



Glossary

The learning objectives (LO) included after each term are associated with when the term is defined in the text. They do not represent every time the term is used throughout SociologicalYou.

absolute monarchy: a system of government ruled by a monarch who has control of the government and state. (LO 11.2.1)

absolute poverty: a threshold in which an individual does not have enough resources to meet their basic survival needs. (LO 8.3.1)

achieved status: a position within a social system that is gained through merit. (LO 5.2.1; LO 8.2.1)

affirmative action: policies designed to promote educational and job opportunities for minorities and women. (LO 10.2.2)

agents of socialization: individuals, groups, and institutions that influence the attitudes and behaviors of members of society. (LO 4.2.1; LO 7.1.1)

amalgamation: the creation of a new group as a result of the combination of a minority and majority group. (LO 10.5.1)

American Dream: a commonly held belief in the U.S. suggesting that anyone can overcome obstacles and get ahead in life through hard work and determination. (LO 8.2.1)

American Sociological Association (ASA): a national organization for sociologists dedicated to advancing sociology as a scientific discipline and profession serving the public good. (LO 2.1.2)

anomie: the breakdown of social values, norms, and order resulting in social instability. (LO 1.4.1)

anonymity: concealing the identities of participants within the research project. (LO 2.1.2)

anticipatory socialization: the process of learning different behaviors or activities in an effort to aspire to group membership. (LO 4.3.3)

apartheid: policies, regulations, and laws implemented by a government to keep racial and ethnic groups separate. (LO 10.3.2)

applied sociology: the use of sociological theory, research, and methodologies to find solutions to problems in society. (LO 1.5.2)

ascribed status: a position within a social system that is assigned based upon characteristics such as sex, race, or economics. (LO 5.2.1; LO 8.2.1)

asexual: individuals who are not sexually attracted to others. (LO 9.4.1)

assimilation: the process in which minority groups lose their distinct cultural characteristics and are absorbed into the dominant group. (LO 10.1.5)

authoritarian leader: a leadership style that is based on orders and directives. (LO 6.3.3)

back stage: a persons' private world that they choose not to reveal. (LO 4.4.1)

beliefs: ideas generally held to be true within society. (LO 3.2.2)

bisexual: individuals with a sexual orientation to both sexes. (LO 9.4.1)

blended family: a family in which one or both spouses have children from previous relationships. (LO 13.2.1)

blue-collar worker: an individual who engages in manual labor. (LO 8.1.1)

bourgeois: the small minority who were the wealthy class. (LO 1.1.2)

breaching: purposely violating social norms to examine individual's reactions. (LO 5.1.2)

bureaucracy: a hierarchical authority structure that uses task specialization, operates on the merit principle, and behaves with impersonality. (LO 1.2.2; LO 6.2.2)

capital punishment: a penalty for criminal behavior that results in the death of the perpetrator. (LO 7.4.1)

capitalism: an economic and political system based on private control of the production and distribution of goods and services within a free market system. (LO 11.2.1)

carrying capacity: the numbers of people a geographic location or the earth's ecosystems can support without deterioration. (LO 15.2.1)

case study: an in-depth analysis of a particular person, place, or event over a significant period of time. (LO 2.4.1)

caste system: a type of closed stratified system in which people are designated to a particular social position based on their parents' status in the society. (LO 8.2.1)

centenarians: individuals age 100 and above. (Chapter 14 Opener)

child abuse: the physical, emotional, or sexual harm or mistreatment of a child. (LO 13.3.2)

childfree: individuals who choose not have children. (LO 13.2.3)

childless: individuals who cannot have children for biological reasons. (LO 13.2.3)

chronic diseases: long-lasting health problems that normally cannot be cured and only controlled, such as heart disease, cancer and strokes. (LO 14.1.2)

civic participation: individual and collective action to address issues of public concern. (LO 11.1.1)

climate change: the weather impacts of the rising temperatures. (LO 11.1.3)

class consciousness: an awareness of one's social category within a social hierarchy. (LO 8.1.1)

class system: a type of open stratified system that allows social mobility. (LO 8.2.1)

collective behavior: spontaneous and unstructured behavior engaged by large groups of people. (LO 15.1.1)

closed system: a social system that that does not allow for social mobility. (LO 8.2.1)

code of ethics: a set of guidelines of appropriate behavior established by an organization for its members to follow. (LO 2.3.2)

coercive organization: groups of people whose membership are primarily forced and must abide by strict rules and regulations. (LO 6.2.1)

cohabitation: a residential pattern in which a couple lives together without the benefit of legal marriage. (LO 13.1.1)

collective conscience: A set of shared attitudes, beliefs, and ideas about how things should be in society.

communism: an economic and political system based on the ownership and regulation of all of the production and distribution of goods and services by the government. (LO 11.2.1)

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA): a system in which individuals purchase shares of food in advance of production from local farmers. (LO 14.1.2)

confidentiality: guarding who has the right of access to the data provided by the participants. (LO 2.1.2)

conflict theory: a macro theory based on class struggles and exploitation. (LO 1.1.2; LO 1.3.2)

conspicuous consumption: the public display of lavish and wasteful spending to enhance one's social status. (LO 5.2.1)

constitutional monarchy: a system of government in which a monarch is the Head of State and governed by a parliament. (LO 11.2.1)

contact hypothesis: the idea that prejudice decreases when two groups of equal status come into contact. (LO 10.5.2)

contagion theory: unconventional behaviors resulting from a crowd infested with illogical and irrational beliefs. (LO 15.1.2)

containment theory: individuals have various social controls that provide a protective barrier to help them resist engaging in deviant and criminal behavior. (LO 7.1.4)

content analysis: a systematic method of assigning codes to text, video, and music to analyze and infer patterns. (LO 2.2.2)

control group: the subjects who are not exposed to the independent variable and are used as a reference group. (LO 2.2.1)

countercultures: groups that are in opposition or contrast with the majority of the members of a society. (LO 3.3.3)

counterfeiting: the manufacturing and selling of illegally copied products. (LO 7.5.1)

courtship: seeking the affections of an individual, or establishing contractual terms, usually with the intent of forming a long-term relationship. (LO 13.1.1)

