

Lecture Notes:

- ① Course overview
 - 1 syllabus
 - 2 assignments
 - 3 teaching assistants
- what is **sociology**?
 - 1 definitions for “sociology”
 - the study of society, or of people in groups or of people interacting
 - in other words, sociology seeks to develop knowledge of how people work in the aggregate, or
 - the field of study generating empirically supported and theoretically justified knowledge of humans in groups
 - 2 sociology is one of the “social science,” has been historically influenced by
 - **humanities** for subject matter
 - **natural sciences** for methods
 - 3 other social sciences include: psychology, social psychology, political science, economics, anthropology, *area studies*
- ③ Why is sociology important to me?
 - 1 personal problems and social issues
 - 2 it is a better way to understand the world we share than other existing methods:
 - bias of limited experience
 - hearsay of others
 - ideology

Key Ideas:

Sociology, science, bias, ideology.

