



LEAD CITY UNIVERSITY
Faculty of Social and Management Sciences
Department of Sociology and Psychology

COURSE PARTICULARS :

Course Code: SOC 411
Course Title: Models in Sociological Analysis
No. of Units: 3
Status: Compulsory

LECTURER DETAILS:

Name: Professor A. I. ODEBIYI
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Area of Specialization: Medical Sociology; Women and Gender Studies

Course description: The study examines the different types of sociological explanations – Casual, Biological, Interpretive, Cultural/Interactions and their relevance to the understanding of human behavior. It further examines the role of models in sociological explanations particularly in cross-cultural studies. The course is an overview of the types of explanations used in sociological analysis. It further reveals the importance of models in cross-cultural studies.

Objectives: are itemized as follows: Expose the students to the different types of sociological explanations; Introduce them to the relevance of philosophy to the social sciences; Expose them to the content of cross-cultural studies.

Course Assessment: Grand Total = 100%
-Attendance: 5 marks
-Test(s) and Assignments: 25 marks
-Final Examination: 70%

LECTURE PLAN

Weeks	Topics
1	Definition of Research & Purpose of Research
2	Types and Methods of Research
3	Analysis, Interpretation and Presentation of data
4	Definition of Sociological Explanations
5	Types of Sociological Explanations and Criticisms (causal and biological explanations)
6	Interpretive & Cultural Explanations
7	Auguste Comte & Positivism
8	Antipositivism (humanism) & Dilthey.
9	Middle Range Theories & the Social World.
10	Naturalism and Criticisms.
11	Definition of Models, Theories & Laws; Theories as Models, Theories as axioms.

READING LIST

1. Bandura, A (1977). Social learning theory. Englewood, Cliffs, N. J. prentice Hall, Zimmerman B. J & -Schunk D eds (2001). Achievement: Theoretical perspectives (2ed) Mahivah N J: Eribaum.
2. Peter (1983). The Native Explanation, New York: Oxford University Press.
3. Bromberger Sylvain (1966). "Why- Questions", In Baruch A. Brody eds Readings in the philosophy of science, 66-84. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice Hall Inc.

TUTORIAL QUESTIONS

- 1a). What is Research?
- b). What are the goals of Research?
- c). Give the steps in the analysis & Interpretation of Research.
2. Discuss the types and methods of research in Sociological studies
- 3a). What is Sociological Explanation?
- b). Discuss Salmon's causal theory of Explanation
- c). Examine Explanation within the context of constructive Empericism
4. Give a critical analysis of the causal & biological explanations in Sociology
5. Critically analyse the Interpretive and cultural Explanations in Sociology
6. What is positivistic Sociology? What is Auguste Comte's contribution to positivism?
7. What is humanistic Sociology? Examine Dilthey's contribution to humanistic sociology.
- 8a). What are Middle Range Theories?
- b). Discuss the usefulness of the Middle Range over and above the Grand Theories?
- c). What are the criticisms of the Middle Range Theories? Who are the major proponents of these theories?
9. What is Naturalism? How is it relevant to the theory of Explanation? Highlight the criticism.
- 10a). What is a model?
- b). What is the relevance of models to Sociological explanation?
- 11a). What are the differences between theories, models and laws?
- b). Write short notes on the following: Theories as models, Theories as axioms.

12. Examine the implications of cross-cultural studies for data gathering.