covenant marriage: a legally binding marriage requiring pre-marital counseling and more limited grounds for divorce. (LO 13.1.2)

convergence theory: crowds form due to like-minded individuals coming together. (LO 15.1.2)

crime: an offence in violation of public law. (LO 7.1.3)

crime rate: a statistical count of different categories of crime compiled by federal, state and local agencies. (LO 7.3.1)

criminal justice system: formal institutions designed to enforce, arbitrate, and carry out the laws of the society. (LO 7.3.1)

crude birth rate: the formula to determine the number of live resident births for a specific location and time period. (LO 15.2.1)

cult of domesticity: the glorification of a white middle to upper middle class ideal that placed value on women for their sexual purity, morality, domestic abilities and submissiveness to men. (LO 9.5.1)

cultural capital: the information, knowledge and ideas that a person uses to support their social mobility. (LO 8.4.1)

cultural diffusion: the spread of norms, values, knowledge, symbols, and material components from one society to another. (LO 3.5.1)

cultural imperialism: the influence and power of one country's culture upon a country as a result of importing goods and services. (LO 3.3.1)

cultural lag: the process by which technological development and progress outpace current norms, values, knowledge, symbols, and material components of society. (LO 3.5.1)

cultural leveling: the process of cultures becoming similar as a result of factors such as media and globalization. (LO 3.5.1)

cultural relativism: understanding another culture from their standards. (LO 3.4.3)

cultural transmission: the means by which culture is passed from generation to generation. (LO 3.2.3)

cultural universals: aspects of culture that are found in all societies. (LO 3.4.1)

culture: the socially learned and shared ideas, behaviors and material components of a society. (LO 3.1.1)

culture shock: surprise, disorientation, or fear when encountering a new culture. (LO 3.1.1)

cyber crime: crime that targets the computer systems of an individual or group. (LO 7.3.1)

cyberslacking: when workers spend an excess amount of time on-line for personal reasons that do not benefit their employer. (LO 6.5.1)

debriefing: a follow-up review of the research. (LO 2.3.2)

de facto segregation: segregation that happens "by fact" rather than requirement. (LO 10.2.2)

definition of the situation: an individual's interpretation of a social setting. (LO 5.1.1)

degradation ceremony: an event, ceremony or rite of passage used to break down people and make them more accepting of a total institution. (LO 4.3.3)

deindividuation: a loss of individuality. (LO 15.1.1)

democracy: a system of government in which the power is vested in the people and free elections are held. (LO 11.2.1)

democratic leader: a leadership style based on increasing harmony and reducing conflict between group members. (LO 6.3.3)

demography: the statistical study of births, migration, aging, and death in relation to population dynamics. (LO 15.2.1)

denominations: a distinct group of churches with a common doctrine and name. (LO 12.1.4)

dependency theory: a macro theory indicating the stratified world economic system keeps peripheral nations dependent on core nations. (LO 8.3.2)

dependent variable: a factor that is changed by another variable. (LO 2.1.2)

deprofessionalism: a decline in the power of a profession. (LO 14.1.2)

desegregation: the elimination of the policy of segregation by legal and social means. (LO 10.2.2)

deviance: violation of social norms. (LO 7.1.1)

dictatorship: form of government to which political authority is controlled by a single person or political entity. (LO 11.2.2)

differential association theory: individuals learn deviant and criminal behavior from associating with deviants and criminals. (LO 7.1.3)

differential justice: differences in how groups are treated in the criminal justice system. (LO 7.3.2)

digital divide: the access to and ability to use technology like computers and the internet. (LO 8.4.1)

digital immigrants: people who do not grow up with current technologies and have to learn and adapt to technology and social media later in life. (LO 4.2.3)

digital natives: those individuals who have always experienced a totally digital world. (LO 4.2.3)

direct population transfer: when the dominant group makes a minority group population leave a location by force. (LO 10.3.3)

disenfranchisement: an effort to restrict or revoke the voting rights of an individual or group. (LO 11.3.3)

distance learning: college level schooling that occurs online at a time and place convenient to the student. (LO 12.5.2)

distance zones: the amount of space we are socialized to feel comfortable having between ourselves and others. (LO 4.4.2)

diversity: the recognition and respect of the different attributes of races and ethnicities. (LO 10.1.5)

dominant ideology: the beliefs and interests of the majority. (LO 3.3.1)

downsizing: a reduction in the number of employees that work for the corporation. (LO 11.4.1)

dramaturgy: the theory that we are all actors on the stage of life, and as such we divide our world based on what we let the others see or not see of us. (LO 4.4.1; LO 5.1.3)

dyad: a group of two people. (LO 6.1.1)

dysfunction: the undesirable disruptions of social patterns and resulting negative consequences within society. (LO 1.1.2)

economic systems: a framework for the production and allocation of goods and services within a society. (LO 11.2.1)

education: the transmission of knowledge, skills, values, and beliefs from one group to another. (LO 12.3.1)

elder abuse: the physical, emotional, sexual, and financial abuse or exploitation of an elder by a caregiver or trusted individual. (LO 13.3.2)

emergent norm theory: members of the crowd serve as a reference group and new norms emerge that legitimize the behavior as appropriate. (LO 15.1.2)

emoticons: a symbol that is a type of shorthand, which is a means of expressing emotions and attitude within text-based communications. (LO 3.2.1)

emotion labor: a worker's regulation of personal feelings in an effort to set an emotional tone for customers in a business setting. (LO 5.4.1)

employment-based health insurance: a system in which an employer pays all or part of the health insurance premiums for the employee. (LO 14.2.2)

endogamy: marrying or establishing a relationship within one's own social group or category, as required by custom or law. (LO 13.1.2)

estate system: a type of closed stratified system in which wealthy land owners and peasants exist. (LO 8.2.1)

ethics: principles of conduct about how you are supposed to behave in a given situation. (LO 2.3.2)

ethnicity: social and cultural characteristics that set apart one group of people from another. (LO 10.1.1)

ethnocentrism: judging another culture by one's own standards. (LO 3.4.2)

ethnography: descriptive account of social life and culture in a particular social system derived from the researcher being embedded over a period of time within the group, organization, or community. (LO 2.2.2)

