SR 950-32: Clinical and Applied Sociology

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Omega Graduate School

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Professor

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Assignment

### *Developmental Readings*

Review Assignment #3, the course essential elements, assigned readings, and recommended readings to identify selections of books and scholarly articles to identify and select developmental reading sources and entries.

* Refer to the “[Student Guide to Developmental Readings](https://drive.google.com/file/d/161V_FaYR2BnNGCSFUlWPjUSIQzcH04Hq/view?usp=share_link)” for updated information on sample comments, rubrics, and key definitions related to developmental readings.

**Source One:** Rohman, O. A., Mahir, M., Soleh, Y. M., Ziyad, M. T. I., & Sholihuddin, S. (2024). Sociology and Religion: Interaction, Conflict, and Social Change in Society From a Hadith Perspective. *JISIP (Jurnal Ilmu Sosial dan Pendidikan)*, *8*(1), 68-79.

**Comment 1:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** In response to this call, the goal of the current essay is to explore how the conception of Christianity as a ‘public religion’ can be utilized to help justify the use of a Christian sociological approach for studying the social and scientific aspects of the sport. After making a case for Christianity as a public religion, we conclude that many of the sociological issues inherent in modern sport indirectly result from its increasing secularization and argue that this justifies the need for a Christian sociological approach. We encourage researchers to use the Bible, the tools of Christian theology, and sociological concepts together to inform analyses of modern sports from a Christian perspective.

**Essential Element:** Applied Sociology and Sociological Practice are those who apply sociology to the solution of social problems and the effect of social change, and are professional social workers and social artists.

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** Based on my research, I would like to add that the distinction between the development of applied sociology as an organized body of knowledge and the application of sociology as practice has been a topic of discussion among researchers and scholars. It has been argued that the former may emerge from the latter, and the latter may increasingly rely on the former. However, it is important to exercise caution and make a clear distinction between the two to promote clarity and constructive thinking.

**Contextualization:**  As I develop my application, I am reminded of the distinction between pure sociology and applied sociology. While pure sociology focuses on the facts, causes, and principles of society, applied sociology is concerned with the object, end, or purpose. In other words, one deals with the subject matter of sociology, while the other deals with its use. As I work on my application, I am mindful that it is essentially practical, appealing directly to users' interests, and aiming to achieve social ideals. I am also cognizant of ethical considerations and what ought to be in society. While my application aims to accelerate the spontaneous processes of nature, I am aware that it must do so in an artificial manner.

**Comment 2:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** Religion and sociology are two fields that are inherently linked to human social life. Religion is an integral part of the lives of many individuals and societies around the world, influencing actions, values, norms, and social structures. On the other hand, sociology studies social interaction, social institutions, and social change in society. Both influence each other and form complex social dynamics. The purpose of this study is to investigate the interaction between religion and sociology, with a focus on conflict and social change, and how hadith views these

**Essential Elements:** Applied Sociology and Sociological Practice can design and implement programs and policies that reduce poverty, improve educational outcomes, and promote social justice.

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** Furthermore, incorporating theology as a field that systematically explores religion and its related aspects such as religious beliefs, rituals, and traditions can help to de-monopolize perspectives and create a more comprehensive understanding of society. In addition to this, sociology, which studies the interrelations between social actors, social structures, and social institutions, plays a crucial role in understanding the dynamics of society and its various components.

**Contextualization:** I desire to do program evaluations. Having learned that sociologists can evaluate the effectiveness of social programs and interventions to determine if they are achieving their intended outcomes, I am eager to assess program outcomes, identify best practices, and pinpoint areas for improvement with the help of sociologists.

**Source Two:** Turner, J. H. (2019). The more American sociology seeks to become a politically relevant discipline, the more irrelevant it becomes to solving societal problems. *The American Sociologist*, *50*(4), 456–487. https://doi.org/10.1007/s12108-019-09420-5

**Comment 3:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** The long-standing divide between sociology as an activist discipline and sociology as a science is examined in light of the current trend for American sociology to focus on a limited set of justice issues resulting from inequalities and discrimination against certain categories of persons. Increasingly, this trend is pushing sociology toward becoming an activist discipline and, as a result, an ideologically oriented discipline in its teaching and research activities.

