SYLLABUS

DATE OF LAST REVIEW: 02/2013
CIP CODE: 24.0101
SEMESTER: Departmental Syllabus
COURSE TITLE: Directed Independent Study (Advanced Sociology)
COURSE NUMBER: SOSC-0285
CREDIT HOURS: 3
INSTRUCTOR: Departmental Syllabus
OFFICE LOCATION: Departmental Syllabus
OFFICE HOURS: Departmental Syllabus
TELEPHONE: Departmental Syllabus
EMAIL: KCKCC- “issued email accounts are the official means for electronically communicating with our students.”

PREREQUISITES: Sociology SOSC-0107, consent of the instructor and consent of the Honors program Director.

REQUIRED TEXT AND MATERIALS: Please check with the KCKCC bookstore, http://www.kckccbookstore.com/, for the required texts for your particular class.

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.

METHOD 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: Conducting Research in Sociology
II. Research Methods in Sociology
   A. Quantitative Method
   B. Qualitative Methods
   C. Library & Archival Method
III. Work on the Selected Topic
   A. Theoretical examination of the topic
   B. Formulating concrete research questions
   C. Selection of research method(s)
IV. Starting the Research Process
   A. Review of the literature
   B. Preparation of a reading list
   C. Reading and discussing with the instructor the content of the reading list
   D. Formulation of answers to the research questions
V. Writing the research Paper

EXPECTED LEARNER OUTCOMES:

A. The student will be able to develop a basic understanding of research methodology in sociology.
B. The student will be able to develop his/her logical thinking skills.
C. The student will be able to acquire a working knowledge of both library and Internet research.
D. The student will be able to recall and apply the method and style of scholarly writing.
E. The student will be able to develop a basic skill in designing and conducting independent scholarly research.

COURSE COMPETENCIES:

The student will be able to 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.

**The student will be able to 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.

**The student will be able to 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.

**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/endnoting of information.

25. The student will be able to properly cite the relevant sources.

**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 STUDENT OUTCOME:

Assessment method may include, but not limited to, the following: oral examination, examination of various drafts of the student’s written work, and examination of the student’s final research paper.
SPECIAL NOTES:
This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Material included is intended to provide an outline of the course and rules that the instructor will adhere to in evaluating the student’s progress. However, this syllabus is not intended to be a legal contract. Questions regarding the syllabus are welcome any time.

Kansas City Kansas Community College is committed to an appreciation of diversity with respect for the differences among the diverse groups comprising our students, faculty, and staff that is free of bigotry and discrimination. Kansas City Kansas Community College is committed to providing a multicultural education and environment that reflects and respects diversity and that seeks to increase understanding.

Kansas City Kansas Community College offers equal educational opportunity to all students as well as serving as an equal opportunity employer for all personnel. Various laws, including Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, require the college’s policy on non-discrimination be administered without regard to race, color, age, sex, religion, national origin, physical handicap, or veteran status and that such policy be made known.

*Kansas City Kansas Community College complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need accommodations due to a documented disability, please contact Director of Academic Resource Center, in Room 3354 or call (913) 288-7670.*
Kansas City Kansas Community College

21st Century General Education Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcomes

Discipline knowledge and content mastery is expected of all graduates. More specifically, KCKCC is committed to the Learning Outcomes listed below. We believe that competence in the Learning Outcomes is essential for the success of graduates and will enhance their ability to become contributing members of our increasingly complex world. These areas of knowledge and skills are equally valid for all KCKCC graduates, whether they transfer to a four-year college or pursue a career after leaving college.

General Education Learning Outcomes

Communication Learning Outcomes

The learner will have the ability to express, interpret, and modify ideas/information effectively (both written and oral), including but not limited to reading text accurately and correctly; writing with a clear purpose and effective organization; speaking effectively using appropriate styles that suit the message, purpose, and content; and employing active listening techniques.

Computation Learning Outcomes

The learner will have the ability to understand and apply mathematical concepts and reasoning using numerical data.

Critical Reasoning Learning Outcomes

The learner will understand inductive and deductive reasoning and have the ability to define problems and use data (qualitative and quantitative) to make complex decisions utilizing analysis, synthesis, and evaluation skills.

Technology and Information Management Learning Outcomes

The learner will have the ability to define, collect, organize, analyze, and evaluate information from a variety of sources. The learner will also have the ability to understand basic technology concepts and functionality in order to use technology as a tool to locate and retrieve information.
Community and Civil Responsibility Learning Outcomes
The learner will demonstrate knowledge, awareness, and understanding of diverse ideas, values, and perspectives of a culturally diverse world; an understanding of the ethical issues and values that are prerequisites for making sound judgments and decisions; a recognition of the obligation to become actively involved as a contributing member of the community; and a sensitivity to the awareness of aesthetic expression.

Personal and interpersonal Skills Learning Outcomes
The learner will have the ability to work cooperatively and productively with others; to understand and evaluate his/her capabilities; to manage his/her personal growth by setting realistic and appropriate goals.

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
STUDENT SUCCESS STRATEGIES

Know your teacher’s name.

Turn off your electronic devices in class/make paying attention to the work of the class your only concern.

Miss class only when you cannot attend/acquire missed information and materials ASAP.

Know your syllabus.

Know the attendance policy.

Know the requirements for tests and assignments.

Know information about final exam and make-up exams.

Know instructor’s position on use of Wikipedia or other online sources.

Know the instructor’s preferred writing style (APA, MLA, etc.).

Always know your grade.

Contact your teacher ASAP with concerns or questions.

Know the benefits of the academic resource center.

Know if your course has a practicum, service learning component, or other exception.

Use an academic planner.

Know the course withdrawal policy.

Know your instructor’s office hours and make appointments when necessary.

Know the school’s scholastic honesty policy.

Be familiar with the course learning objectives, course competencies, and the college’s 21st century learning outcomes for general education.