

SR 950-32: Clinical and Applied Sociology (Spring 2024)

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Omega Graduate School

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Professor: Dr. Joshua D. Reichard

Assignment #1 – Core Essential Elements

1. Select One (1) Core Essential Element from the Syllabus Outline:

a. Weekend Residency: Create a 350-word original discussion paper (with cited

sources) during the week of the residency. Be prepared to discuss and engage

with other students during the live sessions. Post this document in DIAL.

b. Professor will check for quality of content and word-count requirements. A grade

assigned will be Credit or No Credit (CR/NC).

Course Essential Elements

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1. Applied Sociology and Sociological Practice

2. Clinical Sociology

3. Sociological Interventions

4. Applications for Sociological Research

Clinical Sociology

As a student of the DSL program, my goal is to take the knowledge that I am learning to apply it to what God has called me to do. Even though our motto is to “Change the World Through Social Research,” I did not think about what I was doing as a sociologist until now. I am a published author, public school administrator, and ministry leader, and I have a non-profit organization. Everything I am doing has one central theme. I am trying to solve human problems, which is why this class intrigues me. In particular, I am trying to solve problems, especially as it relates to public education.

First, let’s look at applied sociology and how it relates to the problem. Applied sociology is the application of social research in identifying the problem (Reichard, J. D., 2024; *Sociology at Work*, 2013). From understanding applied sociology, it helps me to fully understand the gravity of the problem that is of concern. In looking at the research from this perspective, it helps to see the problem more objectively.

Clinical Sociology is the “implementation and evaluation of interventions for groups, organizations, and communities using sociological theories and methods (Reichard, J. D., 2024). Once you move from applied to clinical sociology that is when positive social change happens and secular and religious theorists and practitioners can build bridges. Reichard’s work epitomizes faith integration into the secular world as he writes about the benefits of applied and clinical sociology from a Christian perspective (Reichard, J. D., 2023). The Bible teaches that God loves all of His creation, and it is not God’s will that anyone should perish (John 3:16, 2nd Peter 3:8-10). There is a wedge between the Church and public and secular schools and

universities. Did not Christ call us to love? We need to be present showing love and kindness while working within the policies of these institutions to have a positive impact through Bible clubs and activities throughout the school week. Jesus said, Behold, I tell you, raise your eyes and observe the fields, that they are white for harvest (John 4:35).

Works Cited

- New American Standard Bible (NASB), 2020. *Lockman Foundation*. (Original work published in 1960).
- Reichard, J. D. (2024). Applied and clinical sociology: A Christian Perspective. In *The Routledge International Handbook of Sociology and Christianity* (pp. 369-379).
Routledge.
- Reichard, J. D. (2023). Applied and clinical sociology. *The Routledge International Handbook of Sociology and Christianity*, 369.