

Sociology examines why people think and behave as they do in relationships, groups, institutions, and societies.

Major course topics include individual and group identity, social structures and institutions, social change, social stratification, social dynamics in recent and current events, the effects of social change on individuals, and the research methods used by social scientists.

In online discussions and polls, students reflect critically on their own experiences and ideas, as well as on the ideas of sociologists. Interactive multimedia activities include personal and historical accounts to which students can respond, using methods of inquiry from sociology. Written assignments provide opportunities to practice and develop skills in thinking and communicating about human relationships, individual and group identity, and all other major course topics.

The course content is based on the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) Expectations of Excellence: Curriculum Standards for Social Studies.

Length: One semester

UNIT 1: WHAT IS SOCIOLOGY?

LESSON 1: APPLYING THE SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE

Study: Poll: Why Do People Get Married?

Answer questions about why you think people get married.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Society and Personal Choice

Learn about sociology and the sociological perspective.

Duration: 0 hrs 35 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Society and Personal Choice

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 30 points

Discuss: Applying the Sociological Perspective

Discuss with your peers your perceptions of marriage, using a sociological perspective.

Duration: 0 hrs 25 mins Scoring: 15 points

LESSON 2: THE EMERGENCE OF SOCIOLOGY

Study: Poll: Why Is the High School Dropout Rate So High in the United States?

Answer questions about the high school dropout rate in the United States.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: The Emergence of Sociology

Learn about the origins of sociology and how sociologists — past and present — apply science to the study of society.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: The Emergence of Sociology

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 30 points

Practice: Applying the Science of Sociology

Analyze how the science of sociology can address the high school dropout rate in the United States.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 30 points

LESSON 3: WAYS OF THINKING ABOUT SOCIETY

Study: Poll: How Do People Decide What to Do after High School?

Answer questions about why you think young people go to college.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Theoretical Frameworks of Sociology

Learn about the three major theoretical approaches in sociology.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Theoretical Frameworks of Sociology

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 30 points

Discuss: Applying the Theoretical Frameworks of Sociology

Discuss with your peers why you think people go to college. In your discussion, use one of the major theoretical approaches to sociology.

Duration: 0 hrs 25 mins Scoring: 15 points

LESSON 4: APPROACHES TO SOCIOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

Study: Poll: What Does It Mean to Study Society Scientifically?

Answer questions about using science to help solve social problems.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Sociology as a Science

Explore different ways sociologists "do" sociology.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Sociology as a Science

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 30 points

Practice: Approaches to Sociological Investigation

Identify and analyze a social issue that is important to you.

Duration: 0 hrs 25 mins Scoring: 20 points

LESSON 5: METHODS OF SOCIAL RESEARCH

Study: Poll: Why Do Many Marriages End in Divorce?

Answer questions about the divorce rate in the United States.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Sociologists in Action

Learn about the methods sociologists use to conduct research.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Sociologists in Action

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 30 points

Practice: Applying the Methods of Social Research

Use two different research methods to examine the question "why do so many marriages end in divorce."

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 30 points

LESSON 6: WHAT IS SOCIOLOGY? WRAP-UP

Review: Review: What Is Sociology?

Prepare for the unit test by reviewing key concepts and skills.

Duration: 0 hrs 50 mins Scoring: 0 points

Test (CS): Test (CST): What Is Sociology?

Take a computer-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 50 points

Test (TS): Test (TST): What Is Sociology?

Take a teacher-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 50 mins Scoring: 50 points

LESSON 7: DIAGNOSTIC

Diagnostic: Diagnostic: What Is Sociology?

Take a diagnostic unit test that will generate a study plan based on your responses.

Duration: 0 hrs 25 mins Scoring: 20 points

UNIT 2: WHAT IS SOCIETY?

LESSON 1: WHAT IS CULTURE?

Study: Poll: How Does Culture Affect People?

Answer questions about how culture influences your views of the world.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Understanding Culture

Explore the elements of culture and the impact culture has on individual perspectives and opportunities.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding Culture

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 30 points

Discuss: How Does Culture Affect You?

