

Sociology

Zoo Academy

Omaha Public Schools/Papillion La Vista Community Schools

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Schoology Access Code:	
Term:	Fall 2017
Meeting Time:	Online



I. **Class Description:**

Sociology is essentially the study of Human behavior and Social Structures. In this one semester class we will examine social phenomenon from an academic perspective looking for patterns of social interaction and how those interactions influence human behavior. Through a variety of methods students will explore different sociological ideas from an educative perspective in order to develop their own social perspectives and critical thinking skills. This course is offered online and will utilize the use of the teacher website, the course Schoology site, online notes, videos, and assignments.

II. **Content Objectives:**

- a. **Culture:** Students will examine the key factors that contribute to a general understanding of what is culture. Through looking at key cultural concepts students will reflect on their own cultural views, which they will explore in comparison to other world cultures.
- b. **People, Places, and Environments:** Students will examine how societies are influenced by a variety of factors including their geography, proximity to other societies, and history. Students will have a variety of in-class discussions and writings in which they will draw inferences about the possible correlations.
- c. **Individual Development and Identity:** Through drawing from the other social sciences of psychology, anthropology, along with sociology, students will examine the concept of “self”. Specifically students will be looking at the concept of individuality and how that idea has changed over time and place.
- d. **Individuals, Groups, and Institutions:** Students will examine the types of institutions that humans have placed to serve different societal functions. Through looking in-depth at these institutions students will examine for patterns and understanding in societal shifts.
- e. **Power, Authority, and Governance:** Students will examine the concept of power, and how it is allocated. By examining the ways in which societies are governed students will look for patterns between governmental and societal factors in order to better understand why societies have chosen different methods of governance. Students will be completing a project in which they compare and contrast the types of government and how they impact the people.
- f. **Science, Technology, and Society:** Students will look at the relationship between a society and technology. By looking at how a society develops new technologies, and is in turn impacted by it students will look for insights into societal values and behaviors.
- g. **Global Connections:** Students will examine the increasing global interconnectedness and the impact this has had on societies. Population shifts and technological connections will particularly be examined as a motive for “Globalization”.

III. **Readings and Study Materials:**

Sociology: The Study of Human Relationships, Thomas, W. LaVerne, Holt McDougal, 1st Edition, 2010

Additional Readings and resources will be used throughout the course of the semester

IV. **Unit Overviews:**

a. Unit I – Principles of Sociology (3 Weeks)

This introductory unit will begin familiarizing students with the most basic concepts and understandings of Sociology. By looking at basic understandings and conceptual frameworks students will gain a reference of the guiding principles of the study of Sociology

b. Unit II – Culture and Social Structures (5 Weeks)

The second unit of study will focus on the principles and comprising factors that make up culture. Specific emphasis will be placed on cultural variations and a particular stressing on examining cultures for what they are. Within these cultures students will spend time looking at the social structures that exist within society and their functions.

c. Unit III – Social Agents (3 Weeks)

In Unit III students will be examining major societal influences and their importance in the socialization and cohesiveness of a society. Through looking at different family, community, governmental, and media influences students will gain an understanding of the different forces that influence individuals within a society.

d. Unit IV – Social Conformity and Deviance (4 Weeks)

Students will examine the ways in which individuals work within and separate from different societal structures. Different societies react differently to the development of the individual, especially in instances where individuals react outside the norms of behavior.

e. Unit V – The Craft of Sociology (3 Weeks)

This unit will act as a culmination of the principles of principles from units I-IV where students will be applying their knowledge from the units in an end of unit project.

*This schedule is tentative and subject to change

V. **Omaha Public Schools Evaluation**

Omaha Public Schools students' coursework and assessments are judged based on the level of student learning from "below basic" to "advanced." This course will provide multiple opportunities to achieve at the "proficient" to "advanced" levels. Students are evaluated based on a proficiency scale or project rubric.

A final score for each reporting topic/standard will be determined using a trend score. A trend score looks at the progression of learning throughout the unit of study or the course and puts greater emphasis on the increased achievement at the end of learning. All coursework and assessments are important for student learning and should be completed to provide evidence of learning. If multiple assignments or major assessments (final exam) are not completed, zeros will be given and the grade for the topic/standard will be determined by averaging.

At the end of a grading period, trended scores for each reporting topic/standard will be averaged using assigned folder weights. This weighted average is converted to a letter grade using this grading scale for the 2016-2017 school year.

Proficiency scales for this course are available upon request (teacher will identify location such as parent portal, teacher website, attached, etc.)

