

# SCS 100 Transcript for Sociology and Anthropology Timeline

## 1620s–1780s: The Enlightenment

### Key Events

* The study of human behavior becomes more scientific.
* Ethnographic studies of “primitive” peoples are conducted by European colonials.

### Key Perspectives

* The concept of “society” and “culture” emerges.
* All cultures pass from “primitive” to “advanced” stages.
* Non-European cultures are considered less advanced when compared to European cultures.

## 1790s–1860s: The Modern Period

### Key Events

* European and American colonialism and imperialism (rule by empire) expands.
* Suicide increases dramatically in industrial cities.
* Rise of racial ideologies leads to European and American “human zoos” where non-Europeans are exhibited in cages.

### Key Perspectives

* Traditional bonds of society are coming unglued in industrial cities.
* Conflict arises between the “haves” and “have-nots”.
* Human races are considered to be different species. Non-Europeans are thought to be closer to monkeys.

## 1860s–1950s: North American Sociology and Anthropology

### Key Events

* Social reforms begin, addressing issues such as immigrants’ rights, civil rights, and women’s rights.

## Key Perspectives

* Social Sciences should seek to liberate the oppressed.
* Myths of racial difference are debunked.

## 1960s–Present: Contemporary Approaches to Social Science

### Key Events

* Indigenous people and non-Europeans become social scientists, and challenge Eurocentrism.

**Key Perspectives**

* Cultures should be understood based on their own unique beliefs.
* Researchers and the researched (study participants) should work in collaboration.
* Research can be a form of social activism and contribute to social change.