



# SOCL11055 *Sociology of Australian Society*

## Term 3 - 2018

Profile information current as at 13/12/2025 03:56 pm

All details in this unit profile for SOCL11055 have been officially approved by CQUniversity and represent a learning partnership between the University and you (our student). The information will not be changed unless absolutely necessary and any change will be clearly indicated by an approved correction included in the profile.

## General Information

### Overview

Sociology is a distinctive way of critically understanding the social forces that shape the self, Australia and the world - whatever professional paths you take. This unit will enable you to start thinking critically about Australian society, your place in it as part of an increasingly diverse and globalising world. It will help you to develop a deeper understanding of the underlying social forces that shape social inequality and individual autonomy using critical thinking and reflective practice

### Details

Career Level: *Undergraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 1*

Credit Points: 6

Student Contribution Band: 10

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: 0.125

### Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

There are no requisites for this unit.

Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the [Assessment Policy and Procedure \(Higher Education Coursework\)](#).

### Offerings For Term 3 - 2018

- Distance

### Attendance Requirements

All on-campus students are expected to attend scheduled classes - in some units, these classes are identified as a mandatory (pass/fail) component and attendance is compulsory. International students, on a student visa, must maintain a full time study load and meet both attendance and academic progress requirements in each study period (satisfactory attendance for International students is defined as maintaining at least an 80% attendance record).

### Website

[This unit has a website, within the Moodle system, which is available two weeks before the start of term. It is important that you visit your Moodle site throughout the term. Please visit Moodle for more information.](#)

## Class and Assessment Overview

### Recommended Student Time Commitment

Each 6-credit Undergraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 12.5 hours of study per week, making a total of 150 hours for the unit.

### Class Timetable

#### [Regional Campuses](#)

Bundaberg, Cairns, Emerald, Gladstone, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville

#### [Metropolitan Campuses](#)

Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

### Assessment Overview

#### 1. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 25%

#### 2. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 50%

#### 3. **Online Quiz(zes)**

Weighting: 25%

### Assessment Grading

This is a graded unit: your overall grade will be calculated from the marks or grades for each assessment task, based on the relative weightings shown in the table above. You must obtain an overall mark for the unit of at least 50%, or an overall grade of 'pass' in order to pass the unit. If any 'pass/fail' tasks are shown in the table above they must also be completed successfully ('pass' grade). You must also meet any minimum mark requirements specified for a particular assessment task, as detailed in the 'assessment task' section (note that in some instances, the minimum mark for a task may be greater than 50%). Consult the [University's Grades and Results Policy](#) for more details of interim results and final grades.

## CQUniversity Policies

**All University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).**

You may wish to view these policies:

- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – Domestic Students
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – International Students
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Student Feedback – Compliments and Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

This list is not an exhaustive list of all University policies. The full list of University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

## Previous Student Feedback

### Feedback, Recommendations and Responses

Every unit is reviewed for enhancement each year. At the most recent review, the following staff and student feedback items were identified and recommendations were made.

#### Feedback from 'Have your say' button

##### Feedback

Students gave textbook mixed review feeling it was too advanced and too US-centric.

##### Recommendation

Has set an Australian textbook which is more readable and less detailed.

#### Feedback from 'Have your say' button

##### Feedback

Overall students said the unit was too difficult and key concepts needed more explanation

##### Recommendation

The new textbook will address this

## Unit Learning Outcomes

### On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Explain the interactions between self and Australian society in a broad historical, cultural and social-structural context.
2. Apply sociological frameworks to major forms of social inequality in Australia in global context, such as class, race and gender.
3. Define basic sociological concepts.

## Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes



### Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes		
	1	2	3
1 - Online Quiz(zes) - 25%			•
2 - Written Assessment - 25%	•		
3 - Written Assessment - 50%		•	

### Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes		
	1	2	3
1 - Communication	•	•	

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes		
	1	2	3
2 - Problem Solving	•	•	•
3 - Critical Thinking	•	•	•
4 - Information Literacy	•	•	
5 - Team Work			
6 - Information Technology Competence	•	•	•
7 - Cross Cultural Competence	•	•	
8 - Ethical practice	•	•	
9 - Social Innovation			
10 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures			

## Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Graduate Attributes

Assessment Tasks	Graduate Attributes									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1 - Online Quiz(zes) - 25%		•	•			•				
2 - Written Assessment - 25%	•		•	•						
3 - Written Assessment - 50%	•	•	•	•						

