



Draft Outcomes Statements for Sociology Majors (BA)
May 31, 2005

Students should be able to:

1. Describe the role of culture and social structure in shaping individual lives and be able to provide and recognize examples of this process.
2. Describe the nature of United States society along major institutional axes (family, education, religion, etc.) in a comparative global framework.
3. Explain the effects of race, class, gender and other forms of difference on life chances and be able to provide at least three significant examples of these effects. In addition, students should be able to recognize the effects of difference at individual, institutional, and cultural levels.
4. Frame a sociological question of some public significance and outline a process by which the question posed might be empirically answered.
5. Locate sources of sociologically relevant information and make informed judgments about the reliability and credibility of available data.
6. Translate publicly available data (census data, polling data, etc.) into discursive English to highlight in a theoretically informed way trends and relationships between variables.
7. Read literary and non-quantitative accounts of human life in order to draw conclusions regarding their sociological significance and their value as evidence in sociological inquiries.
8. Employ broad sociological theory (what Mills calls “usable sociological traditions”) to provide an original analysis of current circumstances in some sphere of society.