

**Course Name (Course Number):**

*Introduction to Sociology (SOC 210)*

This course includes the scientific study of human society, culture, and social interactions. Topics include socialization, research methods, diversity and inequality, cooperation and conflict, social change, social institutions, and organizations. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate knowledge of sociological concepts as they apply to the interplay among individuals, groups, and societies. This course has been approved to satisfy the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement general education core requirement in social/behavioral sciences. **(3 credit hours, 3 contact hours)**

No prerequisites, no co-requisites, no entry test requirements. The ability to comprehend college-level reading and express through written assignments is imperative for success in the course.

**Activity and Author Name:**

*Examining Cultural and Institutional Linkages in Latin America, created by Rachel L. Austin, Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College (correspondence: rachellaustin21@abtech.edu)*

**Activity Description:**

Cultural universals are best described as concepts, social constructs, or patterns of behavior that are common to ALL human cultures; meaning every society in existence exhibits some form of the universal. Some examples of other cultural universals include: gift-giving, marriage, bodily adornment, incest taboo, and rules of hygiene. That said, how a cultural universal is expressed varies widely according to the given society. For instance, some form of bodily adornment is exhibited in every culture and society, but how this is accomplished varies widely. Some societies adorn their bodies with tattoos and body piercings; others adorn their body with scarification or elaborate costume. Social institutions can be described as large-scale patterned behaviors or ideas of a society that heavily structure and influence the everyday lives of individuals in the given culture. Some commonly cited social institutions are: Family, Religion, Government, Education, and the Mass Media. "Religion" is also a cultural universal, as are many aspects of it, such as faith healing. This activity will expose students to how the cultural universal and social institution of RELIGION is experienced in URUGUAY. While this activity is designed for this specific country, it can be easily adapted to a number of other Latin American countries represented in the included PEW study.

**Objectives:**

This activity is constructed to help students demonstrate understanding of key sociological terms and concepts; specifically, how cultural universals related to the social institution of religion are exhibited in a particular country.

The larger goals of these modules are to help students develop a sociological perspective and knowledge pertaining to....

- a. The world that exists outside of America
- b. The examination of social phenomena from another's perspective
- c. How cultures appear very different, but in many ways, are quite similar
- d. The social patterns that exist within various cultures
- e. How the everyday, lived experiences and larger culture of a society are

patterned and influenced by the social structure and constraints within that given society.

**Global Learning Outcome(s):**

Global Learning Outcome 2 is specifically addressed in *this* activity. Other outcomes are achieved through related activities that can be used in successive order, as standalone activities, or as a cumulative project.

**Global Learning Outcome 1:**

Students will identify the demographic profile of a particular country, including standing on various measures of human development.

- a. *Level of learning:* IDENTIFICATION/KNOWLEDGE
- b. *Recommended prerequisite knowledge/Assign this activity AFTER having taught:* METHODS

**Global Learning Outcome 2:**

Students will examine how specific cultural universals related to the social institutions of family, religion, and the criminal justice system are conceptualized and expressed in a particular country.

- a. *Level of learning:* IDENTIFICATION/KNOWLEDGE
- b. *Recommended prerequisite knowledge/Assign this activity AFTER having taught:* CULTURE

**Global Learning Outcome 3:**

Students will interpret the norms that are reinforced by specific cultural universals related to the social institutions of family, religion, and the criminal justice system.

- a. *Level of learning:* INTERPRETATION
- b. *Recommended prerequisite knowledge/Assign this activity AFTER having taught:* CULTURE

**Global Learning Outcome 4:**

Students will justify how variations in the expression of cultural universals are influenced by the larger social structure.

- a. *Level of learning:* EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION/ANALYSIS
- b. *Recommended prerequisite knowledge/Assign this activity AFTER having taught:* All previously mentioned prerequisites AND social INSTITUTIONS.

**Time:**

50-60 minutes, but expandable

**Materials:**

1. Internet access (preferably computer-based but may be able to access some resources using mobile device).
2. Assignment worksheet (attached).