**Essential Element:** Applied Sociology and Sociological Practice in the practical application of sociological knowledge is to solve social problems and improve social conditions of society

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** In addition to the matter, it is important to note that sociology offers a comprehensive understanding of society and its various systems. Applied sociology can be instrumental in identifying the underlying cultural and social issues that are responsible for the problems that we face today. By recognizing the interrelatedness of social problems, we can work towards developing comprehensive solutions that address the root causes of these issues. It is only by taking a holistic approach that we can hope to bring about meaningful and lasting change in society.

**Contextualization:** I will encourage my team to deeply get involved in practicals and, as sociologists, to use an empirical approach that seeks to understand what is going on in the social world and how it happens. That way, we will be able to get to the root of the problem once and for all.

**Comment 4:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** Furthermore, the chance for sociology to use its vast store of knowledge to help clients of all types solve their organizational problems will be lost if sociology is defined as a political rather than scientific enterprise. Sociology will thus willingly leave the vast resource niche for applications of social science knowledge to disciplines that know little about social organization (i.e., economics and psychology). Sociology will endure, of course, but it will not realize its enormous potential for reshaping societies.

**Essential Element**: Applied Sociology Practice, or empirical analysis, cannot stand on its own without underlying theoretical questions (the why) that guide the research.

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** I would add that using the scientific method is a method of discovering knowledge about the natural world based on making falsifiable predictions (hypotheses), testing them empirically, and developing peer-reviewed theories that best explain the known data that can assist in gathering the ideas that bring positive results

**Contextualization:** Practice will be our best value; this is what we currently do with our beneficiaries, as we found it worth referring to the actual observation, operation, or experiment. Practice as an observation of disparate concepts (or a phenomenon) will always need explanation, as opposed to theory, which the researchers say is a proposed explanation of the relationship between two or more concepts or an explanation for how/why a phenomenon occurs.

**Comment 5:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** These practitioners may have to deal with complex and interconnected social situations that tend to defy easy definitions or delineations. This chapter discusses the compatibility and important connections between clinical sociology and other “sister” disciplines. The authors also argue that interdisciplinary collaboration would not only be beneficial for clinical sociologists to leverage from others, but it is imperative for managing social issues.

**Essential Element:** Sociology is the study of social life, social change, and the social causes and consequences of human behavior.

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** From my understanding, my addition to the research is that sociology may be unique among the social sciences because it alone seeks to study all of the other disciplines. The reason is that society, the concern of sociology, contains all of the other disciplines. Sociologists may want to understand the history of society and relate it to the present.

**Contextualization:** As the researchers and course materials have explained, my teamwork and organizational skills will be applicable to clinical sociologists because they provide community services, are aware of potential hazards, and frequently conduct social work. Our jobs might involve drawing up physical rehabilitation plans, providing well-being and self-help coaching, providing crisis housing and trauma services, and administering group therapy. As our recipients are mostly HIV/AIDS I'll work on public health campaigns, mediate conflict; facilitate local council policies, work on issues of sustainability, and carry out action research (research that will involve participants in every step of the journey)

**Source Three:** Trimikliniotis, N. (2018). Public sociology, social justice, and struggles in the era of austerity and crises. *International Social Work*, *63*(1), 002087281878232. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0020872818782324>

**Comment 6:**

**Quote/paraphrase:** While struggles for social justice contain global significance and possible implications, they cannot be understood in the context of specific struggles. However, it would be a sophism to suggest that social justice is devoid of meaning and legitimacy by pushing the arguments of subjectivism and relativism to their limits. The purpose of this article is not to engage with the various perspectives at a conceptual level, but to focus on sociology for social justice and public sociology.

**Essential Element:** Clinical sociology is a creative, humanistic, and interdisciplinary specialization that seeks to improve the quality of people’s lives.

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** I believe that this could include assessing how an individual’s health and wellness” may be impacted by their living situation, such as their “social resources and resiliency.” The clinical sociologist could also implement an intervention plan aimed at addressing recuperation and meeting the sociological needs of the clients

**Contextualization:** As a Christian and a social leader, I want to be able to help individual families with therapy. As a clinical sociologist, I will assist family members in understanding their relationship with each other as a step toward solving whatever issues keep them from functioning as an effective family and benefiting from each other's gifts.

