

<b>Title</b>	<b>Evaluate sociological theories</b>		
<b>Level</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>5</b>

<b>Purpose</b>	People credited with this unit standard are able to evaluate sociological theories.
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<b>Classification</b>	Social Science Studies > Sociology
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<b>Available grade</b>	Achieved, Merit and Excellence
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<b>Criteria for Merit</b>	Evaluate sociological theories in detail.
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<b>Criteria for Excellence</b>	Comprehensively evaluate 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.

*Evaluate sociological theories* means to form a critical opinion, based on reason and evidence, of the usefulness of at least two sociological theories. The evaluation will explain the key concepts of the theories; explain how the theories are applied to an aspect(s) of society; and identify strengths and weaknesses of the theories. The evaluation could include a consideration of Māori and/or Pasifika context(s).

*Evaluate sociological theories in detail* means to: analyse and compare the theories in detail; apply the theories to an aspect(s) of society; and evaluate the theories in terms of their relative strengths and weaknesses.

*Comprehensively evaluate sociological theories* means to present a coherent, perceptive analysis, comparison and evaluation of the theories which are applied to an aspect(s) of society.

- 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/>.

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## Outcomes and performance criteria

### Outcome 1

Evaluate sociological theories.

Range at least two theories are required.

### Performance criteria

- 1.1 Sociological theories are evaluated in terms of their key concepts, their strengths and weaknesses, and their application to an aspect(s) of society.

Range same aspect(s) for each theory.

<b>Planned review date</b>	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

<b>Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference</b>	0226
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

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### Comments on this unit standard

Please contact the SSB [nqs@govt.nz](mailto:nqs@govt.nz) if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.