ethnomethodology: the study of people's methods as it relates to the formation of society. (LO 5.1.2)

experiment: the use of two or more groups in which one group is exposed to a factor being examined. (LO 2.2.1)

experimental group: the study subjects exposed to the independent variable. (LO 2.2.1)

expressive leadership: expressive leaders endeavor to establish more personal or primary connections with the group members. (LO 6.3.3)

exogamy: marrying or establishing a relationship outside of one's own social group or category. (LO 13.1.2)

extended family: a family that has other kin such as grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins living in the same household or nearby. (LO 13.2.1)

face work: the efforts exerted by both actors during an interaction to get through unanticipated events without casting an undesirable light or disrupting the relationship of the participants. (LO 5.1.3)

fad: a craze or behavior quickly adopted by large groups of people that then fades in popularity rapidly. (LO 15.1.1)

fair trade: an organizational movement and certification process to help producers in developing countries receive a fair price for their products with the goals of reducing poverty, providing for the ethical treatment of workers and farmers, and promoting environmentally sustainable practices. (LO 1.3.1)

family: a group of people connected by blood, marriage, adoption or agreed upon relationship. Families are socially constructed and historically changing. (LO 13.1.1)

family of orientation: the family in which you are raised and socialized as a result of birth, adoption, or a blended family. (LO 13.2.1)

family of procreation: the family you choose to create through marriage, agreed upon relationship, or the birth or adoption of children. (LO 13.2.1)

Federal Poverty Line: a governmental standard of measurement indicating the income level of when an individual or family is designated as poor. (LO 8.2.2)

feeling rules: norms about which emotions are appropriate to display in a given situation. (LO 5.4.1)

feminine-expressive role: providing care and emotional support. (LO 9.1.1)

femininity: traditional behaviors and traits associated with women. (LO 9.1.1)

feminism: a social movement that aims to establish equality between the sexes. (LO 9.5.1)

feminist: a person who believes in the legal political, social and economic equality between the sexes. (LO 9.5.1)

feminist theory: a view pertaining to anti-oppression, gender relations, and gender inequality. (LO 1.1.5)

feminization of poverty: the disproportionate number of women amongst the world's poor. (LO 8.4.3)

feral children: children who are isolated and neglected such that they are raised without socialization. (LO 4.3.1)

fertility rate: the average number of children born to a woman over her lifetime. (LO 15.2.1)

first-generation college student: the first person in the immediate family to attend college. (LO 3.1.1)

folkways: informal and common norms that guide every day behavior. (LO 3.2.3)

focus group: a small group interview or guided discussion using a moderator to gain insight of the participants' opinions on specific topics. (LO 2.2.2)

formal organizations: structured and bureaucratic systems regulated by clearly stated norms and rules. (LO 6.2.1)

formal social control: groups and organizations whose specific function is to control the behavior of members of societies and reinforce social norms. (LO 7.1.1)

free range parenting: a style of parenting that deemphasizes scheduling and supervision and emphasizes extreme independence. (LO 13.2.4)

front stage: a persons' public life that they reveal to the world. (LO 4.4.1)

functionalist theory: a macro view of how the parts of society serve to maintain stability. (LO 1.1.2)

fundamental attribution error: the bias of attributing our behavior to our circumstances and the behavior of others to their character. (LO 1.3.2; LO 5.1.1)

fundamentalism: a strict adherence to conservative religious ideology. (LO 12.1.3)

game stage: taking the role of multiple people at one time. (LO 4.1.2)

gay rights movement: a variety of different organizations seeking to establish legal and social equality for members of the LGBT community. (LO 9.5.1)

Gemeinschaft: a close-knit community characterized by personal and mutual bonds. (LO 15.1.3)

Gesellschaft: a large urban area characterized by formal and impersonal relationships. (LO 15.1.3)

gender: the socially learned expectations and behaviors associated with being male or female. (LO 9.1.1)

gender identity: an individual's inner sense and identification of being a male or female. (LO 9.1.2)

gender norms: behaviors or traits that society attributes to a particular sex. (LO 9.1.2)

gender roles: public expression of one's gender identity. (LO 9.1.2)

gender stratification: the unequal access and distribution of wealth, power, and privilege between women and men. (LO 9.2.2)

General Social Survey (GSS): a national survey on contemporary American society in order to monitor and explain trends and contrasts in attitudes, behaviors, and attributes. (LO 2.2.4)

generalized other: the process of internalizing societal norms and expectations. (LO 4.1.2)

genocide: the systematic killing of one group by another based on differences of race and/or ethnicity. (LO 10.3.4)

glass ceiling: social and legal barriers designed to prevent minorities and women from advancing in the workplace. (LO 9.2.2; LO 10.4.2)

glass escalator: men in female-dominated careers rise faster than women in male-dominated careers. (LO 9.2.2)

global aging: the rise in the percentage of elderly in developed countries and the accompanying economic and world order effects. (LO 15.2.2)

global inequality: the stratification that exists between people living in different nations. (LO 8.5.1)

global warming: the rise in surface temperature on the planet. (LO 11.1.3)

globalization: the world wide integration of our cultural, economic, and political lives that result from ever increasing levels of business, trade and technology. (LO 1.5.1)

graying of America: the rise in the percentage of elderly in the U.S. that creates structural challenges for families, government, and the economy. (LO 15.2.2)

greenwashing: promotion of being a sustainable and green company, when in fact sustainable practices are not the norm for the organization. (LO 6.2.1)

group: people who identify and interact with one another. (LO 6.1.1)

group conformity: aligning attitudes and behaviors with group norms. (LO 6.1.3)

groupthink: the tendency of group members to yield to the desire of consensus rather than expressing individual or alternative ideas. (LO 2.2.2; LO 6.1.4)

hate crime: criminal behavior directed at individuals or groups based on their race, ethnicity, disability, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, or religion. (LO 7.3.1; LO 10.4.1)

