, Beirut” (reserve shelf).

7. Social Interactions and Everyday Life:

Readings: 1. Textbook chapter.

2. Joseph, S. “The Neighborhood in Borj Hammoud, Lebanon” (reserve shelf).

8. Social Aggregates:

Readings: Nisbet, R. “Social Aggregates” in The Social Bond, pp. 80 – 112 (reserve shelf).

9. Work and Economic Life:

Readings: Textbook chapters.

10. Families:

Readings: 1. Textbook chapter.

2. Jacobson, J. “Women and Families: Ideal and Reality” (reserve shelf).

11. Mass Media an Communication:

Readings: 1. Textbook chapter.

2. Packard, V. “Marketing Eight Hidden Needs” (reserve shelf).

12. Race, Ethnicity and Migration:

Readings: Textbook chapter.

5. **Course Policy:** Class discussions, whether among students or with the teacher, add a lot to the reading material. This is why class attendance is required. However, room is left for emergencies, and thus students are allowed 8 absences. Beyond that they will be asked to drop the course.