VI. Grading Procedures

- a. Redoing/Revising Coursework: Students are allowed redos and revisions of coursework for full credit during that unit of study. Scores for student work after retaking, revising or redoing will not be averaged with the first attempt at coursework or assessment but will replace the original student score.
- b. Late Coursework: Students are expected to complete missing coursework. Late coursework is accepted for full credit until the end of the unit. Once late coursework is turned in, the zero will be replaced with the score earned by the student. Late work completed during the unit of study will not result in a reduction in grade. Work that is not turned in during the unit of study will receive a score of zero.

Missing Coursework: Work not turned in at all will receive a score of M. An M is weighted the same as a zero in the gradebook. Students have until the end of the unit to hand in any missing assignments. Accommodations due to extended illnesses are to be arranged with the teacher.

VII. Grading Scales

Omaha Public Schools	Papillion La Vista Community Schools
A = 3.51 – 4.00	A = 100% - 90%
A- = 3.01 – 3.50	B = 89% - 80%
B = 2.51 – 3.00	C = 79% - 70%
B- = 2.01 – 2.50	D = 69% – 60%
C = 1.51 – 2.00	F = 59% - 0%
D = 0.76 - 1.50	
F = 0.00 – 0.75	

VIII. Course Requirements

- a. Daily Warm-Ups: Each day of the class students will be required to do daily warm-up questions from the class forum that can be found at the bottom of the course website or by using the following link <http://www.mrtredinnick.com/sociology-forum>. These daily forums will have questions to help connect the materials that will be covered in the day's lesson to the students' own personal pre-conceptions or ideas.
- b. Assignments: All assignments can be completed and handed in a variety of ways. They be completed by printing off the assignments from the course website and handing in physical copies to the teacher. Students can complete assignments and submit them digitally using the assignment form at the bottom of the course website. Or students can see the teacher for physical copies of the assignments that can then be handed in physically or digitally.
- c. Tests/Quizzes: Students will have the option of completing tests and quizzes either on Schoology or in-person tests that can be arranged with the instructor. Tests can only be completed in a limited timeframe. If there is a conflict for the student then an alternate arrangement for when the test will be taken needs to be arranged with the instructor before the test window opens. If a student is unable to complete the test during the testing window due to illness or other factors it is the student's responsibility to communicate with the instructor to come up with alternate arrangements for the test.

IX. Academic Dishonesty/Cheating

Any students caught cheating, or attempting to cheat, will be given an automatic zero on the assignment. Further action may be taken depending on the situation.

X. Assessments and Weights

Assessment Type	Category Weight (%) OPS/PAPLV
Summative Assessment: assessments/assignments are major end of learning unit tests or projects, (e.g., a research paper, an oral report with a power point, science fair project). Summative assignments are graded for accuracy. Summative assignments assess the student's progress on grade level standards.	65% / 70%
Formative Assessment: assessments/assignments are done for learning. They are minor assignments, (e.g., a three paragraph essay, written responses to guiding questions over an assigned reading, completion of a comparison contrast matrix). Formative assignments are graded for accuracy and descriptive feedback is provided. Descriptive feedback provides the student with the necessary information to improve their learning. Formative work is at the student's instructional level and/or grade level standards.	35% / 30%

Multipliers: All assignments will be the standard x1 multiplier unless otherwise stated. Assignments will be listed in the gradebook with labeling as either a formative or summative assignment, and any special multiplier will be explained in the explanation of the assignment. All end of unit examinations will be counted as a Summative Assessment with a x2 multiplier.

XI. Targeted Learning Standards

- a. **D2.Soc.1.9-12** Explain the sociological perspective and how it differs from other social sciences
- b. **D2.Soc.4.9-12** Illustrate how sociological analysis can provide useful data-based information for decision making.
- c. **D2.soc.5.9-12** Give an example of the strengths and weaknesses of four main methods of research: surveys, case studies, observations and content analysis
- d. **D2.Soc.6.9-12** Identify the major components of culture.
- e. **D2.Soc.9.9-12** Explain the role of social institutions in society
- f. **D2.Soc.10.9-12** Analyze how social structures and cultures change
- g. **D2. Soc. 11.9-12** Analyze the influence of the primary agents of socialization and why they are influential.
- h. **D2. Soc. 12.9-12** Explain the social construction of self and groups.
- i. **D2. Soc. 13.9-12** Identify characteristics of groups, as well as the effects groups have on individuals and society, and the effects of individuals and societies on groups.
- j. **D2.Soc. 14.9-12** Explain how in-group and out groups membership influences the life chances of individuals and shapes societal norms and values
- k. **D2.Soc. 16.9-12** Interpret the effects of inequality on groups and individuals.
- l. **D2.Soc.17.9-12** Analyze why the distribution of power and inequalities can result in conflict
- m. **D2.Soc. 18.9-12** Propose and evaluate alternative responses to inequality.