

School / Faculty: Faculty of Education and Arts

Course Title: REGIONAL AND RURAL SOCIETIES: PEOPLE, PLACE AND NATURE

Course ID: SOCIO2731

Credit Points: 15.00

Prerequisite(s): (Two Introductory (Level 1000) Courses in Sociology or equivalent)

Co-requisite(s): Nil

Exclusion(s): (ATSGC2731 and ATSGC3731 and SOCIO3731)

ASCED Code: 090301

Grading Scheme: Graded (HD, D, C, etc.)

Program Level:

AQF Level of Program						
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Level						
Introductory	■	■	■	■	■	■
Intermediate	■	■	✓	■	■	■
Advanced	■	■	■	■	■	■

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

- K1.** Identify and explain the sociological theories that explain regional/rural societies;
- K2.** Identify and understand the significant social, political and cultural issues that regional Australians currently face;
- K3.** Recognise and critically assess debates associated with rural health policy, education policy, climate change, sustainability and population growth at intermediate level;
- K4.** Understand the processes, institutions and policies that shape the organisation and structure of regional Australia at intermediate level.

Skills:

- S1.** Research topics relevant to issues of rural and regional societies at intermediate level;
- S2.** Express substantiated and reasoned expositions and arguments concerning the issues and challenges of rural and regional societies and have an greater ability to critically assess social issues through sociological reasoning at intermediate level;
- S3.** Summarise relevant key themes, issues and debates.

Application of knowledge and skills:

Course Outline (Higher Education)

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- A1.** Utilise and integrate relevant conceptual frameworks in critical thinking to sociology's theoretical knowledge to rural and regional societies;
- A2.** Apply critical reasoning skills on readings and other material from the course at intermediate level;
- A3.** Identify links and tensions between issues, debates, concepts and perspectives at intermediate level.

Course Content:

Topics may include:

- Defining rurality and regionality;
- Contemporary views on rurality;
- Challenges of environment, climate change and sustainability;
- Impact of globalization;
- Migration and rural societies.

Values and Graduate Attributes:

Values:

- V1.** Professional autonomy and accountability in the field of social science;
- V2.** Importance of building a sociological understanding of the Australian society;
- V3.** Understanding social issues and critically negotiating present public policies;
- V4.** Developing a sociological imagination in writing and understanding need for argument;
- V5.** Critical evaluation of contemporary and historical sociological theories and methods.

Graduate Attributes:

Attribute	Brief Description	Focus
Continuous Learning	Students develop their abilities to identify and understand the roles of relevant processes, structures, and actors.	High
Self Reliance	Students develop skills in independent research and analysis.	Medium
Engaged Citizenship	Students engage with political values, ideas, concepts, debates and perspectives as influences upon relationships within society.	Medium
Social Responsibility	Students develop their understanding of social justice, the distribution of political power, rights and responsibilities as key determinants of the roles, status and identities in diverse circumstances.	High

Learning Task and Assessment:

Course Outline (Higher Education)

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Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Task	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1, K2, K3, S1, S3, A1, A2	Research and writing skills, construction of an informed and substantiated argument, using relevant evidence.	Essay Format	20-30%
K2, K3, K4, S1, S2, A1, A2, A3	Students develop skills in independent research and analysis of key resources and the construction of an informed and substantiated argument.	Essay format	30-45%
K1, K2, K3, S2, S3, A1, A3	Examination tests understanding of the course content and includes essay style answers and writing techniques.	Examination	30-45%

Adopted Reference Style:

Other (Harvard)