Hawthorne effect: the tendency of people to change their behavior when they know they are being watched. (LO 2.3.2)

health: a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being, and not merely the absence

of disease or infirmity. (LO 14.1.1)

helicopter parent: a well-meaning overprotective and overly involved parent that does not promote the characteristic of independence. (LO 13.2.4)

herd immunity: a population's ability to resist a disease as a result of a high percentage of its members being immune. (LO 14.4.1)

heterosexual: individuals with a sexual orientation to individuals of the opposite sex. (LO 9.4.1)

heterosexism: prejudice or discriminatory attitudes and behaviors against homosexuals and homosexuality. (LO 9.4.2; LO 12.2.3)

hidden curriculum: the lessons that are not associated with the formal educational curriculum. (LO 4.2.2; LO 12.3.2)

hidden curriculum: the lessons that are not associated with the formal educational curriculum. (LO 4.2.2; LO 12.3.2)

high culture: consists of cultural characteristics associated with the dominant and elite members of society. (LO 3.5.2)

high-status youth: those who are viewed as being popular among peers. (LO 4.2.1)

Hispanic mortality paradox: the conditions by which Hispanics live longer despite lower income and health care access. (LO 14.1.2)

homogamy: marrying or establishing a relationship with someone with similar social and economic characteristics. (LO 13.1.1)

homophobia: the fear of homosexuals and homosexuality. (LO 9.4.2)

homosexual: individuals with a sexual orientation to individuals of the same sex. (LO 9.4.1)

honor killing: the killing of a female family member for the perceived shame she has brought upon the family. (LO 9.3.1)

hookups: a sexual encounter, usually lasting only one night, between two individuals who are strangers or brief acquaintances. (LO 9.4.1)

horizontal mobility: movement within a layer of the system of stratification. (LO 8.4.2)

hostile environment: an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment due to unwelcome verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. (LO 9.2.2)

human trafficking: a situation in which a person is smuggled, abused and forced to work against their will for the economic gain of another. (LO 1.3.1)

hypothesis: an educated guess about a relationship between two or more situations, events, or factors. (LO 2.1.2)

“I”: the unsocialized or acting self, made up of personal desires and needs. (LO 4.1.2)

ideal culture: the ideals and values that a society professes to believe. (LO 3.1.1)

ideal type: logical or consistent traits of a given social phenomena. (LO 6.2.2)

impression management: an effort to control the impression others have of us. (LO 4.4.1)

incarceration rate: number of people in state and federal prisons. (LO 7.3.1)

income: money earned on a regular basis through work. (LO 8.1.1)

index crime: eight forms of criminal behavior used by the FBI to create the Uniform Crime Report. (LO 7.4.1)

in-depth interview: a one-on-one open-ended method that probes for deeper meaning and understanding of the responses of the interviewee. (LO 2.2.2)

in-group: a social unit to which an individual belongs and feels a sense of “we.” (LO 6.1.2)

independent variable: a factor that causes a change in another variable. (LO 2.1.2)

indirect population transfer: when the minority group population chooses to leave a location. (LO 10.3.3)

infant mortality rate: the number deaths of children less than one year of age per 1,000 births. (LO 14.2.1; LO 15.2.1)

informal organizations: a system of the personal contacts and relationships of groupings of people. (LO 6.2.1)

informal social control: individuals and groups that unofficially reinforce social norms. (LO 7.1.1)

informed consent: a signed statement by participants indicating full knowledge of the risks involved and acknowledgment of the procedures to willingly withdraw from the study at any time. (LO 2.1.2)

institutional discrimination: the use of social institutions to deny minority group members access to the benefits of society. (LO 10.3.1)

institutional racism: societal patterns that produce negative treatment against groups of people based on their race. (LO 10.1.4)

Institutional Review Board (IRB): a committee that reviews research proposals to protect the rights and welfare of human participants in research. (LO 2.1.2)

instrumental leadership: instrumental leadership is very task-oriented. (LO 6.3.3)

internal colonialism: the exploitation of a society's minority group by its dominant group. (LO 10.3.2)

intersex: a person born with a combination of male and female sexual organs. (LO 9.4.2)

intragenerational mobility: an individual's change in status during a lifetime. (LO 8.4.2)

intergenerational mobility: an individual's change in social status that results from mobility on a generational level. (LO 8.4.2)

iron law of oligarchy: a system in which the concentration of power in a democracy rests in the hands of a few elite leaders. (LO 6.3.1)

kami: ancient gods and spirits. (LO 12.1.1)

kinship: social relationship pattern based on blood, marriage, or adoption. (LO 13.2.1)

knowledge workers: employees whose job involves designing, preparing, or sharing knowledge. (LO 11.4.1)

labeling theory: individuals are labeled as deviant and are more likely to act upon the label. (LO 7.1.2)

laissez-faire capitalism: a system of free enterprise without government intervention. (LO 11.2.1)

laissez faire leader: a leader that takes a hands-off approach to leadership. (LO 6.3.3)

language: words and symbols used to communicate. (LO 3.2.1)

latent functions: unintentional and informally sanctioned functions of social institutions and society. (LO 1.1.2)

laws: formal and legal rules enforced by the state. (LO 3.2.3)

leaders: individuals or groups who help facilitate, guide, and be the representative voice of its members. (LO 6.3.3)

life chances: the opportunities and resources a person has at their disposal to improve their quality of life. (LO 8.4.1)

life course perspective: a series of social changes that a person experiences over the course of their lifetime. (LO 4.5.1)

life expectancy: the statistical average number of years a person is expected to live. (LO 15.2.2)

literacy: the ability to use the skills of reading and writing to shape ones world. (LO 12.4.1)

lobbyist: individuals who persuade legislators to vote for a special interest of their group. (LO 11.2.3)

longitudinal design: the repeated observation of the same subjects over a duration of time. (LO 2.2.1)

looking-glass self: the process of imagining the reaction of others toward oneself. (LO 4.1.3)

lower class: the lowest category of people within a social hierarchy. (LO 8.2.2)

macro sociology: a level of analysis focusing on social systems and populations on a large scale. (LO 1.1.2)

majority group: a group that controls the economic, social, political power, and resources. (LO 10.2.1)

majority-minority: when a population or district consists of over 50 percent minorities. (LO 10.2.1)

manifest function: intentional and formally sanctioned functions of social institutions and society. (LO 1.1.2)

marriage: a socially constructed relationship that assumes financial and sexual cooperation between two people. (LO 13.1.1)