3. *Religion in Latin America: Widespread Change in a Historically Catholic Region* resource material, in web or PDF format (provided below)

#### Procedure:

1. Student will research various religious demographics, practices, beliefs, rituals, and norms in given religious/non-religious subsets of Uruguay. This project is designed to be completed using this particular country, but a variety of Latin American countries are included in the resources and the assignment can be easily adapted to any of these countries.
2. Students will compile & describe these data using a developed “profile” worksheet (attached below as APPENDIX A).
3. Student will complete brief research citation information to best direct the instructor to the specific area of the report that they have drawn from.
4. The complete “profile” can be used as a stand-alone assignment or later used as part of a larger project examining cultural universals and norms related to various social institutions as seen across the world.

#### Resources:

1. Open-source *English version* of report needed to complete religious profile:

Sahgal, N., & Bell, J. (2014). *Religion in American: Widespread Change in a Historically Catholic Region*. Retrieved from Pew Research Center website:

<http://www.pewforum.org/files/2014/11/Religion-in-Latin-America-11-12-PM-full-PDF.pdf>

(Printable PDF): <http://www.pewforum.org/files/2014/11/Religion-in-Latin-America-11-12-PM-full-PDF.pdf>

(Web URL): <http://www.pewforum.org/2014/11/13/religion-in-latin-america/>

- 1a. Open-source *Spanish-translation version* of report needed to complete religious profile:

Sahgal, N., & Bell, J. (2014). *Religion en America: Cambio generalizado en una region historicamente catolica*. Retrieved from Pew Research Center website:

<http://www.pewforum.org/files/2014/11/Religion-in-Latin-America-11-12-PM-full-PDF.pdf>

(Printable PDF): <http://www.pewforum.org/files/2014/11/PEW-RESEARCH-CENTER-Religion-in-Latin-America-Overview-SPANISH-TRANSLATION-for-publication-11-13.pdf>

- 1b. Open-source *Portuguese-translation version* of report needed to complete religious profile:

Sahgal, N., & Bell, J. (2014). *Religiao na America Latina: Mudanca generalizada em uma regioao historicamente catolica*. Retrieved from Pew Research Center website:

<http://www.pewforum.org/files/2014/11/Religion-in-Latin-America-11-12-PM-full-PDF.pdf>

(Printable PDF): <http://www.pewforum.org/files/2014/11/PEW-RESEARCH-CENTER-Religion-in-Latin-America-Portuguese-Overview-for-publication-11-13.pdf>

2. Open-source Dictionary of Sociology to be used for any terms included in this assignment

that are not understood:

Bell, K. (n.d.). Open Education Sociology Dictionary: Free online sociology dictionary. Retrieved from <http://sociologydictionary.org/>

<http://sociologydictionary.org/>

**Assessment:**

Weighting should be determined by the instructor but recommended weight towards final grade in course is 5%. See attached answer key marked APPENDIX B for scoring the demographic profile and citation information.

## APPENDIX A

### RELIGIOUS PROFILE

Student(s):

Country  
profiled:

Date:

- The reference you will use for this assignment is primarily broken down into Protestant, Catholic, and Unaffiliated religious groups as these are the largest represented groups in these geographic areas. As such, these are the primary groups for which you will be reporting, despite many other religious variations among Latin Americans in smaller numbers.
- Complete the religious profile for the chosen country for this assignment using the information found at <http://www.pewforum.org/2014/11/13/religion-in-latin-america/>

**HELPFUL TIP:** To locate information easily, open the PDF version of the report, and hit CTRL + F to search for terms within the document. Use terms that will help you easily locate the specific area of the report that holds the information you need. This report is quite lengthy and would take several hours to read through, so this is the easiest way to find what you need! If you are using the Web version, you can use the *Table of Contents* on the right-hand side of the page to expand each chapter, view the topics covered, and jump to the page/topic you need.

