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| Title | **Examine sociological theories** | | |
| Level | **2** | **Credits** | **5** |

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| Purpose | People credited with this unit standard are able to examine sociological theories. |

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| Classification | Social Science Studies > Sociology |

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| Available grade | Achieved |

**Guidance Information**

1 Sociology is the rigorous and methodical study of society. Sociologists investigate the structure of groups, organisations, and societies, and how people interact in these contexts.

2 This unit standard can be awarded with an *Achieved*, *Merit*, or *Excellence* grade as specified below.

*Examine sociological theories* means to identify and define at least two key concepts of each of the theories, identify at least one difference and one similarity between the theories, compare their application to an aspect(s) of society and show how the different theories can be applied to the same aspect(s) of society. The examination could include a consideration of Māori and/or Pasifika context(s).

*Examine sociological theories in detail* means to define the concepts in detail; describe and explain differences and similarities between the theories; and explain in detail an aspect(s) of society using the different theories.

*Comprehensively examine sociological theories* means to define the concepts comprehensively; describe and explain comprehensively differences and similarities between the theories; and explain comprehensively an aspect(s) of society, using two or more sociological theories.

3 Definition

A *sociological theory* is a body of ideas that attempts to explain the structure of groups, organisations, and societies, and how people interact in these contexts.

4 Assessment support material related to this unit standard can be found at <https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/providers-partners/assessment-and-moderation-of-standards/assessment-of-standards/assessment-support-material/>.

**Outcomes and Performance criteria**

**Outcome 1**

Examine sociological theories.

Range at least two theories are required.

**Performance criteria**

* 1. Key concepts of the theories are identified and defined.
  2. The theories are compared to identify at least one similarity and at least one difference between them.
  3. The theories are compared in terms of their application to an aspect(s) of society.

Range same aspect(s) for each theory.

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| Planned review date | 31 December 2026 |

**Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions**

| Process | Version | Date | Last Date for Assessment |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Registration | 1 | 6 December 1996 | 31 December 2015 |
| Revision | 2 | 7 July 1999 | 31 December 2015 |
| Review | 3 | 22 August 2014 | N/A |
| Rollover and Revision | 4 | 27 September 2018 | N/A |
| Review | 5 | XXX 2021 | N/A |

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| Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference | 0226 |

This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

**Comments on this unit standard**

Please contact the SSB nqs@nzqa.govt.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.