Marxist power model: ruling forces formulate public policies that are in the best interest of capitalism and the ruling class. (LO 11.2.2)

masculine-instrumental role: goal-oriented and providing financial support. (LO 9.1.1)

masculinity: traditional behaviors and traits associated with males. (LO 9.1.1)

master status: the social position central to your identity. (LO 5.2.1)

material culture: the physical artifacts that represent components of society. (LO 3.1.1)

matriarchal: lines of descent are traced through the maternal side of the family and characterized by the mother as the head of the family. (LO 13.1.2)

matrilocal residence: a living pattern in which a couple resides with or near the wife's parents. (LO 13.2.1)

matrix of domination: the idea that oppression is multifaceted. (LO 9.5.1)

McDonaldization: the process by which the principles of the fast-food restaurant are coming to dominate more and more sectors of American society as well as of the rest of the world. (LO 6.3.2)

"me": the social self, made up of the internalized attitudes of others. (LO 4.1.2)

mechanical solidarity: social cohesiveness based similar beliefs, values, and experience within simple traditional societies. (LO 15.1.3)

Medicaid: a government program established in 1965 funding healthcare for qualified persons living below the poverty level and/or who have disabilities. (LO 14.2.2)

medical industrial complex: the multibillion-dollar enterprise consisting of doctors, hospitals, nursing homes, insurance companies, drug manufacturers, and hospital supply and equipment companies. (LO 14.1.1)

medical sociology: the sociological analysis of social interactions, organizations, and systems related to health, illness, and medicine. (LO 14.1.1)

medical tourism: the practice of traveling to another country to seek healthcare. (LO 14.5.3)

medicalization: the process by which nonmedical problems become defined and treated as medical problems. (LO 14.1.1)

Medicare: a government program established in 1965 funding healthcare for the elderly, the disabled, and people receiving long-term treatment with dialysis. (LO 14.2.2)

megachurch: a Protestant church with an average of 2,000 or more persons in weekly attendance. (LO 12.1.2)

megacity: a city with 10 million or more in population. (LO 15.2.1)

men's rights movement: an effort to establish the employment, sexual, and familial rights of men. (LO 9.5.1)

mental illness: abnormal thoughts, behaviors, emotions, or actions that are a threat to the individual or society. (LO 14.4.1)

metrosexuals: heterosexual males with a refined sense of fashion and taste with a preoccupation on their appearance. (LO 9.1.1)

micro sociology: a level of analysis focusing on individuals and small groups within the larger social system. (LO 1.1.2)

middle class: the category of people at the center within a social hierarchy. (LO 8.2.2)

minority group: a disadvantaged group with significantly less economic, social, and political power and resources. (LO 10.2.1)

mob mentality: chaotic and aggressive behavior engaged by groups of people. (LO 15.1.1)

model (or ideal) minority group: an ethnic group that is more academically, economically, and socially successful than other racial minority groups. (LO 10.2.3)

modernization theory: a macro theory indicating the process by which nations progress through stages of development. (LO 8.3.2)

monogamy: a marriage between two people. (LO 13.1.2)

monopolies: possessing near or complete control of commodities or production of goods and services. (LO 11.2.1)

monotheistic: the belief or worship of a single god. (LO 12.1.1)

moral panic: a condition or event that is defined as being a physical or societal threat. (LO 15.1.1)

mores: informal norms based upon moral and ethical factors. (LO 3.2.3)

mortality: the frequency of death in a population. (LO 15.2.1)

neolocal residence: a living pattern in which a couple establishes their own residence independent of their parents. (LO 13.2.1)

neo-Malthusian theory: a view proposing population control programs to ensure resources for current and future population. (LO 15.2.1)

nepotism: the practice of favoritism directed towards family members. (LO 6.4.1)

No fault divorce: marriages that can be dissolved without evidence of wrongdoing. (LO 13.4.2)

nonmaterial culture: ideas and symbols that represent components of society. (LO 3.1.1)

nonverbal language: a system of communication using symbols such as facial expressions, gestures, and proximity of the body. (LO 3.2.1)

normative organizations: groups of people based upon shared interests and the intangible rewards of membership. (LO 6.2.1)

norms: established guidelines and expectations of behavior. (LO 3.2.3)

nuclear family: a family consisting of one or more parents and children. (LO 13.2.1)

objective conditions: the scope of a problem. (LO 1.3.1)

objectivity: the effort to eliminate bias from the research. (LO 2.3.2)

occupational prestige: a consensus of the value of a job or profession. (LO 8.1.1)

offshoring: corporations transferring jobs overseas. (LO 11.4.1)

old-age dependency ratio: the number of people 65 and older per 100 working age people 15-64. (LO 15.2.2)

oligarchy: a system in which power is concentrated in the hands of the few. (LO 6.3.1)

open system: a social system that encourages and allows for social mobility. (LO 8.2.1)

operational definition: a clear, concise, and observable measure of the variable. (LO 2.1.2)

organic solidarity: social cohesiveness based on the division of labor and individualization in complex societies. (LO 15.1.3)

organization: a structured, purposeful, and goal-oriented collection of people. (LO 6.2.1)

origin: the heritage, nationality group, lineage, or country of birth of the person or the person's ancestors before their arrival in the United States. (LO 10.1.1)

out-group: individuals who do not belong or are excluded from one's own group. (LO 6.1.2)

outsourcing: hiring a subcontractor or outside agency to complete the work formally done by employees within a company. (LO 11.4.1)

participant observation: a method in which the researcher takes part in the social phenomenon being studied. (LO 2.2.2)

patriarchy: lines of descent trace through the paternal side of the family and characterized by male dominance. (LO 12.2.3; LO 13.1.2)

patrilocal residence: a living pattern in which a couple resides with or near the husband's parents. (LO 13.2.1)

peer groups: social groups consisting of members with common interests, social rank, and similar ages. (LO 4.2.1)

peer review: a process by which research is evaluated by a group of experts in the specific subject area. (LO 2.1.2)

personal space: the physical region surrounding an individual that is considered private. (LO 3.2.1)

personal troubles: matters experienced at the individual level. (LO 1.4.1)

