

**Course Description:**

Sociology is defined as the *analysis of society*. This is an elective course that will investigate the basic principles of sociology while analyzing human society and social behavior. Sociology teaches us to look at life in a scientific, systematic way. “The values, beliefs, lifestyles of those around us, as well as historic events help to mold us into unique individuals who have varied outlooks on social reality”.

**Course Objectives:**

- Define sociology
- Trace the historical development of sociology
- Identify the scientific method used by sociologists in the sociological experiment
- Relate sociology to other social sciences
- Recognize the vocabulary of sociology
- Define culture and its elements
- Analyze types of cultural deviations
- Examine factors of the socialization process
- Describe the hierarchy of social stratification
- Determine the impact of social groups and minorities on society
- Evaluate the impact of the media on public opinion
- Define social institutions, such as education, religion, economy, and government
- Discuss the impact of family on society
- Identify current social problems identify the cause and nature of criminal behavior

**What You Need Every Day:**

1. A three-ring binder – for notes, handouts, assignments, etc. You will have a CUMULATIVE FINAL.
2. Notebook or loose-leaf paper.
3. Pen/Pencil
4. Textbook – *Sociology* by W. LaVerne Thomas

**Methods and Content:**

Instruction will be primarily class discussion. Class will utilize notes, lectures, visual representations of ideas, primary and secondary sources, research, and reading materials. Your success in this class largely depends on your participation, work ethic, and personal contributions to our class. Student involvement is necessary for successful completion of the class.

### My Expectations:

- ✓ Be Prepared: You will be expected to bring all materials to class.
- ✓ Be Here: You will be expected to be in your seat and ready for class. Do not abuse the ability to leave class (ex: bathroom, locker, etc.)
- ✓ Be a Student: You are expected to conduct yourself as a learner and a participant in OUR class. You will acknowledge the presence of other students in class. This means raising your hand and respecting the viewpoints of your peers.
- ✓ Make a Choice: By coming to class, you choose to be engaged and participate in an appropriate manner. If you want to waste time (ex: checking your phone, sleeping, distracting others, etc.), this will not be the place for you. Keep in mind...this is an ELECTIVE class.
- ✓ Please be sure to check the established rubrics for citizenship and work-habits posted on our website.

### Assessments:

In order to cover the necessary material in only one semester, the pace of class will be rigorous. Expect regular homework assignments. Class will also feature quizzes, unit tests, projects, labs, and written responses. Realize that taking the Sociology elective will require a substantial amount of effort.

### Absences:

- **With all due respect, class will be held with or without you.** Since most of the course focuses on information discussed and presented in class, **missing school regularly may take a significant toll on your performance measure.**
  - If missed, assignments can be found on our course website.
- You will make up a quiz, test, or any other assignment the day you return unless otherwise necessary (ex: an extended absence due to illness)
- Missed work becomes your responsibility to make up.
- If getting to an afternoon class will be *difficult* for you, you should consider other options.

### Late Work:

- All assignments are expected to be completed unless otherwise specified. Missing work will be recorded as an M and will be scored as a zero until turned in.
- School District Policy states that late work may not be penalized by teachers during a current unit of study. Therefore, late work will be accepted **ONLY** during the current unit of study. After the unit test, all missing work for that unit will be scored a zero.
- *Extensions will not be granted for computer problems*, so please back up your work frequently and don't wait until the last minute to print.

### Tentative Semester Outline:

Unit 1: Intro to Sociology

Unit 2: Society and Groups

Unit 3: Socialization

Unit 4: Deviance and Crime

Unit 5: Semester Project