

## **Sociology**

### **Program Learning Outcomes - 2016**

*Upon completion, our graduates are expected to be able to accomplish the following:*

1. Demonstrate knowledge and comprehension of classical and contemporary sociological theories and related interdisciplinary perspectives and debates. This includes the relationship between theory and lived experience, social processes and social problems, power and inequality, and movements for transformative social change.

2. Demonstrate knowledge of the socio-historical and global context of contemporary social relations and knowledge production, including ways in which

- a) structural inequalities and social injustice are manifested in individual and group identities; and
- b) social injustice, inequalities and identities have been legitimated, normalized, and institutionalized over time.
- c) people individually and collectively resist discrimination and inequality.

3. Critically read, interpret, assess, conduct and evaluate research methods and methodologies, while demonstrating an informed knowledge and respect for epistemological and ethical issues. Students receive training in

- a) research design and data collection using methods such as survey design, standard qualitative interviews, focus group interviews, narrative analysis and media analysis;
- b) data analysis using approaches such as content and discourse analysis, comparative and historical analysis, semiotics, statistical description and inference.

4. Demonstrate reflexivity as a sociologist; specifically, an awareness and comprehension of one's own location in society as well as the different subject positions of the many individuals that make up our diverse society. Implicit in this process is an ongoing critical scepticism and awareness of the production, and the limits of knowledge.

5. Exhibit effective communication skills in a variety of formats, including essay writing and oral presentations; demonstrate a facility with words and numerical language as well as the ability to debate cogently, discuss and exchange ideas.

6. Demonstrate an ability to understand and critically interpret a wide range of texts in a variety of media, including both scholarly and popular writings.

7. Demonstrate social engagement by bridging academic thought and research in relation to practical challenges, policies and strategic organization in local, national and global communities and forums. Express the intellectual breadth to allow sociology specialists to explore new perspectives on identities, social relationships and the organization of social institutions.