Peter Principle: The notion that workers in a bureaucratic organization will continue to be promoted until they reach their level of incompetence. (LO 6.3.1)

physician assisted suicide: a process in which a doctor provides a terminally ill patient with the means to end their life at the time of the patient's choosing. (LO 14.5.2)

pink-collar worker: an individual who works in women dominated jobs with low pay. (LO 8.1.1)

play stage: pretending to be other people, incorporates role-playing. (LO 4.1.2)

plea bargains: agreements in which the accused pleads guilty to the crime in exchange for a lesser sentence. (LO 7.3.3)

pluralism: maintaining social equality and distinct cultural characteristics within and among races and ethnicities. (LO 10.1.5)

pluralist power model: power is fragmented and dispersed among groups within a society. (LO 11.2.2)

political consumerism: choosing producers and products with the goal of changing ethical or objectionable institutional or market practices. (LO 11.1.1)

political participation: actions to support government or politicians. (LO 11.1.1)

political sociology: the study of political groups, leadership, and power within society. (LO 11.1.1)

poll tax: a fee members of the electorate must pay in order to participate in the voting process. (LO 11.3.4)

polyandry: a legally sanctioned or illegal marital relationship in which one woman has multiple husbands. (LO 13.1.2)

polygamy: a legally sanctioned or illegal marital relationship in which one person has more than one husband or wife at the same time. (LO 13.1.2)

polygyny: a legally sanctioned or illegal marital relationship in which one man has multiple wives. (LO 13.1.2)

polytheistic: the belief or worship of more than one god. (LO 12.1.1)

popular culture: cultural characteristics adopted, imitated, and idolized by the masses. (LO 3.5.2)

population growth: the increase in the number of people in a population. (LO 15.2.1)

population transfer: the involuntary relocation of a minority group by a dominant group. (LO 10.3.3)

positivism: an authentic and valid knowledge of the social world is found only through scientific and empirical pursuit. (LO 1.1.1)

postmodern social theory: a critical view rejecting the historical, scientific, and structured means of investigating and interpreting the social world. (LO 1.1.5)

power: the ability to exert control over others and achieve goals with or without the support of society. (LO 8.1.1)

power elite model: power is concentrated among the elite and wealthy, particularly corporations, government, and the military. (LO 11.2.2)

poverty rate: the percentage of people who are considered poor. (LO 8.3.1)

prejudice: a preconceived judgment or opinion of other people and races that leads to preferring one kind of person over another. (LO 10.1.2)

preparatory stage: imitation of others, an infant merely imitates surrounding people. (LO 4.1.2)

prestige: the level of esteem and respect afforded an individual often associated with one's occupation or membership in a group or organization. (LO 8.1.1)

primary deviance: violation of a norm that does not result in being labeled as deviant. (LO 7.1.2)

primary groups: small-scale, intimate face-to-face long-lasting associations.

(LO 5.3.2; LO 6.1.2)

profane: ordinary and familiar realm of everyday existence. (LO 12.2.1)

proletariat: the majority, who were the poor, property-less industrial working class. (LO 1.1.2)

proportional representation: a system in which a political party's representation in government is proportional to the number of votes they receive. (LO 11.3.1)

public issue: matters that impact society as a whole. (LO 1.4.1)

pull factors: conditions that encourage people to relocate to a new homeland. (LO 15.3.1)

push factors: conditions that encourage people to leave their native land. (LO 15.3.1)

qualitative research design: data collection using interviews and fieldwork, observation, photos, texts and other subjective measures. (LO 2.1.2)

quantitative research design: data collection using systematic and numerical measures to generalize across groups of people. (LO 2.1.2)

queer theory: a critical view that rejects the traditional categories of gender and sexuality in contemporary society. (LO 1.1.5)

quid pro quo: express or implied demands by an employer or supervisor for sexual favors in exchange for some benefit such as a promotion, raise or preferential treatment. (LO 9.2.2)

race: a socially constructed category of people based on real or perceived physical differences. (LO 10.1.1)

racial colorblindness: the idea that ignoring or overlooking racial and ethnic differences promotes racial harmony. (LO 10.1.4)

racial discrimination: unfair or differential treatment of individuals and groups based on race and ethnicity. (LO 10.1.3)

racial profiling: action taken against members of a minority group based on those things other than personal behavior. (LO 10.3.1)

racism: the belief that one race is superior to others resulting in unequal or demoralizing treatment of other races. (LO 10.1.4)

rationalization: traditional modes of thinking replaced with end/means analysis. (LO 6.2.2)

rationalization of society: the replacement of traditional values and personal connections with bureaucracy, efficiency, and a means-end approach. (LO 1.2.1)

real culture: the actual behavior of members of society. (LO 3.1.1)

red tape: adherence to excessive regulation and conformity that prevents decision-making and change. (LO 1.2.2; LO 6.2.2)

redistricting: changes in the boundaries of an electoral voting district. (LO 11.3.1)

redlining: the practice of arbitrarily denying, limiting, or charging more for financial services, insurance, or access to health care to specific neighborhoods, based on racial and economic issues. (LO 10.1.3)

reference group: collection of people used for comparison and identification. (LO 6.1.2)

refugees: individuals who leave their homeland to escape violence and war. (LO 15.3.2)

relative poverty: a subjective level at which an individual or family experiences a deprived lifestyle. (LO 8.3.1)

reliability: the extent to which a study yields the same result on repeated studies. (LO 2.1.2)

religiosity: the beliefs and behaviors associated with transcendent or spiritual concerns. (LO 12.1.2)

replacement level fertility: the average number of children born per woman to replace themselves and their partner without migration. (LO 15.2.1)

representative sample: a subset of the population whose characteristics accurately reflect those of the larger population from which it is drawn. (LO 2.1.2)

research design: data collection using interviews, fieldwork, observation, photos, texts, and other subjective measures.

