

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.

This course is built to state standards and 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 low high school graduation 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 college and work opportunities after high school.

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: 1 hr Scoring: 30 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 many marriages end in divorce?"

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 30 points

### LESSON 6: WHAT IS SOCIOLOGY? WRAP-UP

#### **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): 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): 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

## **UNIT 2: WHAT IS SOCIETY?**

### **LESSON 1: WHAT IS CULTURE?**

#### **Study: Poll: How Does Culture Affect You?**

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: What Is Society?

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

Duration: 0 hrs 50 mins Scoring: 0 points

### Test (CS): 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): 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

## 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 SOCIAL INEQUALITY**

### **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 GOLDEN YEARS**

**Study: Poll: How Do People Judge Each Other 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: Poll: 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: 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): What Is Social Inequality?**

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

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 50 points

**Test (TS): 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

**UNIT 4: WHAT ARE SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS?****LESSON 1: INSTITUTIONS AT WORK: JOBS AND THE ECONOMY****Study: Poll: Why Do People Work?**

Answer questions about the economy and working.

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 and debate with your peers whether prisoners should be permitted to vote.

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: 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): 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): 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

## **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 about how culture and different societies affect the natural 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 40 mins Scoring: 30 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, popular culture, and media in social change while designing a social media campaign.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 30 points

## **LESSON 6: WHAT IS SOCIAL CHANGE? WRAP-UP**

### **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): 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): 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

## **UNIT 6: REVIEW AND EXAM**

## LESSON 1: REVIEW AND EXAM

### **Review: Review**

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

Duration: 3 hrs Scoring: 0 points

### **Exam: 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: Exam**

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

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 60 points