

Ministry of Higher Education
University of Mohamad Kheidar Biskra
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Department of Social Sciences

Module: *English*

Level: *First Year*

Lecture: *Introduction to Sociology*

Teacher: *Pro. Sedrata fadhila*

Introduction to Sociology

Definition of Sociology:

Sociology is the scientific study of society, human behavior, and social interactions.

It seeks to understand how individuals and groups interact within a society and how social structures influence behavior, values, and institutions.

Etymology: The word *sociology* comes from the Latin "*socius*" (companion) and the Greek "*logos*" (study or science).

Key Sociological Concept:

Concept

Definition

Society

A group of people who share a common culture, territory, and way of life.

Culture

The beliefs, norms, values, and symbols that define a way of life.

Socialization

The lifelong process through which individuals learn the norms of society.

Social Structure

The organized pattern of relationships and institutions in a society.

Role

The expected behavior associated with a particular social status.

Norms

Rules and expectations that guide behavior in a society.

Values

Shared beliefs about what is right and wrong or important in life.

Status

A person's position within a social hierarchy.

Main Fields (Branches) of Sociology

Field

Focus

Sociology of Family

Studies the family unit, marriage, child-rearing, and kinship systems.

Sociology of Education

Examines how education systems affect individuals and society.

Field	Focus
Urban Sociology	Focuses on life in cities and the effects of urbanization.
Rural Sociology	Studies rural life and agricultural communities.
Sociology of Religion	Analyzes religious beliefs, practices, and their social impact.
Sociology of Work	Looks at labor, employment, and workplace dynamics.
Political Sociology	