resocialization: an identity transformation in which social norms and roles are altered or replaced. (LO 4.3.3; LO 6.2.1)

rite of passage: a ceremony or ritual used to mark a change in age or social status. (LO 4.3.3)

role attachment: emotional intensity associated with the role. (LO 5.2.3)

role conflict: competing demands resulting from two or more statuses. (LO 5.2.2)

role exit: the process of disengaging from significant roles. (LO 5.2.3)

role set: the complement of role-relationships within a single status. (LO 5.2.2)

role strain: incompatible demands and expectations within a single role. (LO 5.2.2)

rural area: sparsely populated with less than 1,000 people per square mile. (LO 15.1.3)

sacred: things set apart and requiring special religion treatment. (LO 12.2.1)

sample of convenience: a research sample that is based on the ease of accessibility of the research subjects. (LO 2.3.2)

sanctions: a punishment or reward that supports socially approved norms. (LO 3.2.3)

sandwich generation: those individuals that are raising children and caring for aging parents at the same time. (LO 13.5.1)

Sapir-Whorf theory: a theoretical perspective that suggests that people view society through the framework of language. (LO 3.2.1)

school choice: programs that allow students to transfer to schools outside those assigned to them by their particular school district. (LO 12.3.2)

schooling: the formal educational process that takes place in institutions such as schools and centers of learning. (LO 12.3.1)

second shift: the unpaid childcare and household responsibilities completed by women that are in addition to her paid work in the labor force. (LO 9.2.1)

secondary analysis: the use of data previously collected for other purposes. (LO 2.2.1)

secondary deviance: norm violations that result in being publicly labeled as a deviant and outsider. (LO 7.1.2)

secondary groups: large-scale, impersonal, task-focused, and time-limited associations. (LO 5.3.2; LO 6.1.2)

segregation: the separation of groups based on differences such as ethnicity, gender, race, social class, or religion. (LO 10.2.2)

self: an individual's nature and identity resulting from reflections on social interactions. (LO 4.1.1)

serial monogamy: a marriage pattern in which one person has multiple spouses but not at the same time. (LO 13.1.2)

service worker: employees whose job it is to provide food, physical comfort, shelter, or mechanical support. (LO 11.4.1)

sex: anatomical variances between males and females. (LO 9.1.1)

sex reassignment: the process of having surgery and taking hormone medications to become the opposite sex. (LO 9.4.2)

sexism: prejudice, devaluation, and discrimination based on an individual's sex. (LO 9.2.1)

sexual harassment: unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal and physical harassment of a sexual nature. (LO 9.2.2)

sexual orientation: an individual's sexual interest toward the same, opposite, or both sexes. (LO 9.4.1)

sexuality: an individual's experience and expression as a sexual being. (LO 9.1.1; LO 9.4.1)

sharia: the revealed word of God based on the Qur'an serving as the body of Islamic law. (LO 12.1.1)

sick role: the rights and responsibilities of those ill. (LO 14.1.3)

significant other: individuals who are important to the development of self. (LO 4.1.2)

slavery system: a type of a closed stratified system in which slaves and owners exist. (LO 8.2.1)

snowball sampling: a process in which people in the group being studied introduce the researcher to other people to study. (LO 2.3.1)

social aggregate: a collection of individuals in the same geographic location who do not share common characteristics. (LO 6.1.1)

social attribution: this is an explanation of how others appear, behave, or are motivated. (LO 5.1.1)

social capital: the network of links that develop between people, which may result in personal, social and professional advantage. (LO 6.4.1; LO 8.4.1)

social category: a collection of individuals with similar characteristics who may have never met or interacted. (LO 6.1.1)

social change: the forces that change the organization and social structures of society. (LO 1.1.1)

social class: a category of people with similar status, culture, and wealth. (LO 8.1.1)

social clique: a small, close-knit, and exclusive group of individuals. (LO 6.1.2)

social cohesion: bonds between members that maintain stability in society. (LO 12.2.1)

social control: the informal and formal regulation of members of society to gain conformity and compliance. (LO 12.2.1)

social control theory: individuals who do not have strong social bonds are more likely to feel disconnected from society and engage in deviance or crime. (LO 7.1.4)

social construction of reality: an individual's perception of one's social world is determined or influenced by social interaction. (LO 5.1.1)

social context: the environment of the interaction. (LO 1.1.1; LO 5.1.1)

social exchange: the process by which social decisions are based on perceived costs and benefits. (LO 5.1.4)

social facts: social patterns that are external to individuals and greatly influence our way of thinking and behaving in the society. (LO 1.1.3; LO 3.4.1)

social groups: two or more individuals connected by common bonds and shared social relations. (LO 6.1.1)

social inequality: a system that unequally rewards individuals based upon characteristics such as sex, income, age, race, and ethnicity. (LO 1.3.2; LO 8.2.1)

social institutions: structures in society providing the framework for governing the behavior of individuals in a community or society. (LO 1.1.1; LO 5.3.1)

social interaction: interpersonal relationships between two or more persons. (LO 5.1.1)

social learning theory: the process of learning from one another in a social context as a result of observation and imitation. (LO 4.2.1)

social mobility: an individual or groups movement up or down the system of stratification in a society. (LO 8.4.1)

social movement: a collective effort by segments of society to enact social change in order to attain a particular goal. (LO 15.5.1)

social networks: groups of individuals and organizations that are connected to one another. (LO 5.3.2)

social problems: the societal caused conditions that harm segments of society. (LO 1.1.1)

social reproduction: the process of children remaining in the same social class through intergenerational transmission of various types of capital. (LO 8.3.1)

social roles: expected patterns of behaviors for specific statuses and positions. (LO 5.2.2)

social status: an individual's position or rank within a social system. (LO 5.2.1; LO 8.1.1)

social stigma: a negative label characterized by one or more personal traits that form a stereotype about the individual. (LO 7.1.1; LO 14.1.1)

social stratification: a system in which categories of people are ranked in a hierarchy. (LO 8.1.1)

social structures: the distinctive and stable arrangements of social patterns that form the society as a whole. (LO 1.1.1)

socialism: an economic and political system based on the cooperative management of the production and distribution of goods and services by citizens within a democratic government. (LO 11.2.1)

socialization: the process by which one learns the appropriate attitudes and behaviors within a culture. (LO 4.1.1)

socialized medicine: medical and hospital care funded for all citizens by the government. (LO 14.2.3)

socialized self: the theory that the self can't develop apart from society. (LO 1.1.2)

