Course Title:	Introduction to Sociology
Grade(s):	11-12

Course Description
The purpose of the Introduction to Sociology course is to provide students with a greater understanding of human relationships and behavior within large and small groups of society. What is society? What role does society play in making you, you? How does culture impact people's behavior? What determines "normal" vs. "weird" behavior? Why do people commit crimes? This course seeks to provide students with answers to many of these types of questions regarding human behavior and society. Topics of study include: Sociological Foundations, Cultural Diversity, Social Structures, Socialization, and Deviance.
Approved Curricular Materials/Textbook(s)

Unit Title	Unit Description (Include Unit Objectives)	Unit Pacing
Unit 1: Foundations of Sociology	Students will explore why sociology is an important topic of study. How can sociology and the sociological perspective help us explain our rapidly changing world?	2 weeks
Unit 2: Culture	This unit introduces the foundational sociological concept of culture—the shared beliefs, values, behaviors, and material objects that form a people's way of life. Students will examine how culture impacts human behavior and social interaction, as well as how culture can both promote consensus and create conflict.	4 weeks
Unit 3: Social Structures	This unit examines the underlying frameworks that organize and regulate social life. Students will analyze the stable patterns of relationships, institutions, and hierarchies that shape opportunities, guide behavior, and maintain social order.	3 weeks

Unit 4: Socialization	This unit explores socialization, the lifelong process through which individuals internalize the values, beliefs, and norms of their society. Students will examine why socialization is essential for human development, if socialization is more biological or sociological, and what agents play the biggest role in our socialization process.	3 weeks
Unit 5: Media	This unit examines the role and impact of media in contemporary society. A specific focus will be placed on smartphones and social media technology and their effects on society today.	4 weeks
Unit 6: Deviance and Social Control	This unit explores deviance—behavior that violates significant social norms and expectations—and society's response to it. Students will explore why people commit deviant acts and how societies attempt to prevent deviant behavior. In addition, students will investigate what types of crimes exist today and how the U.S. criminal justice system attempts to reduce criminal activity compared to other countries.	4 weeks