

Title	Examine sociological theories		
Level	2	Credits	5

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, Merit and Excellence
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Criteria for Merit	Examine sociological theories in detail.
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Criteria for Excellence	Comprehensively examine sociological theories.
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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

- 1.1 Key concepts of the theories are identified and defined.
- 1.2 The theories are compared to identify at least one similarity and at least one difference between them.
- 1.3 The theories are compared in terms of their application to an aspect(s) of society.

Range same aspect(s) for each theory.

Planned review date	31 December 2026
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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	27 January 2022	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0226
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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.