

## WTCS Repository

# 10-809-197 Contemporary Amer Society

## Course Outcome Summary

### Course Information

**Description** Examine the network of interdependent social systems which affect learners as employees, family members, and citizens. In this interdisciplinary course, learners will study public policy issues which illustrate how our traditional institutions such as family, education, government, work, and media are being changed by global, political, demographic, multicultural, and technological trends. By exploring contemporary issues, learners will expand their use of creative and critical thinking skills in evaluating information, making decisions, advocating positions, and participating in the democratic process.

**Total Credits** 3.00

### Pre/Corequisites

**Prerequisite** Each Wisconsin Technical College determines the General Education course prerequisites used by their academic institution. If prerequisites for a course are determined to be appropriate, the final Course Outcome Summary must identify the prerequisites approved for use by the individual Technical College.

### Course Competencies

#### 1. Recognize the value of diversity in a multi-cultural society

##### Assessment Strategies

1.1. in an oral, written, or graphic assessment

##### Criteria

*Performance will be satisfactory when:*

- 1.1. learner differentiates among groups
- 1.2. learner analyzes inequalities within groups in a historical perspective
- 1.3. learner recognizes the effects of inequalities in a stratified society
- 1.4. learner recognizes the contributions of diverse groups
- 1.5. learner analyzes strategies to promote equality and fairness
- 1.6. learner selects information about groups from appropriate sources

#### 2. Analyze the foundation and structure of American Society

##### Assessment Strategies

2.1. in an oral, written, or graphic assessment

##### Criteria

*Performance will be satisfactory when:*

- 2.1. analysis describes the origins of American society
- 2.2. analysis describes the transition from autocratic rule to pluralism in American society
- 2.3. analysis identifies the current structure of American society

- 2.4. analysis identifies the constitutional and other limitations on the development of elites in American society
- 2.5. analysis recognizes the existence of dominant and subordinate groups in American society
- 2.6. learner selects information from appropriate sources

### **3. Advocate a position on current public policy issues**

#### **Assessment Strategies**

- 3.1. in an oral, written, or graphic assessment

#### **Criteria**

*Performance will be satisfactory when:*

- 3.1. learner outlines a personal position on the issue
- 3.2. learner defends the rationale for each position
- 3.3. learner presents relevant evidence to support all necessary aspects of the position
- 3.4. learner projects outcomes of each position that follow logically from the evidence presented
- 3.5. learner describes the limitations of opposing positions
- 3.6. learner presents positions in a concise and coherent manner
- 3.7. learner conforms to the democratic process
- 3.8. learner integrates information from appropriate sources

### **4. Analyze the methods through which American society resolves disputes**

#### **Assessment Strategies**

- 4.1. in an oral, written, or graphic assessment

#### **Criteria**

*Performance will be satisfactory when:*

- 4.1. analysis recognizes American society's role in conflict resolution
- 4.2. analysis describes the conflict resolution process of the civil and criminal court systems
- 4.3. analysis describes alternative methods of dispute resolution (arbitration and mediation)
- 4.4. analysis identifies the method of dispute resolution most appropriate for particular conflicts
- 4.5. learner selects information from appropriate sources

### **5. Analyze the structures and processes of the family**

#### **Assessment Strategies**

- 5.1. in an oral, written, or graphic assessment

#### **Criteria**

*Performance will be satisfactory when:*

- 5.1. analysis describes functions of the family as an institution
- 5.2. analysis describes characteristics of the family as an institution
- 5.3. analysis identifies relationships between the family and other institutions
- 5.4. analysis is within an international context
- 5.5. analysis recognizes society's need for the family as an institution
- 5.6. learner selects information from appropriate sources

### **6. Interpret current trends impacting the family**

#### **Assessment Strategies**

- 6.1. in an oral, written, or graphic assessment

#### **Criteria**

*Performance will be satisfactory when:*

- 6.1. interpretation recognizes characteristics of a trend
- 6.2. interpretation identifies trends affecting the family as an institution
- 6.3. interpretation presents generalizations that encompass the most essential aspects of trends
- 6.4. interpretation identifies relationships among trends
- 6.5. interpretation explains generalizations accurately

- 6.6. interpretation draws conclusions that follow logically from the explanations given
- 6.7. interpretation is in historical perspective
- 6.8. learner integrates information from appropriate sources

## **7. Analyze the structures and processes of education and religion**

### **Assessment Strategies**

- 7.1. in an oral, written, or graphic assessment

### **Criteria**

*Performance will be satisfactory when:*

- 7.1. analysis describes functions of education and religion as institutions
- 7.2. analysis describes characteristics of education and religion as institutions
- 7.3. analysis identifies relationships between education and religion and other institutions
- 7.4. analysis is within an international context
- 7.5. analysis recognizes society's need for education and religion as institutions
- 7.6. learner selects information from appropriate sources

## **8. Interpret current trends impacting education and religion**

### **Assessment Strategies**

- 8.1. in an oral, written, or graphic assessment

### **Criteria**

*Performance will be satisfactory when:*

- 8.1. interpretation recognizes characteristics of a trend
- 8.2. interpretation identifies trends affecting education and religion as institutions
- 8.3. interpretation presents generalizations that encompass the most essential aspects of trends
- 8.4. interpretation explains generalizations accurately
- 8.5. interpretation draws conclusions that follow logically from the explanations given
- 8.6. interpretation is in historical perspective
- 8.7. learner integrates information from appropriate sources

## **9. Analyze the structures and processes of work and government**

### **Assessment Strategies**

- 9.1. in an oral, written, or graphic assessment

### **Criteria**

*Performance will be satisfactory when:*

- 9.1. analysis describes functions of work and government as institutions
- 9.2. analysis describes characteristics of work and government as institutions
- 9.3. analysis identifies relationships between work, government, and other institutions
- 9.4. analysis is within an international context
- 9.5. learner recognizes society's need for work and government as institutions
- 9.6. learner selects information from appropriate sources

## **10. Interpret current trends impacting work and government**

### **Assessment Strategies**

- 10.1. in an oral, written, or graphic assessment

### **Criteria**

*Performance will be satisfactory when:*

- 10.1. interpretation recognizes characteristics of a trend
- 10.2. interpretation identifies trends affecting work and government as institutions
- 10.3. interpretation presents generalizations that encompass the most essential aspects of trends
- 10.4. interpretation explains generalizations accurately
- 10.5. interpretation draws conclusions that follow logically from the explanations given
- 10.6. interpretation is in historical perspective
- 10.7. learner integrates information from appropriate sources

## **11. Analyze the structures and processes of the media and interest groups**

### **Assessment Strategies**

11.1. in an oral, written, or graphic assessment

### **Criteria**

*Performance will be satisfactory when:*

- 11.1. analysis describes functions of the media as an institution
- 11.2. analysis describes characteristics of the media as an institution
- 11.3. analysis identifies relationships between the media and other institutions
- 11.4. analysis is within an international context
- 11.5. learner recognizes society's need for the media as an institution
- 11.6. learner selects information from appropriate sources

## **12. Interpret current trends impacting the media and interest groups**

### **Assessment Strategies**

12.1. in an oral, written, or graphic assessment

### **Criteria**

*Performance will be satisfactory when:*

- 12.1. interpretation recognizes characteristics of a trend
- 12.2. interpretation identifies trends affecting the media as an institution
- 12.3. interpretation presents generalizations that encompass the most essential aspects of trends
- 12.4. interpretation explains generalizations accurately
- 12.5. interpretation draws conclusions that follow logically from the explanations given
- 12.6. interpretation is in historical perspective
- 12.7. learner integrates information from appropriate sources