

SOU11021— Making Sense of the Social World I

Module Information	
Module Code	SOU11011
Module Title	Making Sense of the Social World I
Department	Sociology
Year Group	Junior Fresh
Module Personnel	Dr David Kretschmer
Academic Year	2026-27
Credit Weighting	5 credits
Semester	Semester 1
Contact Hours	2 lectures + 1 tutorial per week

Module Content	
Module Description	This module provides an introduction to the social world from a sociological perspective. It examines what social phenomena are and how sociologists explain them. The module explores how social structures and social processes shape human behavior, and how, in turn, human behavior contributes to the production and transformation of social life. It draws on classic and modern examples of key sociological questions to understand different types of social structures, their characteristics, and the social processes associated with them.
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module, students should be able to: • Describe sociology as a discipline and identify core sociological concepts and phenomena; • Explain the nature and characteristics of sociological explanations; • Analyse the relationship between social structures, social processes, and human behavior; • Describe and distinguish different forms of social structures and the social processes associated with them;

Module Content

	Apply sociological concepts and explanations to real-world social issues.
Indicative Reading / Resources	Specific readings will be announced on the syllabus provided to all students. While there is no textbook for the course, useful introductory books that will be repeatedly drawn on are: Van Tubergen, F. (2020). Introduction to Sociology. Routledge, London Coleman, J. S. (1990). Foundations of Social Theory. Belknap, Cambridge, MA

Assessment

Assessment Components	In-class exam (80%) Presentation in Tutorial (20%)
Assessment Details	Failure to attend at least half of the tutorials will automatically result in a 10% deduction (one full grade) from the overall module grade.

Additional Information

Prerequisites	None
Co-requisites	None
Any other information	