



**SOCIOLOGY I  
GRADES 10-12**

*Counselors are available to assist parents and students with course selections and career planning. Parents may arrange to meet with the counselor by calling the school's guidance department.*

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Sociology is about people – how they act, interact, and react with others. This course is designed to help students better understand their place in the groups to which they belong and the function, influence, and interaction of groups that form institutions, neighborhoods, and societies.

Sociology I investigates human society, social relations, organization, and change. Emphasis is placed on the study of such issues as delinquency, poverty, and changing family patterns. Students use surveys, case studies, experiments, and interviews.

Sociology I is a one-semester elective and carries one-half unit of credit.

**PREREQUISITE**

None

**OPTIONS FOR NEXT COURSE**

Sociology II

or

Any other semester elective

**REQUIRED STUDENT TEXTBOOK**

*Sociology: The Study of Human Relationships* (Holt McDougal, 2010)

**SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS**

The teacher may choose to supplement the basal textbooks with materials to extend and enrich the student's understanding of course topics. These materials will be drawn from daily newspapers, periodicals, television and other visual media, primary source documents, simulations, and computer programs.

**THE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ATTITUDES THAT COMPRISE THE SOCIOLOGY PART I COURSE ARE SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS FROM THE PRESCRIBED CURRICULUM:**

**TOPICS OF STUDY**

**Unit 1: Introduction to Sociology**

- SOCI.1.1 Define sociology.
- SOCI.1.2 Describe the origins and uses of sociology.
- SOCI.1.3 Summarize the historical development of sociology.
- SOCI.1.4 Summarize the scientific orientation of sociology.
- SOCI.1.5 Describe sociological research designs.
- SOCI.1.6 Describe ethical research behaviors in sociology.

**Unit 2: Culture and Society**

- SOCI.2.1 Define culture.
- SOCI.2.2 Evaluate methods of cultural transmission.
- SOCI.2.3 Describe the characteristics of norms.
- SOCI.2.4 Describe the characteristics of subcultures and countercultures.

**Unit 3: Socialization**

- SOCI.3.1 Explain the purpose of and issues associated with socialization.
- SOCI.3.2 Describe the primary agents of socialization.
- SOCI.3.3 Describe the aspects and issues of socialization pertinent to childhood.
- SOCI.3.4 Describe the aspects and issues of socialization pertinent to adolescence.
- SOCI.3.5 Describe the aspects and issues of socialization pertinent to adulthood.
- SOCI.3.6 Describe the aspects and issues of socialization as it pertains to older adults.
- SOCI.3.7 Investigate cultural perceptions of death and dying.

**Unit 4: Social Status and Stratification**

- SOCI.4.1 Describe the characteristics of status.
- SOCI.4.2 Describe the sources of status.
- SOCI.4.3 Explain the behaviors of role, role strain, and role conflict.
- SOCI.4.4 Describe ways societies are organized.
- SOCI.4.5 Define poverty.
- SOCI.4.6 Describe the extent of poverty.
- SOCI.4.7 Analyze factors that contribute to and perpetuate poverty.
- SOCI.4.8 Investigate and evaluate efforts to eliminate poverty.

**Unit 5: Minorities and Discrimination**

- SOCI.5.1 Describe the characteristics of minority groups.
- SOCI.5.2 Define prejudice.
- SOCI.5.3 Describe the patterns of discrimination.
- SOCI.5.4 Describe reactions to discrimination by minority groups.
- SOCI.5.5 Analyze efforts to eliminate prejudice and discrimination in the United States.

**Unit 6: Deviance and Social Control**

- SOCI.6.1 Describe deviance.
- SOCI.6.2 Identify and explain factors contributing to deviance.
- SOCI.6.3 Describe the classifications of criminal behavior.
- SOCI.6.4 Investigate emerging issues in contemporary crime.
- SOCI.6.5 Assess the role of the police in maintaining social order.
- SOCI.6.6 Describe the functions and problems of incarceration.
- SOCI.6.7 Assess issues addressing the societal costs of crime.

**CITIZENSHIP GOALS**

- Accepting responsibility for completing assignments and tasks
- Valuing the worth and dignity of all individuals
- Respecting the rights, property, beliefs, and opinions of others
- Resolving conflicts through compromise or consensus
- Accepting the rights and responsibilities of citizenship
- Developing a positive self-image
- Appreciating one's place in society
- Appreciating the American culture and valuing its principles, beliefs, and freedoms

**SKILLS**

- **Study Skills**
  - Organizing and maintaining class notes
  - Locating information in a variety of sources
  - Selecting appropriate or relevant information from sources
- **Chart/Graph Skills**
  - Making and using charts and graphs to organize

- and classify information
- Interpreting and drawing inferences from charts, tables, graphs, cartoons, and sociograms
- Drawing conclusions and making generalizations
- **Map/Globe Skills**
  - Locating physical, political, economic, and sociological features on maps and globes
  - Identifying regional patterns
  - Describing location in relative terms
  - Making and interpreting special purpose maps
- **Problem-Solving/Decision-Making Skills**
  - Identifying the steps in the decision-making/problem-solving process
  - Applying the process to seek solutions and make decisions
- **Critical Thinking Skills**
  - Distinguishing between fact and opinion
  - Identifying differing points of view
  - Recognizing biased statements and stereotypes
  - Recognizing inconsistencies in a line of reasoning
  - Using facts to support a position or opinion
  - Distinguishing important from unimportant information
  - Interpreting data and predicting outcomes
  - Evaluating data to make informed judgments
- **Communication Skills**
  - Preparing reports, projects, and presentations
  - Listening actively to the ideas and thoughts of others
  - Contributing ideas and suggestions to class discussion
  - Reading for information and enjoyment
  - Communicating ideas and knowledge in oral, written, and visual forms
  - Interviewing and conducting polls to gather data
  - Participating in role-playing and Scio-drama to demonstrate sociological principles



## **VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

A H E A D O F T H E C U R V E

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

**The Virginia Beach City Public Schools, in partnership with the entire community, will empower every student to become a life-long learner who is responsible, productive and engaged citizen within the global community.**

### **DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

**2512 George Mason Drive P.O. Box 6038**

**Virginia Beach, VA 23456-0038**

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Alternative formats of this publication which may include taped, Braille, or large print materials are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. Call or write The Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Director of Secondary Instructional Services, Virginia Beach City Public Schools, 2512 George Mason Drive, P.O. Box 6038, Virginia Beach, VA 23456-0038, Telephone (757) 263-1070 or (757) 263-1429, fax (757) 263-1412.