| DEMOGRAPHICS             |   |                                      |   |  |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Religious Representation | <i>% Religious (Total, any type):</i>                     | <i>% Protestant:</i>                 | <i>% Catholic:</i>  | <i>% Unaffiliated:</i>                   |
| Patterns                 | <i>Catholic affiliation in 1910:</i>                      | <i>Catholic affiliation in 1970:</i> | <i>Catholic affiliation in 2014:</i>  | <i>% change between 1970 &amp; 2014:</i> |
| Life course              | <i>% Catholic in Childhood:</i>                           | <i>% Catholic now:</i>               | <i>Average percentage change in Catholic affiliation in childhood to now:</i> |  |
| Age & Gender             | <i>Average age of Catholics/Protestants/Unaffiliated:</i> | <i>% Male, Catholics:</i>            | <i>% Male, Protestant:</i>  | <i>% Male, Unaffiliated:</i>             |

## BELIEFS

|                               |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Importance of Religion:       | <i>% Catholics that say religion is very important in their lives:</i> | <i>% Protestants that say religion is very important in their lives:</i> | <i>% Total respondents that say religion is very important in their lives:</i> |
| Belief in Second Coming       | <i>% Catholics that believe Jesus will return in their lifetime:</i>   | <i>% Protestants that believe Jesus will return in their lifetime:</i>   | <i>% Total respondents that say Jesus will return in their lifetime:</i>       |
| Belief in Biblical Literalism | <i>% Catholics that believe Bible is the literal word of God:</i>      | <i>% Protestants that believe Bible is the literal word of God:</i>      | <i>% Total respondents that believe Bible is the literal word of God:</i>      |

## NORMS

|                   |   |   |   |   |
|-------------------|---|---|---|---|
| Gender Roles      | <i>% Catholics that believe wives should obey husbands:</i> | <i>% Protestants that believe wives should obey husbands:</i> | <i>% Men that believe wives should obey husbands:</i> | <i>% Women that believe wives should obey husbands:</i> |
| Same-Sex Marriage | <i>% Protestants who oppose:</i>                            | <i>% Catholics who oppose:</i>                                | <i>% 18-34 who support:</i>                           | <i>% 35 and older who support:</i>                      |
| Divorce           | <i>% Protestants who believe divorce is immoral:</i>        | <i>% Catholics who believe divorce is immoral:</i>            |   |   |
| Birth Control     | <i>% Protestants who believe contraception is immoral:</i>  | <i>% Catholics who believe contraception is immoral:</i>      |   |   |

## PRACTICES

|        |                                      |                                    |                                |
|--------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Prayer | <i>% Protestants who pray daily:</i> | <i>% Catholics who pray daily:</i> | <i>% Total who pray daily:</i> |
|--------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|

|                    |   |                                       |                                   |
|--------------------|---|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Worship Attendance | <i>% Protestants who attend weekly:</i> | <i>% Catholics who attend weekly:</i> | <i>% Total who attend weekly:</i> |
| Reading Scripture  | <i>% Protestants who read weekly:</i>   | <i>% Catholic who read weekly:</i>    | <i>% Total who read weekly:</i>   |
| Tithing            | <i>% Protestants who tithe:</i>         | <i>% Catholics who tithe:</i>         | <i>% Total who tithe:</i>         |

## RITUALS AND PHENOMENA

|                            |  |  |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| Faith healing              | <i>% Protestants who have witnessed "divine healing":</i>                                  | <i>% Catholics who have witnessed "divine healing":</i>                                  |
| Speaking in tongues        | <i>% Protestants who have witnessed speaking in tongues:</i>                               | <i>% Catholics who have witnessed speaking in tongues:</i>                               |
| Fasting                    | <i>% Protestants who fast:</i>   | <i>% Catholics who fast:</i>   |
| Exorcism                   | <i>% Protestants who have witnessed exorcism:</i>  | <i>% Catholics who have witnessed exorcism:</i>  |
| "Gifts" of the Holy Spirit | <i>% Protestants who report gifts of the holy spirit:</i>                                  | <i>% Catholics who report gifts of the holy spirit:</i>                                  |
| Enthusiastic Worship       | <i>% Protestants who witness jumping/shouting/clapping &amp; raising hands in worship:</i> | <i>% Catholics who witness jumping/shouting/clapping &amp; raising hands in worship:</i> |

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Transubstantiation | <i>% Catholics who believe wine/bread is literal body/blood of Christ:</i> |
|--------------------|--|

