

PETERS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE SYLLABUS: SOCIOLOGY

Course Overview and Essential Skills

Students taking Sociology will be provided with a greater understanding and appreciation of the theoretical background, content, and research methodology of the field of sociology. The course is designed as an introductory survey addressing topics such as: cultural diversity, social structure, group dynamics, adolescence, deviance, and socialization. In this course, students will examine socially transmitted beliefs, values, institutions, behaviors, traditions and way of life of a group of people and their interaction with one another. Students will leave the course with the ability to answer the questions: Why do individuals behave as they do? What influences how people learn, perceive, and grow? How do people meet their basic needs in a variety of contexts? How do individuals develop over time? How do social and cultural interactions support the development of identity? Special focus will be placed upon the student recognizing his/her relationship to peers, social groups, and institutions. Students interested in the social sciences, marketing field, and interpersonal skill sets should consider taking this course.

Course Textbook and Required Materials

- Holt Sociology: The Study of Human Relationships (2005) & ISBN#: 0-03-037496-0
- Some resources for class will be found in the corresponding chapter/day on the class website.
- You will need a binder, paper and pen/pencil for class each day.

Course Outline of Material Covered:

Unit or Topic	Concepts/Skills/Resources	Timeframe
Invitation to Sociology – Chapter One	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does Sociology differentiate itself from other social sciences? • What outside factors influence your behaviors? • Who I Am Project • Theories of Sociology • <i>Resources:</i> Articles and Video clips from approved sources 	two weeks
Culture – Chapter Two	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-depth study of the components and features of culture • Study of multiple groups/countries and their cultures • Social Norms Evaluation/Project • Look at PTHS through the years – Yearbook Cultural Analysis • <i>Resources:</i> Articles and Video clips from approved sources, Gods Must Be Crazy Video 	three weeks

<p>Cultural Adaptation – Chapter Three</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding values through behaviors and norms • American Values and how values have changed in America • Countries and Culture Project • <i>Resources:</i> Articles and Video clips from approved sources 	<p>two weeks</p>
<p>Groups – Chapter Four</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding how statuses and roles play a part in our behaviors • Why do people group together? • Modern Family Episode • Study of Stanford Prison Experiment and Stanley’s Milgram’s Experiment • <i>Resources:</i> Articles and Video clips from approved sources 	<p>two weeks</p>
<p>Socialization – Chapter Five</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we shape children into their gender? • Nature v. Nurture and the effects on behavior • I Love Lucy TV Clips • Create a Children’s Story Project • Theories and Socialization • The Social Self • <i>Resources:</i> Articles and Video clips from approved sources 	<p>three weeks</p>
<p>Adolescence – Chapter Six</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Characteristics of Adolescence • Peers, Cliques and Crowds • <i>Resources:</i> Articles and Video clips from approved sources, Mean Girls video clips 	<p>two weeks</p>
<p>Deviance – Chapter Eight</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What makes a behavior deviant? • Theories on Deviance • Comparison of Crime in PT, PA and the United States • <i>Resources:</i> Articles and Video clips from approved sources, The Breakfast Club Video (clips) 	<p>three weeks</p>
<p>Social Stratification – Chapter Nine</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What defines each social class in the United States? • How do classes effect groups, genders, race, etc? 	<p>one week</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Socially Stratified Monopoly• <i>Resources:</i> Articles and Video clips from approved sources	
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**Depending on the needs of the class or changes in the school year, the course outline is subject to change.*