Course Outline

School / Portfolio: Faculty of Education and Arts
Course Title: MAKING SENSE OF THE SOCIAL WORLD
Course ID: ATSGC3855
Credit Points: 15.00
Prerequisite(s): (ATSGC2597 or ATSGC2831)
Co-requisite(s): Nil
Exclusion(s): (ATSGC2855)
ASCED Code: 090301

Program Level:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AQF Level of Program</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
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<tr>
<td>Level</td>
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<tr>
<td>Introductory</td>
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<td>Intermediate</td>
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<td>Advanced</td>
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Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

K1. Acquire a broad understanding of classical and contemporary social and sociological theories;
K2. Identify, and differentiate between, different social and sociological theories and concepts;
K3. Critically analyse the merits and limitations of different social theory and sociological approaches;

Skills:

S1. Express reasoned exposition in the written presentation of an argument, including the ways in which sociologists incorporate and acknowledge the ideas of other writers.
S2. Analyse specific sociological research topics using databases, the library and other resources.
S3. Utilise applied critical reasoning skills in examining theory, methods and assumptions in prior sociological and other social science research.

Application of knowledge and skills:

A1. Utilise and integrate relevant conceptual frameworks in critical thinking to sociology’s theoretical knowledge to present day society;
A2. Apply critical reasoning skills on readings and other material from the unit;
A3. Identify links and tensions between issues, debates, concepts and perspectives.

Course Content:

Topics may include:
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- Introduction to social theory;
- Marx and Durkheim;
- Weber and Simmel;
- American functionalism of Parsons and Merton;
- Symbolic interactionism and the Chicago School;
- Western Marxism;
- Giddens and Bourdieu;
- Structuralism;
- Feminist social theory;
- Postmodernity and social change.

Values and Graduate Attributes:

Values:

V1. Develop understanding of professional autonomy and accountability in the field of social science;
V2. Appreciate the importance of building a sociological understanding of the Australian society;
V3. Develop understanding social issues and critically negotiating present public policies
V4. Developing an informed sociological imagination in writing and understanding need for argument;
V5. Develop a multi-faceted nuanced appreciation of contemporary and historical sociological theories and methods.

Graduate Attributes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Brief Description</th>
<th>Focus</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Continuous Learning</td>
<td>Students develop their abilities to identify and understand the roles of relevant processes, structures, values and actors</td>
<td>High</td>
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<tr>
<td>Self Reliance</td>
<td>Students develop skills in independent research and analysis</td>
<td>High</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engaged Citizenship</td>
<td>Students engage with political values, ideas, concepts, debates and perspectives as influences upon relationships within society</td>
<td>Medium</td>
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<td>Social Responsibility</td>
<td>Students develop their understanding of the political sphere, the distribution of political power, rights and responsibilities as key determinants of the roles, status and identities in diverse circumstances</td>
<td>High</td>
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Learning Task and Assessment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Outcomes Assessed</th>
<th>Assessment Task</th>
<th>Assessment Type</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K1, K3 S1, S2, S3 A1</td>
<td>Research and writing skills, topic analysis and identifying key issues, using relevant evidence.</td>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>30-45%</td>
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<td>K2 S1, S3, A1, A2, A3</td>
<td>Identify a research topic and its defining issues and characteristics, demonstrate capacity to source relevant evidentiary material and develop an argumentative rationale.</td>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>10-20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>K2, K3, S1, S3, A1, A2, A3</td>
<td>Research and writing skills, construction of an informed and substantial argument using relevant evidence.</td>
<td>Examination</td>
<td>40-55%</td>
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Adopted Reference Style:

APA