LAST REVIEW   Spring 2022

COURSE TITLE   Directed Independent Study (Advanced Sociology)

COURSE NUMBER   SOSC 0285

DIVISION   Social and Behavioral Sciences & Public Services

DEPARTMENT   Sociology

CIP CODE   24.0101

CREDIT HOURS   3

CONTACT HOURS/WEEK   Class: 3

PREREQUISITES   None

COURSE PLACEMENT   Students must meet the correct placement measure for this course.
                             Information may be found at:
                             https://www.kckcc.edu/admissions/information/mandatory-evaluation-placement.html

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to enable the interested student to conduct independent research under the supervision of a faculty member on a topic of sociological relevance.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. The student will be able to develop a basic understanding of research methodology in sociology.
2. The student will be able to develop his/her logical thinking skills.
3. The student will be able to acquire a working knowledge of both library and Internet research.
4. The student will be able to recall and apply the method and style of scholarly writing.
5. The student will be able to develop a basic skill in designing and conducting Independent scholarly research.

General Education Learning Outcome
☐ Basic Skills for Communication
☐ Mathematics
☐ Humanities
☐ Natural and Physical Sciences
☒ Social and Behavioral Sciences

Institutional Learning Outcomes
☒ Communication
☐ Computation and Financial Literacy
☒ Critical Reasoning
☐ Technology and Information Literacy
☒ Community and Civic Responsibility
☐ Personal and Interpersonal Skills

TEXTBOOKS
http://kckccbookstore.com/

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION
A variety of instructional methods may be used depending on content area. These include but are not limited to: lecture, multimedia, cooperative/collaborative learning, labs and demonstrations, projects and presentations, speeches, debates, panels, conferencing, performances, and learning experiences outside the classroom. Methodology will be selected to best meet student needs.

COURSE OUTLINE
I.   Introduction
II.   Research Methods in Sociology
III.   Work on the Selected Topic
IV.   Starting the Research Process
V.   Writing the Research Paper

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES AND COMPETENCIES
Upon successful completion of this course, the student will:

A. CLO #1 Develop a basic understanding of research methodology in sociology.
1.   The student will be able to describe the nature and the conditions of applicability of the qualitative methods in sociology.
2.   The student will be able to define the concepts "median", "mode", and "mean".
3.   The student will be able to define the concepts "variable", "dependent variable", and "independent variable".
4.   The student will be able to define the concepts "survey" and "sample".
5.   The student will be able to describe the nature and the conditions of applicability of the qualitative methods in sociology.
6.   The student will be able to define and describe "participant observation" and "ethnography".
7.   The student will be able to describe the nature and the conditions of applicability of the library and archival methods.
8.   The student will be able to determine the conditions under which a combination of research methods must be employed.
9.   The student will be able to define and describe the "hypothesis".
10.   The student will be able to do library research and develop a short list of books and journal articles in his/her area of research interest.
11.   The student will be able to create an annotated bibliography of the sources in his/her area of research interest.

B. CLO #2 Develop his/her logical thinking skills.
12.   The student will be able to determine the nature of the data that must be collected for the topic in question.
13.   The student will be able to recognize and identify contradictory arguments and data on the topic in question.
14.   The student will be able to present his/her research findings in a logically coherent fashion both orally and in writing.
15.   The student will be able to support his/her thesis with the use of appropriate statistics.
16.   The student will be able to make a distinction between a valid and a faulty generalization.

C. CLO #3 Acquire working knowledge of both library and Internet research.

17. The student will be able to locate the electronically accessible sources on the topic of his/her interest.
18. The student will be able to use the method of cross-referencing in order to enhance his/her sources of information on the same topic.
19. The student will be able to use various indices and encyclopedia of social sciences.
20. The student will be able to use the electronically accessible data via the Internet.
21. The student will be able to use the method of interlibrary loan.

D. CLO #4 The student will be able to apply the method and style of scholarly writing.
22. The student will be able to demonstrate in writing the ability of systematic and logical organization of the components of a research topic.
23. The student will be able to write a paper wherein a bibliography has been properly developed.
24. The student will be able to properly employ the rules of footnoting/end noting of information.
25. The student will be able to properly cite the relevant sources.

E. CLO #5 The student will be able to develop and apply a basic skill in designing and conducting an independent scholarly work.
26. The student will be able to follow the correct sequence of steps in conducting his/her research.
27. The student will be able to determine a realistic scope for his/her research with respect to the element of time.
28. The student will become familiar with the scholarly canons of honesty and impartiality in reporting his/her findings.
29. The student will become familiar with the scholarly traits of precision, rigor, clarity, and critical thinking.
30. The student will be able to defend logically his/her research argument against the instructor's critical questions.

ASSESSMENT OF COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES AND COMPETENCIES
Student progress is evaluated through both formative and summative assessment methods. Specific details may be found in the instructor's course information document.

COLLEGE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
Student Handbook
https://www.kckcc.edu/files/docs/student-resources/student-handbook-and-code-of-conduct.pdf

College Catalog
https://www.kckcc.edu/academics/catalog/index.html

College Policies and Statements
https://www.kckcc.edu/about/policies-statements/index.html

Accessibility and Accommodations
https://www.kckcc.edu/academics/resources/student-accessibility-support-services/index.html.