**Module/Unit 2 and Topic Objectives**

**Module/Unit 2 Objectives: Building Blocks: The Self in Society (Culture, Socialization, Social Structure, Social Interaction, Groups, Deviance)**

4. Define and provide examples for each of the components of each building block of society.

5. Discuss how you and others have been shaped and otherwise impacted by each of these building blocks.

(Unit objectives that are addressed by each topic objective listed below are indicated in parentheses based on the list of unit objectives located above and in the Course Resources folder.)

**Unit 2 Topic 1 Objectives – Culture**

Objectives -- After completing this topic, you will be able to:

1. Define culture and its components. (4)
2. Determine whether you tend to be more ethnocentric or more culturally relative. (5)
3. Identify the problems associated with ethnocentrism, and express the importance of cultural relativity. (5)
4. Discuss the importance of symbols, including language. (4,5)
5. Distinguish between subcultures and countercultures. (4)
6. Discuss the importance of values, and identify core U.S. values (4,5)
7. Discuss the differences between the major types of societies. (4,5)
8. Explain the importance of culture as a social force. (5)

**Unit 2 Topic 2 Objectives – Socialization**

Objectives – After completing this topic, you will be able to:

1. Describe the evidence that demonstrates the importance of socialization in making us “human.” (5)
2. Distinguish among social development theories, and relate them to the sociological perspective. (4,5)
3. Discuss how we are shaped by socialization. (5)
4. Identify and explain the impact of the major agents of socialization, and explore how they have impacted your own life. (4,5)
5. Explain the importance of socialization as a social force. (5)

**Module 2 Topic 3 Objectives – Social Structure and Social Interaction**

Objectives – After completing this topic, you will be able to:

1. Explain social structure and its impact on individuals. (4,5)
2. Define and illustrate the concepts of social structure. (4)
3. Place yourself within the social structures in your own life. (4,5)
4. Determine how the unspoken rules of social interaction influence your behavior. (4,5)
5. Explain the importance of social structure and social interaction as social forces. (5)

**Module 2 Topic 4 Objectives – Groups**

Objectives – After completing this topic, you will be able to:

1. Distinguish between various types of groups, and explain the characteristics of each. (4)
2. Determine the groups that have been important in your life. (4,5)
3. Discuss how the factors of size, leadership, conformity, and decision-making operate in terms of group dynamics. (4,5)
4. Describe the characteristics of bureaucracies, and discuss their positive and negative qualities. (4,5)
5. Explain the importance of groups as a social force. (5)

**Module 2 Topic 5 Objectives – Deviance**

Objectives – After completing this topic, you will be able to:

1. Define deviance from a sociological perspective. (4)
2. Recognize and explain the relative nature of deviance. (5)
3. Contrast the sociological approach to explaining deviance with other approaches  
    (biological and psychological). (4,5)
4. Discuss the major sociological theories of deviance, and apply them to real life situations. (4,5)
5. Discuss the relationship between social class, gender, race, age and crime, as well as  
    perceptions of crime. (4,5)
6. Explain the issues related to white-collar and “victimless” crime. (4,5)
7. Describe the attempts by societal institutions to control deviant behavior, and  
    discuss why these are problematic. (5, 19)
8. Develop an approach as to how deviant behavior should be dealt with, incorporating your   
    own as well as sociological insights. (5, 19)