## Textbooks and Resources

### Textbooks

SOCL11055

#### Prescribed

##### The Sociological Quest

Edition: Any (2011)

Authors: Evan Willis

A&U Academic

St Leonards , NSW , Australia

Binding: Paperback

#### Additional Textbook Information

### IT Resources

**You will need access to the following IT resources:**

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)

## Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

## Teaching Contacts

**Shane Hopkinson** Unit Coordinator

[s.hopkinson@cqu.edu.au](mailto:s.hopkinson@cqu.edu.au)

## Schedule

### Week 1 - 05 Nov 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Sociology, Human services, systems and social innovation	<b>Textbook: Willis (2011) Ch. 1 Introduction &amp; Ch. 2 Nature of Sociological Explanations</b> <b>Hopkinson (2007) 'WTF is Sociology?'</b>	<b>Complete</b> <a href="#">ichange module</a>

### Week 2 - 12 Nov 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Is Sociology a Science? Challenging appearances & the ideology of "common sense"	<b>Textbook: Willis (2011) Ch. 3 Sociology's place in the Academy</b> <a href="#">Babakiueria</a> (Kanopy) (URL)	<b>Complete</b> Practice Quiz

### Week 3 - 19 Nov 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
The Sociological Imagination 1: History and Cultural Factors - roles & norms in capitalist society	<b>Textbook: Willis (2011) Ch. 4 Sociological Imagination</b>	

**Week 4 - 26 Nov 2018**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
The Sociological Imagination 2: Structure of Capitalist Society & Critique	<b>Textbook:</b> Willis (2011) Ch 5 Structure and critique	<b>Two Timed Online Quizzes</b> Due: Week 4 Friday (30 Nov 2018) 11:45 pm AEST

**Vacation Week - 03 Dec 2018**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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**Week 5 - 10 Dec 2018**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Social Structures 1: State Ideology & Neo-liberal Politics	<a href="#">Political Compass</a> Wallerstein (2001) Ch. 1 The French Revolution as world-historical event	

**Week 6 - 17 Dec 2018**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Biology as ideology - it really in your DNA?	<b>Textbook:</b> Willis (2011) Ch. 6 The Social and the Biological	<b>Understanding the sociological imagination in human service work</b> Due: Week 6 Friday (21 Dec 2018) 12:00 pm AEST

**Christmas Break - 24 Dec 2018**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Social Structures 2: Class Structure & Capitalist Globalisation	<b>Textbook:</b> Willis (2011) Ch.7 Theory & Method Ch. 8 Doing Sociology Walter & Saggars (2007) Poverty & Social Class (CRO)	HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO YOU AND YOURS

**Week 7 - 02 Jan 2019**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Social Structures 3: Class & Cultural Norms	Germov (2013) Imagining Health Problems as Social Issues (CRO) :	

**Week 8 - 07 Jan 2019**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Social Structures 4 : The Gender Order & Families	Bessant & Watts (2007) Ourselves in Families (CRO) Torres (2000) Indigenous Australian Women (CRO) <a href="#">Transgender Basics</a> [Youtube clip]	

**Week 9 - 14 Jan 2019**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Social Structures 5: Nation-state and "race": An imaginary community	Craven & Price (2011) Misconceptions, stereotypes & racism (CRO) Thompson (1994) The cult of disremembering (CRO)	

**Week 10 - 21 Jan 2019**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Cultural Norms: Moral panics: Sex, drugs & deviance	Hari Everything you think you know about addiction is wrong (URL) Freij & Germov (2015) Sociology of licit and illicit drugs (CRO)	

**Week 11 - 28 Jan 2019**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Intersectionality	Lerner (1997) Rethinking the paradigm: race & class (CRO)	<b>Understanding a social issue using the sociological imagination</b> Due: Week 11 Friday (1 Feb 2019) 12:00 pm AEST
<b>Week 12 - 04 Feb 2019</b>		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Revision		<b>Two Timed Online Quizzes</b> No. 2 Due Week 12 Friday (8th Feb 2019) 6am-10pm AEST
<b>Exam Week - 11 Feb 2019</b>		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

## Assessment Tasks

### 1 Understanding the sociological imagination in human service work

#### Assessment Type

Written Assessment

#### Task Description

Having an understanding of the sociological imagination is an important component of working in human services (e.g. social work, psychology) or social innovation. For this assessment, you are asked to write a 1000 word essay describing the sociological imagination and why it is important in understanding contemporary society and its relevance to your future profession.

