Student’s name:

Professor’s name:

Course Code:

Date of Submission:

Understanding the Place in Social Sciences and Humanities

Social sciences and humanities are extensively broad to cover the study of the society, as well as the manner in which behaviors of human beings influence the world surrounding them. This research paper will focus on the concepts, perspectives and the theories learnt, and some readings in social science.

Social science focusses not only on attitudes but also on a series of the opinions. The discipline studies the society scientifically by use of things and facts, while at the same time, bearing some religious and mythical similarities. Various religions and myths focus on the origin of human society and the people themselves. They have tried to explain the feelings, actions and the way human beings think. Thus, social science has got some advanced concepts such as social structure, gender, culture, ethnicity and the society itself. All the developed ideas create the world, hence bringing a clear image of the way we understand it.

One of the concepts in social sciences as mentioned earlier is culture. The modern society views culture as a notable, liberation, a sense of friendship and companionship among members in society. Culture is also a description of customs, beliefs, and traditions of individuals. Knowledge and wisdom attempt to build the culture concept through naming, categories, and labeling that results to different ways in which people preserve their cultures. For example, Gloria retains the image of stolen lion as a way of preserving her culture. She even goes ahead to request one of the museum photographers to issue a documented photo. Another example is of a certain female who tells the other lady how her brother behaves. Then the lady grabs the message without the next word. She realized her friend tried to explain how some groups of the individuals within the society has neglected the culture. It shows that the world is composed of many cultures. The moment we have more than one culture within a society, there is a phenomenon of conflict, since the people share different customs and beliefs.

The society is the next concept that refers to any form of the arrangement that links individuals to one another, common habitat or the surroundings which people of the society rely on each other for life continuity and the well-being. Society therefore, remains the main uniting factor in a given group of people who shares standard patterns and the organizations of interrelatedness. The study of this togetherness leads us to the final social element.

In social science, theories are meant to provide explanations on specific individual choices to carry out particular actions. Giving way to specific roles and changes that occur in society within a particular time, conflict theory is one of the theories that explains the way crisis and tensions come up. The conflicts are due to inadequate resources, power, and status within a given group of people. Hence, the stress and the disputes result to changes.

Feminism theory focuses on discrimination depending on gender and sex. The impact to such discrimination is the objectification and inequality in the sharing of power and other social duties. For instance, feminism theory allows us to understand the position of women compared to men in the society. The other area of interest in social science is the perspectives, and one of them is the interactionist perspective. The attitude tends to think that the meaning is got from the way people interact every day in the society, hence a social builder. Functionalism perspective tries to explain how order can be maintained in the organization and bring stability to the latter.

From humanities, we have learnt a lot about the tales told by people. By learning religion, literature, art, and philosophy, we study people’s culture as well. For example, writings of various authors have helped people to understand the perception of other people. When listening to fictional stories, I have always found some gaps left for me to fill, especially figuring out the relationship that exists between characters. In the process, I find myself with fantastic style developing within me.

The poem entitled *Santuario at Chimayo* teaches me the misuse of the altar as one of the resources for the society. For example, a room seen behind the altar with dirty hole known to heal the people. Many of them seem to come for the healing and find themselves walking out the same way. Some people in the community are controlling the freedom of other people making them look as if they don’t belong to this world.

The approaches of social sciences and the humanities are intended to appreciate and understand human beings’ conditions. The two elements depend on different methods and ways in doing so. What creates the difference between the two, is all about their subject properties, topic, and attributes on the goal of the intended knowledge and methodologies. The first different is based on the background where in social sciences it is mainly focused on the scientific paradigm. Some of the approaches applied in the field of social science are centered on empirical methodologies when describing the cause of the occurrence. Quantitative approach tool is used in expressing social situations via quantitative evidence and valuables. Quantitatively planned methods within social science seek to offer detailed information on the behaviors of human beings or social interactions; for example, when a social scientist is investigating an adulthood passage within a specific group of people. In such communities, valuables contribute significantly to their identification.

On the other hand, humanities’ primary goals is getting a clear image of the outside world and generating wisdom. The subject traces images based on the human being’s thoughts. Humanities apply interpretative methods and the act of creativity and imaginations. The interpretative process is achieved through music, performing of art and visuals. To give a correct interpretation about a person or community, you need to have a deep and informative understanding about them. Wisdom is all about possessing the kind of knowledge that is beyond the life of some individuals or individual groups.

Applying such knowledge and understanding can help in solving some of the difficulties that may be arisen within the humanities. The subject is assisting in the realization of the kind of life we are living. It also provides answers to some of the basic questions about the purpose and meaning of being a systematic person.

In conclusion, social sciences and humanities gave not only academic wisdom but also insights into elements of thoughts, achievements and places. Humanities describe the way of life in different social structures and cultural backgrounds. The subject has opened the eyes of many people, especially students, who at the moment understand the world around them much better. The knowledge is facilitated by readings, viewing and listening to various recordings about different cultures and societies.

Works Cited

Addonizio, Kim. "Verities." *Poetry*, 186.5*,* 2005, pp. 422-422.

Campo, Juan Eduardo. "American pilgrimage landscapes." *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 558.1, 1998, pp. 40-56.

Cather, Willa. “Death comes for the archbishop.” *University of Nebraska Press*, 1999.

Gloria Fraser,Giffords. "Spanish colonial polychrome statuary: replicating the Lions of San Xavier del Bac." *APT Bulletin*, 22.3, 1990, pp. 19-29.

King, Thomas. “The Inconvenient Indian Illustrated: A Curious Account of Native People in North America.” *Doubleday Canada*, 2003.

Manzo, Lynne C. "For better or worse: Exploring multiple dimensions of place meaning." *Journal of environmental psychology*, 25.1, 2005, pp. 67-86.

Momaday, N. Scott. “In the presence of the sun: stories and poems, 1961-1991.” *UNM Press*, 2013.

Turner, Victor, Victor Witter Turner, and Edith Turner. “Image and pilgrimage in Christian culture.” *Columbia University Press*, 2011.