Discuss with your peers the meaning of *culture* and the symbols that are important to your culture.

Duration: 0 hrs 25 mins Scoring: 15 points

LESSON 2: SOCIALIZATION: CREATING THE PERSON

Study: Poll: Where Does Your Personality Come From?

Answer questions about how socialization shapes your personality.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Socialization and Human Development

Learn about socialization, nature and nurture, and human development.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Socialization and Human Development

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 30 points

Practice: Where Does Personality Come From?

Interview two people about the social experiences that have shaped their personalities.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 30 points

LESSON 3: SOCIETY'S BUILDING BLOCKS: SOCIAL STRUCTURE AND INTERACTION

Study: Poll: Why Does Society Need Rules?

Consider your own views about society and social structures.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Visions of Society

Learn about different social structures and types of social interaction.

Duration: 0 hrs 35 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Visions of Society

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 30 points

Practice: What Roles Do Social Structures Play in Your Life?

Create a map of the social structures around you and answer questions about how these structures interact with one another.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 30 points

LESSON 4: SOCIETY'S BUILDING BLOCKS: GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Study: Poll: How Does Being Part of a Group Affect People's Behavior?

Answer questions about your membership in different social groups and organizations.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Groups and Organizations

Learn about social interaction, groups, and organizations that influence our lives.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Groups and Organizations

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 30 points

Practice: How Does Being Part of a Group Affect People's Behavior?

Use one of the theoretical frameworks of sociology to analyze how you interact with people online and in person.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 30 points

LESSON 5: BREAKING THE RULES: DEVIANCE

Study: Poll: Why Do People Break the Rules?

Answer questions about why you think people break social rules and accepted norms.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Understanding Deviance

Examine the roles of deviance and crime in society.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding Deviance

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 30 points

Discuss: Why Do People Break the Rules?

Think like a sociologist and discuss with your peers the social role of deviance.

Duration: 0 hrs 25 mins Scoring: 15 points

LESSON 6: WHAT IS SOCIETY? WRAP-UP

Review: Review: What is Society?

Prepare for the unit test by reviewing key concepts and skills.

Duration: 0 hrs 50 mins Scoring: 0 points

Test (CS): Test (CST): What Is Society?

Take a computer-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 50 points

Test (TS): Test (TST): What Is Society?

Take a teacher-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 50 mins Scoring: 50 points

LESSON 7: DIAGNOSTIC

Diagnostic: Diagnostic: The Foundations of Society

Take a diagnostic unit test that will generate a study plan based on your responses.

Duration: 0 hrs 25 mins Scoring: 20 points

UNIT 3: WHAT IS SOCIAL INEQUALITY?

LESSON 1: DIMENSIONS OF INEQUALITY

Study: Poll: What Does Social Equality Mean?

Answer questions about social equality, social inequality, and where you fit in society.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Social Stratification and Inequality

Examine social stratification, including caste and class systems, from different points of view.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Social Stratification and Inequality

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 30 points

Discuss: Why Does Social Inequality Exist?

Discuss with your peers why you think social inequality and stratification exist in the United States.

Duration: 0 hrs 25 mins Scoring: 15 points

LESSON 2: SOCIAL CLASS IN THE UNITED STATES

Study: Poll: What Is the American Dream?

Answer questions about your opinion of poverty and wealth in the United States.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Social Class in the United States

Learn about social class and poverty in the United States.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Social Class in the United States

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 30 points

Practice: What Is the American Dream?

Analyze the American Dream from two theoretical frameworks of sociology.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 30 points

LESSON 3: RACE AND ETHNICITY

Study: Poll: How Does Racism Affect Society?

Answer questions about your own racial and ethnic identity.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Power, Race, and Ethnicity

Learn about racial and ethnic inequality in the United States.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Power, Race and Ethnicity

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 30 points

Practice: How Does Racism Affect Society?

