

TECEP® Test Description for SOC-101-TE

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

This exam assesses students' understanding and knowledge of the academic discipline and principles of sociology. It requires students to take an in-depth look at culture, socialization, social institutions, social inequality, and social change. Specific topics include the current status of minorities, the role of religion in American society, comparisons of violent crime rates worldwide, and the global impact of the rise in immigration. The exam assesses students' ability to view both society and one's self through new lenses while demonstrating an understanding of the meaning of culture, social systems, social stratifications, social institutions, and societal change. (3 credits)

- **Test format:** 100 multiple choice questions (1 point each).
 - **Passing score:** 70%. Your grade will be reported as CR (credit) or NC (no credit).
 - **Time limit:** 2 hours.
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OUTCOMES ASSESSED ON THE TEST

- Describe key concepts in the field of sociology (e.g. culture, socialization, deviance, etc.).
 - Apply the major sociological theories to social phenomena and events.
 - Examine the intersection of history and individuality and the distinctions between private troubles and public issues.
 - Identify the pros and cons of various sociological research methods in understanding social interactions.
 - Identify questions that generate sociological insights into contemporary social problems.
 - Explain the impact of culture upon beliefs and behavior.
 - Analyze aspects of American and global culture.
 - Employ the sociological imagination as an intellectual tool for value dilemmas and critical decisions.
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TOPICS ON THE TEST AND THEIR APPROXIMATE DISTRIBUTION

The table below indicates the main topics covered by this exam and the approximate percentage of the exam devoted to each main topic. Under the main topic heading is a list of related—but more specific—topics. It is important to review these topics to determine how much prior knowledge you have and/or how much additional study is necessary.

Topic	Percentage
<p>The Field of Sociology: Theory, Research, Culture, Socialization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The sociological imagination; sociological theory; micro- and macrosociology; <i>anomie</i> ● Theorists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Comte ○ Cooley ○ Darwin ○ Domhoff ○ DuBois ○ Durkheim ○ Engels ○ Foucault ○ Goffman ○ Hochschild ○ Marx ○ Mead ○ Merton ○ Parsons ○ Piaget ○ Schnaiberg ○ Sutherland ○ Tönnies ○ Veblen ○ Wallerstein ○ Weber ● Sociological perspectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Functionalist ○ Interactionist ○ Feminist ○ Conflict ● The scientific method; research design and methodologies; sources of data ● Culture: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Subcultures ○ Cultural relativism 	<p>25%</p>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Diffusion ○ Transmission ○ Material culture ○ Laws ○ Mores ○ Folkways ○ Values ○ Sanctions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Socialization: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The self ○ Cognitive theory of development ○ Dramaturgical approach ○ Institutions 	
<p>Social Interaction, Social Structure, Social Control</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social interaction; isolation; primary and secondary groups; social networks ● Bureaucracies; classical theory of formal organizations ● Mechanical and organic solidarity; Gemeinschaft and Gesellschaft; agrarian-horticultural-hunter-gatherer-industrial-postindustrial societies ● Formal and informal sanctions; stigma; conformity; ritualists-rebels-innovators ● Deviance; differential association; labeling theory; crime (organized, white-collar, victimless) 	15%
<p>Stratification, Social Mobility, Inequality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wealth and poverty; income; class and caste systems; mobility; capitalism; economic power; globalization ● Master-ascribed-assigned-achieved status ● Inequality of resources; racial and ethnic inequality; ethnocentrism; stereotypes; alienation; discrimination; segregation; ● Racial, ethnic, minority groups in the U.S.; women's work, sexism, feminism 	15%
<p>Gender, Family, Human Sexuality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Traditional and nontraditional gender roles ● Family types; various forms of marriage; patterns of descent 	15%



and authority; functions and dysfunction of families	
<p>Religion, Education, Economic Systems, Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Functions of religion; religious beliefs and rituals; liberation theology; fundamentalism • Functions of education • Socialism; capitalism; false consciousness; division of labor; economic determinism • World systems analysis • Political power structures; types of authority (traditional, charismatic, rational-legal) 	15%
<p>Health, Environment, Social Change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical model; perceptions of mental illness • Global climate change; pollution; NIMBY • Social change movements; rebellion and revolution; technology and culture lag; emigration 	15%

STUDY MATERIALS

Below is a list of recommended study materials to help prepare you for your exam. Most textbooks in this subject include the topics listed above and will prepare you for the test. If you choose another text, be sure to compare its table of contents against the topic list to make sure all topics are covered.

Title
Schaefer, R. T. <i>Sociology: A Brief Introduction</i> (current edition). New York, NY: McGraw-Hill Education.

In addition to the materials above, you may wish to review the resources below. We encourage you to explore these resources to make sure that you are familiar with multiple perspectives on the topics above. All of these resources are openly licensed, which means that they are free to be [revised, remixed, reused, redistributed, and retained](#), so long as their unique terms are followed. You can learn more about open licensing [here](#).