#### Assessment Due Date

Week 6 Friday (21 Dec 2018) 12:00 pm AEST

#### Return Date to Students

Week 9 Monday (14 Jan 2019)

Assessment items will be returned on Monday 2 weeks after submission

#### Weighting

25%

#### Minimum mark or grade

Must submit - you must submit all items to achieve a passing grade

#### Assessment Criteria

##### Structure (20%)

Academic essay conventions apply

##### Sociological Content (60%)

**Introduction:** Briefly explain how the sociological imagination connects private troubles with public issues.

##### Discussion

*History:* How does an understanding of history inform human service work?

*Structure:* In what ways do an understanding of class, race and gender impact on human service work?

*Socio-Cultural norms:* How does understanding the role of social norms in constructing cultural

'commonsense' help human service workers understand power relations?

**Conclusion Critique:** How useful do you think a sociological way of seeing will be in your future career?

### **Presentation (20%)**

It is expected that students will present their work in a professional manner - it should be clear and easy to read. It should follow the marking rubric available on Moodle and be properly referenced and formatted.

### **Referencing Style**

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

### **Submission**

Online

### **Learning Outcomes Assessed**

- Explain the interactions between self and Australian society in a broad historical, cultural and social-structural context.

### **Graduate Attributes**

- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy

## **2 Understanding a social issue using the sociological imagination**

### **Assessment Type**

Written Assessment

### **Task Description**

You are asked to write a 1500 word essay focusing on a current social issue using the sociological imagination template. Some current social issues you may like to choose from include drug use, sexual assault, Aboriginal recognition, or refugees. Please contact the Unit Coordinator if you would like choose a different social issue.

Please, to ensure your own self-care, it is advised to choose a social issue that you do not have personal experience with. Do not interview people for this assessment, use the sociological literature and other sources to present the issue starting from an Indigenous perspective.

### **Assessment Due Date**

Week 11 Friday (1 Feb 2019) 12:00 pm AEST

### **Return Date to Students**

Exam Week Friday (15 Feb 2019)

Assessment items will be returned on the Monday following 2 weeks after submission

### **Weighting**

50%

### **Minimum mark or grade**

Must submit - you must submit all items to achieve a passing grade

### **Assessment Criteria**

#### **Structure (20%)**

Academic essay conventions apply

#### **Sociological Content (60%)**



**Introduction:** Briefly outline the issue and how the sociological imagination addresses it.

**Discussion**

*History:* How does an understanding of history inform your understanding of the issue?

*Structure:* In what ways do an understanding of class, race and gender shape the social issue?

*Socio-Cultural norms:* How does the cultural 'commonsense' frame the issue? How does a sociological 'way of seeing' differ?

**Conclusion Critique:** Sum up the argument and explain how your perspective on the issue has changed as a result of your research

**Presentation (20%)**

It is expected that students will present their work in a professional manner - it should be clear and easy to read. It should follow the marking rubric available on Moodle and be properly referenced and formatted.

**Referencing Style**

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

**Submission**

Online

**Learning Outcomes Assessed**

- Apply sociological frameworks to major forms of social inequality in Australia in global context, such as class, race and gender.

**Graduate Attributes**

- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy

## 3 Two Timed Online Quizzes

**Assessment Type**

Online Quiz(zes)

**Task Description**

There will be two quizzes with a total of 50 questions. You will be given one minute per question and each question is worth 0.5 mark.

QUIZ 1 20 Questions in 20 minutes - at the end of Week 4

QUIZ 2 30 Questions in 30 minutes - at the end of Week 12 (BEFORE the exam period)

**Number of Quizzes**

0

**Frequency of Quizzes**

Other

**Assessment Due Date**

Week 4 Friday (30 Nov 2018) 11:45 pm AEST

Quizzes will be available on Friday of Week 4 and Week 12 between 6am and 10pm

**Return Date to Students**

The online quiz is graded as it is completed. The results will be available when the overall quiz closes (ie the following day).