Examine the impact of racism on society through statistical analysis.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 30 points

LESSON 4: GENDER AND SEXUAL IDENTITY

Study: Poll: Are Men and Women Treated Differently in Society?

Answer questions about your gender identity.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Gender and Social Inequality

Explore the relationships between social stratification and gender.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Gender and Social Inequality

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 30 points

Discuss: Are Men and Women Treated as Equals?

Discuss with your peers how gender roles are portrayed in the media.

Duration: 0 hrs 25 mins Scoring: 15 points

LESSON 5: AGING AND THE ELDERLY

Study: Poll: How Do People Judge One Another Based on Age?

Answer questions about your opinions on aging.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Aging and the Golden Years

Examine theories on the biology, politics, and social norms associated with aging.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Aging and the Golden Years

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 30 points

Practice: How Do People Judge Each Other Based on Age?

Interview adults on their feelings about growing older.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 30 points

LESSON 6: WHAT IS SOCIAL INEQUALITY WRAP UP

Review: Review: What is Social Inequality?

Prepare for the unit test by reviewing key concepts and skills.

Duration: 0 hrs 50 mins Scoring: 0 points

Test (CS): Test (CST): What is Social Inequality?

Take a computer-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 50 points

Test (TS): Test (TST): What is Social Inequality?

Take a teacher-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 50 mins Scoring: 50 points

LESSON 7: DIAGNOSTIC

Diagnostic: Diagnostic: What is Social Inequality?

Take a diagnostic unit test that will generate a study plan based on your responses.

Duration: 0 hrs 25 mins Scoring: 20 points

UNIT 4: WHAT ARE SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS?

LESSON 1: INSTITUTIONS AT WORK: JOBS AND THE ECONOMY

Study: Poll: Why Do People Work?

Answer poll questions about the economy and work.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Economic Systems and Change

Examine how the economy helps shape society.

Duration: 0 hrs 35 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Economic Systems and Change

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 30 points

Practice: Why Do People Work?

Examine the economy of Texas and what trends you predict for the future.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 30 points

LESSON 2: POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

Study: Poll: Why Do People Vote?

Answer questions about your opinions on politics and power.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Power to the People

Explore different political systems and issues of power and authority in the United States and beyond.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Power to the People

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 30 points

Discuss: Why Do People Vote?

Discuss with your peers why you think some people choose to participate in the political system while others choose not to.

Duration: 0 hrs 25 mins Scoring: 15 points

LESSON 3: FAMILIES AND RELIGION

Study: Poll: What Roles Do Family and Religion Play in Society?

Answer questions about the roles of family and religion in your life.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Family as a Social Institution

Learn about the social functions of family.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Religion as a Social Institution

Learn about the social functions of religion.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Family and Religion as Social Institutions

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 30 points

Discuss: What Roles Do Family and Religion Play in Society?

Discuss and debate with your peers your views of family and religion and their impact on society.

Duration: 0 hrs 25 mins Scoring: 15 points

LESSON 4: MASS MEDIA AND MEDICINE

Study: Poll: How Does Society Affect Your Health?

Answer questions about health care and who is healthy in the United States.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Medicine and the Media

Learn about the social institutions of health and medicine while examining the role of the mass media in health-related issues.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Medicine and the Media

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 30 points

Practice: How Does Society Affect Your Health?

Analyze statistics on deaths caused by HIV in the United States and design a mass media campaign to draw attention to the issue.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 30 points

LESSON 5: ISSUES IN EDUCATION

Study: Poll: What Are the Biggest Problems Facing American Schools Today?

Answer questions about education and the issues facing American schools today.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Issues in Education

Examine education systems and schooling in the United States and abroad.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Issues in Education

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 30 points

Practice: What Are the Biggest Problems Facing American Schools Today?

Address problems with American schools today by designing your own high school.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 30 points

LESSON 6: WHAT ARE SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS? WRAP-UP

Review: Review: What Are Social Institutions?

Prepare for the unit test by reviewing key concepts and skills.

Duration: 0 hrs 50 mins Scoring: 0 points

Test (CS): Test (CST): What Are Social Institutions?

