

Sociology

Social Studies
Curriculum Framework

Revised 2006

Course Title: Sociology
 Course/Unit Credit: 0.5
 Course Number:
 Teacher Licensure: Secondary Social Studies

Sociology

Sociology is a one-semester high school social studies elective course of study, which introduces students to the social systems that are the foundation of society. An emphasis will be placed on culture and socialization, social status, social institutions, and social problems; as well as the effects and influence on behavior. Using the tools and techniques of sociologists, students will study changes taking place in society and examine their causes, consequences, and possible solutions. Students will read major sociological theorists as well as consider how sociologists approach issues. This course stresses application, problem-solving, higher-order thinking skills, and use of classroom performance-based/open-ended assessments with rubrics. Arkansas Department of Education approval is not required.

Strand	Standards
Foundations of Sociology	1. Students shall describe the development of sociology as a social science.
Culture and Socialization	2. Students shall examine the influence of <i>culture</i> on the individual. 3. Students shall examine the influence of <i>culture</i> on <i>socialization</i> .
Status	4. Students shall examine the effects of <i>social status</i> on human behavior.
Groups	5. Students shall explore the influence of social groups on behavior.
Social Institutions	6. Students shall examine the effects of social institutions on group behavior.
Social Change	7. Students shall examine the changing nature of society.
Social Problems	8. Students shall analyze current social problems.

Strand: Foundations of Sociology

Content Standard 1: Students shall describe the development of sociology as a social science.

FS.1.S.1	Discuss sociology and the seven social sciences
FS.1.S.2	Investigate the impact, both positive and negative, of early leading theorists within social science: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Auguste Comte• Harriet Martineau• Herbert Spencer• Karl Marx• Emile Durkheim• Max Weber
FS.1.S.3	Analyze the contributions of individuals that contributed to the development of sociology in the United States: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jane Addams• W.E.B. Du Bois• C. Wright Mills• Herbert Blumer• Charles Horton Cooley• George Herbert Mead
FS.1.S.4	Discuss the three major theoretical perspectives of sociology: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>functional perspective</i>• <i>conflict perspective</i>• <i>interaction perspective</i>
FS.1.S.5	Examine various types of sociological research methods

Strand: Culture and Socialization

Content Standard 2: Students shall examine the influence of *culture* on the individual.

CS.2.S.1	Discuss key components of <i>culture</i>
CS.2.S.2	Examine the effect of diversity and change on a <i>culture</i>
CS.2.S.3	Examine the importance of norms and values to a <i>culture</i>

Strand: Culture and Socialization

Content Standard 3: Students shall examine the influence of *culture* on *socialization*.

CS.3.S.1	Discuss the process of <i>socialization</i> in human development
CS.3.S.2	Analyze the role of <i>socialization</i> agents in human development: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• family• school• peer groups• mass media

Strand: Status

Content Standard 4: Students shall examine the effects of *social status* on human behavior.

S.4.S.1	Describe the effect of <i>social status</i> on social order: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• upper class• middle class• lower class• professional• nonprofessional• unemployed
S.4.S.2	Examine the roles and role expectations which can lead to role <i>conflict</i>
S.4.S.3	Analyze various points of view relating to historical and current events

Strand: Groups

Content Standard 5: Students shall explore the influence of social groups on behavior.

G.5.S.1	Identify students as members of <i>primary groups and secondary groups</i>
G.5.S.2	Examine the influence of group membership on student behavior
G.5.S.3	Discuss the influence of formal organizations on the behavior of group members
G.5.S.4	Examine social interaction: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>coercion</i>• <i>conflict</i>• <i>conformity</i>• <i>cooperation</i>• <i>groupthink</i>• <i>social exchange</i>

Strand: Social Institutions

Content Standard 6: Students shall examine the effects of social institutions on group behavior.

SI.6.S.1	Examine social institutions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• economic• educational• family• political• religious
SI.6.S.2	Examine the effect social institutions have on societal values
SI.6.S.3	Discuss the influence of popular culture on group behavior (e.g., sports, entertainment, media)

Strand: Social Change

Content Standard 7: Students shall examine the changing nature of society.

SC.7.S.1	Describe societal changes over time
SC.7.S.2	Examine the factors that influence change in social norms over time

Strand: Social Problems

Content Standard 8: Students shall analyze current social problems.

SP.8.S.1	Discuss <i>deviance</i>
SP.8.S.2	Describe criminal behavior and the reaction of society to the behavior
SP.8.S.3	Examine the effect of race and <i>ethnicity</i> on group behavior
SP.8.S.4	Research the influence of world events on group behavior (e.g., terrorism, disease, global economy, natural disasters, changes in technology, migration)

Appendix

Glossary for Sociology

Coercion	Interaction in which individuals or groups are forced to behave in a particular way
Conflict	Interaction aimed at defeating an opponent
Conflict perspective	Emphasizes conflict, competition, change and constraint within a society
Conformity	Behavior that matches group expectation
Cooperation	Form of interaction in which individuals or groups combine their efforts to reach some goal
Culture	Knowledge, values, customs and physical objects that are shared by members of society
Deviance	The violation of social norms
Ethnicity	Based on the Greek word "ethnos" which means people or nation
Functional perspective	Emphasis of contribution of each part of society; (e.g. family, economy, religion)
Groupthink	Self-deception thinking that is based on conformity to group beliefs, and created by group pressure to conform
Interaction perspective	Focuses on the interactions among people based on mutually understood symbols
Primary group	People who are emotionally close, know one another well, and seek one another's company
Secondary group	People who share only part of their lives while focusing on a goal or task
Social exchange	A voluntary action performed in the expectation of getting a reward in return
Social status	Position or social standing of an individual
Socialization	Cultural process of learning to participate in group life