**Comment 7:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** This article focuses on the type of sociology that promises a transformation in the direction of social justice and equality. This is often organically connected to radical and critical perspectives connected to social struggles. There are several powerful reasons why mainstream sociology individuals censor, silence, or ignore radical scholars, such as Marxist scholars, critical race scholars, feminists, gender scholars, anti-colonialists, and other radical strands. Only recently have mainstream sociology texts introduced radical scholars as founders of sociology

**Essential Element:** Applied Sociology is Radical and critical social work for, a framework for enforcing human rights and fairness

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** There are constant developments in the standards of human rights, as seen by previous individual’s human rights being violated. Human rights have been instigated by social workers as well as used to improve social work practice through frameworks

**Contextualization:** My desired goals include applying sociology to the solution of social problems and the effect of social change. I aim to become a professional social worker or social artist and develop my scientific techniques in my chosen field. I see applied sociology as a body of knowledge that can be selected, presented, interpreted, and organized for those who are endeavoring to use sociology effectively for the achievement of proximate social ends

**Source Four:** Stausberg, M., Cusack, C. M., & Wright, S. A. (2020). *The demise of religion*. Bloomsbury Publishing.

**Comment 8:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** The religious field is in flux, and religions change. There is innovation and solidification, but also torpor and attrition in the sphere of religion. Usually, it is heightened religious change that draws public and academic attention, for example, the creation of movements of reform or the emergence of new groups, especially those surrounded by tension or conflict with their environments. Much less attention tends to be paid to the later stages of these movements or groups once they are no longer considered a challenge or have disappeared from the news. While these groups become older—perhaps more mature or maybe more fragile—other developments divert attention from them

**Essential Element:** Interdisciplinary collaboration would not only be beneficial for clinical sociologists to leverage others, but it is also imperative for managing social issues.

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** Trimikliniotis (2018) highlights the importance of creating a dialogue between academic disciplines, such as sociology and social work, and political and social movements that strive for social justice. The author argues that such collaborations can help increase the visibility of marginalized and oppressed communities and lead to meaningful social change. By engaging with these communities, sociologists and social workers can gain valuable insights into the challenges they face and the strategies they use to resist and challenge dominant power structures. This can help bridge the gap between academia and activism and contribute to creating a more just and equitable society.

**Contextualization:** Making the notion of the commons my direction for social change is intimately connected to my belief in public sociology/sociology for social justice and ‘applied sociology'. As a passionate advocate for public sociology, I firmly believe that its future lies in the integration of social and political struggle and the development of theoretical frameworks that draw from both the successes and failures of such struggles. To create a more equitable, just, and sustainable society, it is imperative that we not only learn from our successes but also from our "horrible histories" to ensure that such events are never repeated. I am fully committed to working toward realizing this vision with this objective in mind. I think that we can empower marginalized communities and bring about positive social change by utilizing the knowledge and insights that have been gained from past struggles. By doing this, we can build a future that is inclusive, egalitarian, and fair for everyone.

**Comment 9:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** The beginnings of religions are often well documented by enthusiastic insiders and interested outsiders, but little is known about how and why religions end. The lack of attention to ends distinguishes religions from languages. Apart from artificial or constructed languages like Esperanto or revived languages like Modern Hebrew, which both have main individual founding figures, the beginnings of natural languages are more obscure and opaque than the beginnings of religions

**Essential Element:** The sociology of religion will provide knowledge about the patterns of religious social interaction in society and how they build structures and infrastructure in religion.

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** Learning according to religion can be a great way to deepen your understanding of the world around you, as well as your own beliefs and values. Many religions offer teachings and practices that can help you live a more fulfilling and meaningful life. For example, in Islam, seeking knowledge is highly valued and is considered a religious duty. By learning about your religion and its teachings, you can develop a greater sense of purpose and direction in life. Additionally, learning about other religions can help you develop greater tolerance and understanding of people from different backgrounds and cultures. Ultimately, learning about religion can help you become a more compassionate, empathetic, and well-rounded person.

**Contextualization:** I have learned that religion can serve as a source of meaning and purpose in life for many people, especially when faced with difficult or mysterious situations. Additionally, religion can be a powerful force for reinforcing social unity and stability by providing a common set of beliefs and values that bring people together. As someone interested in social change, I believe that understanding the role of religion in people's lives and society can be crucial in promoting social cohesion and addressing social problems. By recognizing and respecting the diverse religious beliefs and practices of individuals and communities, we can work towards building stronger, more inclusive societies that are better equipped to tackle the challenges we face.