socioeconomic status: an individual's social position based upon education, occupation, income, and place of residence. (LO 8.1.1)

society: a large group of people associated by shared culture and institutions. (LO 1.1.1)

sociological imagination: the ability to see the details of our own lives in the context of larger social structures as opposed to merely personal choices or personal troubles. (LO 1.1.1; LO 1.4.1)

sociological perspective: the process of understanding and explaining how individuals and groups interact within society. (LO 1.1.1)

sociological theory: a set of interrelated ideas that provide a systematic understanding of the social world. (LO 1.1.2)

sociology: the scientific study of social relationships, social institutions, and societies. (LO 1.1.1)

split-labor market: a bi-product of the capitalist system that splits workers along racial and ethnic lines such that worker solidarity is weakened. (LO 10.4.3)

spoils system: the practice of politicians awarding jobs to friends and supporters based on liking and not ability. (LO 6.3.1)

status set: the collection of statuses held at one time. (LO 5.2.1)

status symbols: material signals that are meant to convey a message to others about an individual's social position. (LO 5.2.1)

stereotype threat: a concern experienced when one feels at risk of confirming the inferiority or negative characteristics of one's group. (LO 10.1.2)

stereotypes: generalized opinions and impressions of individuals, groups, or social classes. (LO 10.1.2)

stigma: a negative label characterized by one or more personal traits that form a stereotype about the individual. (LO 14.1.1)

structural mobility: changes in the social position of a group that result from shifts in the larger society. (LO 8.4.2)

structural strain theory: social structures can promote crime and deviance among individuals within society. (LO 7.2.1)

subcultures: a distinct set of cultural characteristics that are shared by a minority of people in the society. (LO 3.3.2)

subjective concerns: people's feelings about a problem. (LO 1.3.1)

substance abuse: the use of alcohol, drugs, or other substances that results in negative consequences for the user and those around them. (LO 13.3.2)

surveillance: the use of technology to monitor the action and behavior of others. (LO 7.5.2)

survey: a series of questions used to extract specific information from respondents. (LO 2.2.1)

sustainable development: development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. (LO 1.3.1; LO 3.2.2)

sustainability: the idea that current and future generations should have equal or greater access to social, economic, and environmental resources. (LO 1.3.1; LO 2.2.4)

sweatshops: factories that offer their workers low wages and long hours in dangerous working conditions. (LO 11.4.1)

symbolic interaction: a micro view of how society is the product of interactions between people, which occur via symbols that have distinct meanings. (LO 1.1.2; LO 1.3.2)

symbols: an idea or object that has a shared meaning to groups of people. (LO 3.2.1)

taboos: norms that if violated cause revulsion and the most severe social sanctions. (LO 3.2.3)

teacher expectancy effect: teachers perception of students have an effect on their academic achievement. (LO 12.3.2)

technology: tools created by science to address and solve the problems of mankind. (LO 5.5.1)

technological determinism: society's technology drives the development of its social structures. (LO 3.2.2)

telecommuting: working from someplace other than the office on either a full or part-time basis. (LO 6.5.2)

tertiary deviance: normalizing deviant behavior by labeling it as nondeviant. (LO 7.1.2)

terrorism: the use of violence or the threat of violence to influence the political process. (LO 7.3.1)

Thomas theorem: the idea that if we think something is real, then it is indeed real to us. (LO 5.5.2)

time diary method: a research method in which subjects literally track their actions at various points in time over a number of days. (LO 2.3.2)

total institutions: an isolated group with strict rules and regulations whose goal is to control every aspect of its members' lives. (LO 4.3.3; LO 6.2.1)

totalitarian: a state controlled government holding all authority over public and private lives. (LO 11.2.1)

tracking: the practice of schools grouping students based on academic achievement. (LO 12.4.2)

transactional leader: a leader that acts like a manager by keeping the group functioning smoothly. (LO 6.3.3)

transformational leader: a leader that causes individuals, groups, and social systems to change. (LO 6.3.3)

transgender: a person who identifies with a gender that is different from his or her biological sex. (LO 9.4.2)

transnational crime: crime that crosses interstate or international borders. (LO 7.5.1)

transsexuals: individuals who undergo medical procedures to become the opposite sex. (LO 9.4.2)

triad: a group of three members. (LO 6.1.1)

triple oppression: combined characteristics of being woman, poor, and a minority. (LO 8.2.1)

upper class: a category of people who maintain the highest status and resources within a society. (LO 8.2.2)

urban area: densely developed residential, commercial, and other nonresidential areas. (LO 15.1.3)

urbanism: the study of culture and lifestyles of urban dwellers. (LO 15.1.3)

urbanization: the process and development of urban areas. (LO 15.1.3)

utilitarian organizations: groups of people based upon contractual obligations that seek tangible benefits such as monetary compensation. (LO 6.2.1)

validity: the extent that a study measures what it claims to measure. (LO 2.1.2)

values: collective ideas about what is desirable and undesirable in society. (LO 3.2.2)

value contradictions: conflicting issues between values. (LO 3.2.2)

value neutrality: the effort to eliminate bias from the research. (LO 2.3.2)

verbal language: a system of spoken and written words. (LO 3.2.1)

verstehen (vûrst e hen): an empathetic approach to understanding human behavior. (LO 1.1.4; LO 2.4.2)

vertical mobility: movement up or down the system of stratification. (LO 8.4.2)

violence against women: any act that results in the mental, physical and/or sexual harm of a girl, teen, or woman. (LO 9.3.1)

wealth: the total of all personal assets including property, investments, and income. (LO 8.1.1)

wealth gap: the uneven distribution of financial assets and resources in a society that result from the concentration of money in the hands of a small segment of the population. (LO 8.3.3)

white-collar crime: Nonviolent and financially motivated crime. (LO 7.2.1)

white-collar worker: an individual who is employed in a salaried professional, managerial, or administrative position. (LO 8.1.1)

white privilege: an invisible package of unearned assets held by Whites. (LO 10.2.1)

working poor: individuals who spend more than 27 weeks per year in the paid labor force and live below the poverty line. (LO 8.2.2)

world-system theory: any historical social system of interdependent parts that form a bonded structure and operate according to distinct rules. (LO 8.3.2)