



Memorandum

To: Sociology Professionals

From: Dona Fletcher, M.S.
Faculty Lead, Sociology TAG Review/Revision Panel

Re: Updates to the Sociology Transfer Assurance Guide (TAG) Course Learning Outcomes

Date: December 13, 2016

Background

The Ohio Articulation and Transfer Network (OATN) sent a request to me as the Sociology Transfer Assurance Guide (TAG) Review Panel lead to determine if any of the Sociology TAG courses were in need of a review. My initial assessment was that no significant update to the current TAG courses was needed. However, recently having consulted and met with my statewide faculty review panel and understanding the current social state in our society, it was recommended that the learning outcomes for the four TAG courses be updated or clarified further. The four courses included Introduction to Sociology (OSS021), Marriage and Family (OSS023), Race and Ethnicity (OSS024), and Social Problems (OSS025).

The Statewide Faculty Panel met in on September 26, 2016. In November the Panel finalized its revision recommendations for three of the four courses (OSS021, 023, and 025). In November, a survey request was distributed statewide to gain endorsement for the proposed criteria for the Race and Ethnicity TAG course. The Panel recently analyzed the survey results and finalized the course learning outcomes.

Updates

In the attached, you will find the revised Sociology TAG document that includes revised course learning outcomes for the four TAG courses. Basically, the faculty panel's changes to the TAG course outcomes centered on a few goals:

1. To update the student learning outcomes to reflect the current trends in the discipline
2. To create a course description to aid institutions in identifying the course.

Implication to Your TAG Courses

Introduction to Sociology (OSS021), Marriage and Family (OSS023), and Social Problems (OSS025)

Because the spirit of the previous learning outcomes continues to be implemented for these three courses but better defined under the updated criteria, the Statewide Faculty Panel members recommended that institutions with a course already approved for the respective TAG course not be required to resubmit for additional validation. The updated learning outcomes will be used for any new submissions beginning winter 2017 TAG review cycle, which will begin on January 23, 2017.

Race and Ethnicity (OSS050)

The result of the survey indicated that there is very strong support for the revised learning outcomes for the Race and Ethnicity TAG course. As a result, the revised course has replaced the former Race and Ethnicity under OSS024, effective immediately.

All institutions with currently approved Race and Ethnicity TAG course are required to resubmit to the Statewide Sociology TAG Review Panel and get their courses approved by the end of spring 2019 review cycle. The first opportunity to submit is January 16, 2017. OATN has informed us that if courses are not approved by the end of the spring 2019 review cycle, the currently approved courses will automatically expire. This may detrimentally impact the student's transferability and applicability of the courses. Therefore, the Review Panel appreciates your utmost effort on this matter. All of the necessary documents, according to OATN staff, have been posted on their website at <https://www.ohiohighered.org/transfer/tag/coursedescriptions>. Please have your faculty work with your TAG coordinator to initiate the work.

I wish to express my thanks for the dedicated work of the Sociology TAG Faculty Revision/Review Panel for their commitment and collaboration in updating the learning outcomes. The faculty members of the Sociology TAG Review Panel included: Dona Fletcher (Revision/Review Panel Lead, Sinclair College), Kwaku Obosu-Mensah (Lorain County Community College), Ron Bulanda (Miami University), Sean Dunne (Shawnee State University), Daysha Lawrence (Stark State College), Janette Dill (The University of Akron), and Gregory Rocheleau (Youngstown State University).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at dona.fletcher@sinclair.edu or (937) 512-5149.

Attachment 1