**Source Five:** Villodas, R. (2021). *Deeply formed life: Five transformative values to root us in the way of Jesus.* Waterbrook Pr.

**Comment 10:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** We live in a time when we must learn from the monastery. We desperately need a way of thinking and living that isn’t captive to the powers of efficiency, speed, and performance. We need a way of living according to a different understanding of time and space. We need the treasures of monastic imagination

**Essential Element:** Making an imaginative investment in the text is an essential element for students to reap concrete benefits. By doing so, they can engage with the text on a much deeper level, going beyond just gathering facts for a quick read.

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** My addition to understanding and learning about monasteries is that the process of imagination that initiates a novice into a community is an essential element.It involves both the creative faculty of the mind and the mnemonic capacity of the physical body, serving as a foundational step towards belonging.

**Contextualization:** "I have decided to make it my goal and desire to enter the monastic life and engage in this creative process of meditative renegotiation. I am eager to remember the physical performance of worship and work, while also creatively constructing new interpretations of Scripture's meaning. I am aware that the spiritual master of the community will play a crucial role in guiding me through this process. By imitating the master and holding in my mind the image of the abbot or Christ, I hope to participate in the contemplative community's creative work."

**Source Six:** Villodas, R. (2021). *Deeply formed life: Five transformative values to root us in the way of Jesus.* Waterbrook Pr.

**Comment 11:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** The concept of the book is straightforward. In every activity in which you are engaged, remember that God is present and offer your heart to him in prayer. If you’re washing the dishes, writing a paper, or watching the Mets play (Lord, please help my Mets), you are to be present to God. Simple enough, right? Well, in my life and in the lives of people I have spoken to about this, being present to God is one of the most difficult things to do

**Essential Element:** Sociology, as part of “science,” similarly has shaped and continues to shape our culture

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** The research and course resources argue that while we do not doubt that the rituals and institutions of Christianity have influenced sociology, we will call the formalization of sociological ideas “theories and methods.” So, the first question is whether Christian and sociological ideas have influenced each other

**Contextualization:** I want to make it my own goal and desire to conduct sociological research that's influenced by my religious beliefs. Although sociology is considered to be scientific and free from religious ideas, I believe that, as an individual, my personal beliefs can influence the topics I choose to research. I resonate with the Weberian value of neutrality in research, which allows for religious motivations to be a part of sociological research. I believe that conducting research that's influenced by my faith is not only scientifically valid but also an epistemologically sound approach. Therefore, I am committed to conducting research that reflects my religious values and beliefs, without compromising on the scientific rigor of my work.

**Comment 12:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:** When searching for theological grounds for monastic practice, the Bible is replete with examples of people who lived a life shaped by solitude, silence, and a slowed-down spirituality. Let me offer brief sketches of Moses, David, Mary, John the Baptist, and Jesus. Moses: a man **of the desert.** While early on he had been molded in the ways of Egypt, he was gripped by the oppression of the Jewish people and tragically took matters into his own hands. In a moment of justice-fueled anger, he murdered an Egyptian and fled into the desert. During his forty years in this place, he lived an existence marked by silence and solitude. Think for a moment of what it might have been like for Moses on a given day: no Wi-Fi, no car, and no crowds. Every day, Moses dwelled for hours in silence while watching over his flock

**Essential Element:** The impact of sociology on Christianity and vice versa is a key consideration in understanding the relationship between these fields.

**Additive/Variant Analysis:** I must add that Applied Sociology looks like God fulfilling his promises to Abraham and his descendants in a way that no one could have imagined by sending his Son, Jesus Christ, to redeem the Chosen People and the whole human race.

**Contextualization:** My goal is to develop a deeper understanding of the relationship between sociology and Christianity, and to explore how this relationship has evolved. Specifically, I want to examine how different sociological practitioners have engaged with Christianity at various historical points and gain insight into the complex nature of this relationship. By achieving this goal, I hope to broaden my knowledge of sociology and gain a more nuanced perspective on the role of religion in contemporary society. Studying the imagination of a society is to go to the heart of its consciousness and historical evolution. It is to go to the origin and the profound nature of man created ‘in the image of God.

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