Resource Licensing Guide	
Title	License
Griffiths, H., et al. (2015). Introduction to Sociology (2nd ed). Houston, TX: OpenStax.	CC BY 4.0
Barkan, S. E. (2012). Sociology: Brief Edition (v. 1.1). 2012 Book Archive.	CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

SAMPLE QUESTIONS

The questions below are designed to help you study for your TECEP. Answering these questions does not guarantee a passing score on your exam.

Please note that the questions below **will not** appear on your exam.

1. Which of the following best describes anomie?
 - a. A hypothetical model that sociologists use to evaluate real-world cases
 - b. A society's loss of direction when social control of individual behavior is ineffective
 - c. A research classification system including at least two categories
 - d. A disorder similar to depression that frequently results in suicide

2. Which of the following is a manifest function of universities?
 - a. To prepare people for professional careers
 - b. To provide opportunities for people to find their future spouses
 - c. To give students enough time to exercise
 - d. To maintain the economic status quo

3. Researchers have found that married people are less likely to commit suicide than divorced people. In this example, suicide is a(n)
 - a. index
 - b. hypothesis
 - c. dependent variable
 - d. independent variable



4. Sam, an American, assumes that the American culture and way of life are the norm and superior to all others. This is an example of
- culture shock
 - stereotyping
 - ethnocentrism
 - endogamy
5. Emily, age 8, is able to grasp her own social position as well as that of the people around her. She begins to consider several tasks and relationships simultaneously. According to George Herbert Mead's theory, Emily is at the _____ stage.
- play
 - game
 - imitative
 - preparatory
6. George is on a date with Pat. He tries to behave in a way that will make Pat like him and want to go out again. George is engaging in
- face-work
 - instrumental deception
 - ambassador socialization
 - impression management
7. People who work at a specific task are more likely to become highly skilled and perform the job with maximum efficiency. This is the rationale for which of the following characteristics of a bureaucracy?
- Division of labor
 - Hierarchy of authority
 - Written rules and regulations
 - Employment based on technical qualifications
8. Joe and Brynn are in the same Spanish class. During the final exam, Joe gets a perfect score by copying Brynn's answers. According to Merton's anomie theory of deviance, Joe is a(n)
- rebel
 - ritualist
 - innovator
 - retreatist



9. The system by which groups of people are ranked in a society on the basis of power and economic wealth is known as
- status
 - hypergamy
 - social mobility
 - stratification
10. According to world systems analysis, where are poor and developing nations found?
- On the periphery
 - On the semiperiphery
 - In external areas
 - At the center
11. A negative attitude toward an entire category of people is known as
- prejudice
 - racism
 - exploitation
 - discrimination
12. Juana, a Latina engineer, mentors Daniel, a young White engineer. According to the contact hypothesis, what might be the result of this scenario?
- It might facilitate the operation of sexism as well as racism.
 - It might increase stereotypes rather than reduce them.
 - It might encourage Juana to engage in color-blind racism.
 - It might cause Juana and Daniel to become less prejudiced.
13. The _____ perspective had the most influence on the feminist perspective.
- global
 - conflict
 - functionalist
 - interactionist
14. _____ descent is a kinship system that traces descent through the relatives of the mother.
- Bilineal
 - Matrilineal
 - Trilineal
 - Patrilineal



15. Suzanne seeks to become friends with Thomas because he has connections to a career opportunity. This is an example of
- socialization
 - bureaucracy
 - expressiveness
 - instrumentality
16. Smithville Church is a training ground for community leaders and helps its members improve their interpersonal skills. These are examples of the church's
- manifest functions
 - manifest dysfunctions
 - latent functions
 - latent dysfunctions
17. Which term refers to the use or threat of violence against random or symbolic targets in pursuit of political aims?
- Guerrilla warfare
 - Terrorism
 - Protest
 - Politics
18. The study of the interrelationships among people in their spatial setting and physical environment is known as
- environmental psychology
 - human ecology
 - epidemiology
 - anthropology
19. According to _____ theory, African and South American countries will change by moving in the same direction as Western societies.
- evolutionary
 - eurocentric
 - world systems
 - resource development



20. A society that moves from having high birth and death rates to having low birth and death rates has experienced _____ transition.

- a. economic
 - b. population
 - c. agricultural
 - d. demographic
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ANSWERS TO SAMPLE QUESTIONS

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|--------|---------|---------|
| 1. (b) | 8. (c) | 15. (d) |
| 2. (a) | 9. (d) | 16. (c) |
| 3. (c) | 10. (a) | 17. (b) |
| 4. (c) | 11. (a) | 18. (b) |
| 5. (b) | 12. (d) | 19. (a) |
| 6. (d) | 13. (b) | 20. (d) |
| 7. (a) | 14. (b) | |