**REFERENCES**

| <i>Topic area:</i>    | <i>Web page #'s or PDF page #'s (specify which) where all information was located</i> | <i>Section headings &amp; paragraph number</i> |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| Demographics          |   |  |
| Beliefs               |   |  |
| Norms                 |   |  |
| Practices             |   |  |
| Rituals and Phenomena |   |  |

## APPENDIX B: URUGUAY PROFILE ANSWER KEY

| DEMOGRAPHICS                                   |  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| Religious Representation (web pg 1, PDF pg 14) | <b>% Religious (Total, any type):</b><br><br><i>63% (Total of Catholics, Protestant, and "Other", "Unaffiliated" not included in total)</i>      | <b>% Protestant:</b><br><br><i>15%</i>                 | <b>% Catholic:</b><br><br><i>42%</i>   | <b>% Unaffiliated:</b><br><br><i>37%</i>                    |
| Patterns (web pg 1, PDF pg 27)                 | <b>Catholic affiliation in 1910:</b><br><br><i>61%</i>   | <b>Catholic affiliation in 1970:</b><br><br><i>63%</i> | <b>Catholic affiliation in 2014:</b><br><br><i>42%</i>   | <b>% change between 1970 &amp; 2014:</b><br><br><i>-21%</i> |
| Lifecourse (web pg 1, PDF pg 12)               | <b>% Catholic in Childhood:</b><br><br><i>64%</i>  | <b>% Catholic now:</b><br><br><i>42%</i>               | <b>Average percentage change in Catholic affiliation in childhood to now:</b><br><br><i>-22%</i> |   |
| Age & Gender (web pg 11, PDF pg 111)           | <b>Average age of Catholics/Protestants/Unaffiliated:</b><br><br><i>Catholic: 51</i><br><br><i>Protestant: 46</i><br><br><i>Unaffiliated: 42</i> | <b>% Male, Catholics:</b><br><br><i>42%</i>            | <b>% Male, Protestant:</b><br><br><i>44%</i>   | <b>% Male, Unaffiliated:</b><br><br><i>62%</i>              |

| BELIEFS                                       |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| Importance of Religion: (web pg 3, PDF pg 41) | <b>% Catholics that say religion is very important in their lives:</b><br><br><i>31%</i> | <b>% Protestants that say religion is very important in their lives:</b><br><br><i>60%</i> | <b>% Total respondents that say religion is very important in their lives:</b><br><br><i>28%</i> |
| Belief in Second Coming (web pg 4, PDF pg 55) | <b>% Catholics that believe Jesus will return in their lifetime:</b><br><br><i>33%</i>   | <b>% Protestants that believe Jesus will return in their lifetime:</b><br><br><i>23%</i>   | <b>% Total respondents that say Jesus will return in their lifetime:</b><br><br><i>29%</i>       |

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| Belief in Biblical Literalism (web pg 4, PDF pg 54) | <i>% Catholics that believe Bible is the literal word of God:</i> | <i>% Protestants that believe Bible is the literal word of God:</i> | <i>% Total respondents that believe Bible is the literal word of God:</i> |
|   | 22%   | 56%   | 24%   |

## NORMS

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gender Roles (web pg 6, PDF pg 84)      | <i>% Catholics that believe wives should obey husbands:</i> | <i>% Protestants that believe wives should obey husbands:</i> | <i>% Men that believe wives should obey husbands:</i> | <i>% Women that believe wives should obey husbands:</i> |
|   | 23%   | 44%   | 26%   | 21%   |
| Same-Sex Marriage (web pg 6, PDF pg 71) | <i>% Protestants who oppose:</i>                            | <i>% Catholics who oppose:</i>                                | <i>% 18-34 who support:</i>                           | <i>% 35 and older who support:</i>                      |
|   | 59%   | 33%   | 75%   | 56%   |
| Divorce (web pg 6, PDF pg 80)           | <i>% Protestants who believe divorce is immoral:</i>        | <i>% Catholics who believe divorce is immoral:</i>            |   |   |
|   | 26%   | 12%   |   |   |
| Birth Control (web pg 6, PDF pg 83)     | <i>% Protestants who believe contraception is immoral:</i>  | <i>% Catholics who believe contraception is immoral:</i>      |   |   |
|   | 7%  | 6%  |   |   |