**Weighting**

25%

**Minimum mark or grade**

Must submit – you must submit all items to achieve a passing grade

**Assessment Criteria****Objectives**

The quizzes are set to test your understanding of fundamental concepts, methods, perspectives and facts covered by the textbooks and lectures. Each covers the whole term's work up to that point.

**Details**

These are a timed online quizzes that must be sat on the due date between the hours of 6 AM and 10 PM (Australian Eastern Standard Time). If there are timezone issues for you please contact me well in advance.

They will be delivered through the 'Assessment' section of the course Moodle site, and will only become available on the due date. Students will need to have access to an Internet connection in order to complete the quiz. It is your responsibility to make time to sit the quiz on the due date, and to arrange for a reliable Internet connection. Before you take the quiz, make sure that you are ready (i.e. a proper revision has been done) and choose a time and computer/place with minimum distraction to sit for the quiz (i.e. do not have external disturbances from people, pets, etc).

Be conscious of the time limit while taking the quiz—make sure you have a clock in front of you, and note down your starting time. *Do not wait until the last minute to complete the quiz as it will time out once the time limit is reached (i.e. at 10PM the quiz will close regardless of your start time).*

There will be 2 quizzes with a total of 50 multiple choice questions. The first quiz will have 20 questions in 20 minutes and the second will have 30 questions in 30 minutes.

There will be only one correct or best answer to each question, and you need to select the option corresponding to this answer. There are no penalties for incorrect answers. While you will be able to refer to the textbook or other resources while you are taking the quiz, you cannot afford to do this for every question because of the time limit. You need to have a good understanding of the course content before taking the quiz. Each student will receive a customised quiz, chosen in random fashion from the test bank, so that collusion will not be possible.

The presentation of questions is one page at a time with 5 questions per page. You must complete each page before you go on to the next one. Attempts to backtrack to previous pages are not allowed.

Example -

Q. Which theorist developed 'power elite' theory?

- a. Robert Merton
- b. Emile Durkheim
- c. Erving Goffman
- d. C. Wright Mills \*

The correct answer is (d) C. Wright Mills—this is the one you need to tick. There will also be a mock quiz early in the term for you to gain some practice. Students who may have special difficulties in undertaking the quiz need to contact the course coordinator as early as possible to make the necessary arrangements.

NB These are quizzes and not EXAMS so they are not sat in exam period.

**Referencing Style**

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

**Submission**

Online

**Learning Outcomes Assessed**

- Define basic sociological concepts.

**Graduate Attributes**

- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Information Technology Competence

## Academic Integrity Statement

As a CQUniversity student you are expected to act honestly in all aspects of your academic work.

Any assessable work undertaken or submitted for review or assessment must be your own work. Assessable work is any type of work you do to meet the assessment requirements in the unit, including draft work submitted for review and feedback and final work to be assessed.

When you use the ideas, words or data of others in your assessment, you must thoroughly and clearly acknowledge the source of this information by using the correct referencing style for your unit. Using others' work without proper acknowledgement may be considered a form of intellectual dishonesty.

Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in your university study ensures the CQUniversity qualification you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves.

As a student, you are responsible for reading and following CQUniversity's policies, including the [Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure](#). This policy sets out CQUniversity's expectations of you to act with integrity, examples of academic integrity breaches to avoid, the processes used to address alleged breaches of academic integrity, and potential penalties.

### What is a breach of academic integrity?

A breach of academic integrity includes but is not limited to plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion, cheating, contract cheating, and academic misconduct. The Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure defines what these terms mean and gives examples.

### Why is academic integrity important?

A breach of academic integrity may result in one or more penalties, including suspension or even expulsion from the University. It can also have negative implications for student visas and future enrolment at CQUniversity or elsewhere. Students who engage in contract cheating also risk being blackmailed by contract cheating services.

### Where can I get assistance?

For academic advice and guidance, the [Academic Learning Centre \(ALC\)](#) can support you in becoming confident in completing assessments with integrity and of high standard.

### What can you do to act with integrity?



#### Be Honest

If your assessment task is done by someone else, it would be dishonest of you to claim it as your own



#### Seek Help

If you are not sure about how to cite or reference in essays, reports etc, then seek help from your lecturer, the library or the Academic Learning Centre (ALC)



#### Produce Original Work

Originality comes from your ability to read widely, think critically, and apply your gained knowledge to address a question or problem