Take a computer-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 50 points

Test (TS): Test (TST): What Are Social Institutions?

Take a teacher-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 50 mins Scoring: 50 points

LESSON 7: DIAGNOSTIC

Diagnostic: Diagnostic: What are Social Institutions?

Take a diagnostic unit test that will generate a study plan based on your responses.

Duration: 0 hrs 25 mins Scoring: 20 points

UNIT 5: WHAT IS SOCIAL CHANGE?

LESSON 1: POPULATION GROWTH AND URBANIZATION

Study: Poll: How Has Urbanization Affected the World?

Answer questions on how you feel about life in cities.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Population Growth and Urbanization

Examine how demography, population growth, and urbanization are changing our lives.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Population Growth and Urbanization

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 30 points

Practice: How Has Urbanization Affected the World?

Analyze the role of urbanization in your community.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 30 points

LESSON 2: SOCIAL CHANGES THROUGH TIME AND TECHNOLOGY

Study: Poll: What Makes a Society Modern?

Answer questions about the factors you think make societies modern.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Social Changes Through Time and Technology

Learn about traditional, modern, and postmodern societies.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Social Changes Through Time and Technology

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 30 points

Practice: What Makes a Society Modern?

Analyze the quality of modern life in the United States.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 30 points

LESSON 3: GLOBALIZATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Study: Poll: How Does Society Affect the Natural Environment?

Answer questions on how you feel about the cities and the environment.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Sharing the Globe

Explore the relationship between human societies and the natural environment.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Sharing the Globe

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Discuss: Can Environmental Justice Change Society for the Better?

Discuss with your peers the ways to combat environmental racism.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 15 points

LESSON 4: COLLECTIVE BEHAVIOR AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

Study: Poll: What Causes Mass Social Change?

Answer questions about your participation in social movements and collective behaviors.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Collective Behavior and Social Movements

Learn about collective behavior, disasters and social movements, past and present.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Collective Behavior and Social Movements

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 30 points

Discuss: What Causes Mass Social Change?

Discuss with your peers the pros and cons of a contemporary social movement.

Duration: 0 hrs 25 mins Scoring: 15 points

LESSON 5: YOUTH, MEDIA AND SOCIAL CHANGE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Study: Poll: What Roles Do Individuals Play in Social Change?

Answer questions about activism, social media, and your role in social change.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 0 points

Study: Youth, Media, and Social Change

Learn about the roles of individuals, media, popular culture, and youth in creating social change.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Youth, Media, and Social Change

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 30 points

Practice: What Role Does Pop Culture Play in Social Change?

Analyze the roles of individuals, media, popular culture, and youth in social change while designing a social media campaign.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 30 points

LESSON 6: WHAT IS SOCIAL CHANGE? WRAP-UP

Review: Review: What Is Social Change?

Prepare for the unit test by reviewing key concepts and skills.

Duration: 0 hrs 50 mins Scoring: 0 points

Test (CS): Test (CST): What Is Social Change?

Take a computer-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 50 points

Test (TS): Test (TST): What Is Social Change?

Take a teacher-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 50 mins Scoring: 50 points

LESSON 7: DIAGNOSTIC

Diagnostic: Diagnostic: What is Social Change?

Take a diagnostic unit test that will generate a study plan based on your responses.

Duration: 0 hrs 25 mins Scoring: 20 points

UNIT 6: SOCIOLOGY REVIEW AND EXAM

LESSON 1: SOCIOLOGY REVIEW AND EXAM

Review: Sociology Review and Exam

Prepare for the exam by reviewing key concepts covered in this course.

Duration: 3 hrs Scoring: 0 points

Exam: Sociology Review and Exam

Take a computer-scored exam to demonstrate your mastery of concepts and skills covered in this course.

Duration: 0 hrs 50 mins Scoring: 60 points

Final Exam: Sociology Review and Exam

Take a teacher-scored exam to demonstrate your mastery of concepts and skills covered in this course.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 60 points