## PRACTICES

|  |   |                                       |                                   |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Prayer (web pg 3, PDF pg 44)             | <i>% Protestants who pray daily:</i>    | <i>% Catholics who pray daily:</i>    | <i>% Total who pray daily:</i>    |
|  | 62%                                     | 33%                                   | 29%                               |
| Worship Attendance (web pg 3, PDF pg 43) | <i>% Protestants who attend weekly:</i> | <i>% Catholics who attend weekly:</i> | <i>% Total who attend weekly:</i> |
|  | 47%                                     | 9%                                    | 13%                               |

|  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| Reading Scripture<br>(web pg 3, PDF pg 48) | <b><i>% Protestants who read weekly:</i></b> | <b><i>% Catholic who read weekly:</i></b> | <b><i>% Total who read weekly:</i></b> |
|  | <b>51%</b>                                   | <b>10%</b>                                | <b>15%</b>                             |
| Tithing (web pg 3, PDF pg 49)              | <b><i>% Protestants who tithe:</i></b>       | <b><i>% Catholics who tithe:</i></b>      | <b><i>% Total who tithe:</i></b>       |
|  | <b>42%</b>                                   | <b>8%</b>                                 | <b>11%</b>                             |

## RITUALS AND PHENOMENA

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| Faith healing (web pg 1, PDF pg 15)              | <b><i>% Protestants who have witnessed "divine healing":</i></b>                                  | <b><i>% Catholics who have witnessed "divine healing":</i></b>                                  |
|  | <b>50%</b>  | <b>12%</b>  |
| Speaking in tongues (web pg 1, PDF pg 16)        | <b><i>% Protestants who have witnessed speaking in tongues:</i></b>                               | <b><i>% Catholics who have witnessed speaking in tongues:</i></b>                               |
|  | <b>78%</b>  | <b>32%</b>  |
| Fasting (web pg 3, PDF pg 50)                    | <b><i>% Protestants who fast:</i></b>   | <b><i>% Catholics who fast:</i></b>   |
|  | <b>40%</b>  | <b>15%</b>  |
| Exorcism (web pg 5, PDF pg 65)                   | <b><i>% Protestants who have witnessed exorcism:</i></b>  | <b><i>% Catholics who have witnessed exorcism:</i></b>  |
|  | <b>49%</b>  | <b>4%</b>   |
| "Gifts" of the Holy Spirit (web pg 5, PDF pg 66) | <b><i>% Protestants who report gifts of the holy spirit:</i></b>                                  | <b><i>% Catholics who report gifts of the holy spirit:</i></b>                                  |
|  | <b>37%</b>  | <b>3%</b>   |
| Enthusiastic Worship (web pg 5, PDF pg 67)       | <b><i>% Protestants who witness jumping/shouting/clapping &amp; raising hands in worship:</i></b> | <b><i>% Catholics who witness jumping/shouting/clapping &amp; raising hands in worship:</i></b> |
|  | <b>70%</b>  | <b>19%</b>  |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Transubstantiation<br>(web pg 4, PDF pg 53) | <p><i>% Catholics who believe wine/bread is literal body/blood of Christ:</i></p> <p><b>57%</b></p> |
|---|---|

## REFERENCES

| <b>Topic area:</b>    | <b>Web page #'s or PDF page #'s (specify which) where all information was located</b> | <b>Section headings &amp; paragraph number</b> |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| Demographics          | <b>Web page 1 &amp; 11, PDF pgs 12, 14, 27, 111</b>                                   |  |
| Beliefs               | <b>Web page 3-4, PDF pgs 54-55, 41</b>  |  |
| Norms                 | <b>Web page 6, PDF pgs 71, 80, 83-84</b>  |  |
| Practices             | <b>Web page 3, PDF pgs 43-44, 48-49</b>   |  |
| Rituals and Phenomena | <b>Web page 1, 3-5, PDF pgs 15-16, 50, 53, 65-67</b>                                  |  |