



ANSONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Sociology (11-12)

Courtesy · **P**ride · **P**erseverance · **C**ooperation

Chargers Promoting Positive Change

The mission of AHS is to prepare all students to reach their potential by teaching them the knowledge, skills and behaviors necessary for academic, civic, and social success. Students will be college and career ready in the ever-changing technological world of the 21st century by meeting high expectations, engaging in authentic problem solving, and utilizing critical thinking.

Academic Expectations

- Apply critical thinking skills to solve problems
- Access, evaluate, apply, and communicate information and ideas through writing, speaking, and effective use of technology
- Read effectively for a variety of purposes
- Work independently, reflectively, and/or collaboratively to accomplish goals

Civic Expectation

- Demonstrate service to the school and community

Social Expectation

- Demonstrate respect for self, others, and property within our school community

Ansonia's Vision of a Graduate

Content Area: Social Studies	Course: Sociology
Vision of Graduate: • Communication & Collaborator • Critical Thinking • Life Long Learner • Responsible Citizen	Standards for Social Studies 1. Inquiry: Developing questions, conducting investigations, evaluating evidence, and communicating conclusions 2. History: Understanding change over time, multiple perspectives, evidence, and historical argumentation 3. Geography: Analyzing places, environments, populations, and global connections 4. Economics: Examining decision-making, markets, resources, and economic systems 5. Civics: Exploring institutions, civic participation, democratic processes, and the rule of law
Unit Titles	
Unit 1: Sociological Point of View	
Unit 2: Cultural Diversity & Adaptation	
Unit 3: Social Structure, Self & Deviance	

Course Overview:
Sociology is the scientific study of human society, social behavior, and the institutions that shape our daily lives. In this course, students will examine how individuals and groups interact within societies and explore the forces that influence human behavior, culture, social structures, and social change. Through the analysis of primary and secondary sources, case studies, current events, and sociological research, students will develop an understanding of major sociological theories and learn how sociologists investigate social issues. Students will strengthen their ability to read critically, analyze evidence, conduct research, and communicate their ideas effectively through writing and discussion. Throughout the course, students will explore the sociological perspective, cultural diversity, socialization, social structure, deviance, and the role of social institutions in shaping society. They will examine how culture influences identity, how social norms and values develop, and why individuals and groups respond differently to social

expectations. By applying sociological concepts to real-world issues, students will develop critical thinking skills and gain a deeper understanding of the complex relationships between individuals, communities, and society. The course encourages students to become informed, reflective citizens who can evaluate social issues from multiple perspectives and understand their role in an increasingly diverse and interconnected world.

Unit 1: Sociological Point of View

Priority Standards:	Supporting Standards:
1.3 Demonstrate an understanding of significant events and themes in world history/international studies. 1.9 Understand the rights and responsibilities of citizens. 2.2 Interpret information from a variety of primary and secondary sources, including electronic media. 3.1 Use evidence to identify, analyze, and evaluate historical interpretations.	RHST.11-12.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including analyzing how an author refines the meaning of key terms over the course of a text. WHST.11-12.4: Produce clear and coherent writing appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. RH.11-12.1: Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources. WHST.11-12.9: Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
Big Ideas	Essential Questions
• Sociology provides a framework for understanding how individuals and groups interact within society. • Sociological theories help explain social behavior, social institutions, and patterns of human interaction. • Historical and social changes contributed to the development of sociology as a discipline. • Examining society through multiple perspectives leads to a deeper understanding of social issues and human behavior.	• How is sociology similar to and different from other social sciences? • What historical and social conditions led to the development of sociology? • How do the major sociological perspectives explain human behavior and society? • How does the sociological perspective help us understand current social issues?
AHS Expectations	
• Apply critical thinking skills to solve problems. • Access, evaluate, apply and communicate information and ideas through writing, speaking and effective use of technology. • Read effectively for a variety of purposes. • Work independently, reflectively, and/or collaboratively to accomplish goals.	
Skills (I will be able to...)	

- Define sociology and explain its purpose.
- Analyze the historical development of sociology.
- Compare and contrast the major sociological perspectives.
- Interpret sociological concepts and vocabulary within academic texts.
- Cite evidence from primary and secondary sources.
- Analyze social issues through a sociological lens.
- Evaluate the strengths and limitations of sociological theories.
- Conduct research using credible sources.
- Write evidence-based explanatory and argumentative responses.
- Develop and defend a position using sociological evidence.
- Communicate ideas effectively through discussion and writing.
- Reflect on how sociological perspectives shape understanding of society.

Unit 2: Cultural Diversity & Adaptation

Priority Standards:	Supporting Standards:
1.5 Describe the interaction of humans and the environment. 1.13 Understand the characteristics of and interactions among culture, social systems, and institutions. 2.2 Interpret information from a variety of primary and secondary sources. 3.1 Use evidence to identify, analyze, and evaluate historical interpretations.	RHST.11-12.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text. WHST.11-12.1e: Provide a concluding statement or section that supports the argument presented. RH.11-12.1: Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis. WHST.11-12.4: Produce clear and coherent writing appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
Big Ideas	Essential Questions
• Culture shapes beliefs, values, behaviors, and social interactions. • Cultural diversity enriches societies while presenting opportunities and challenges. • Understanding different cultural perspectives promotes effective interaction in a diverse world. • Societies adapt and evolve as cultural values and norms change over time.	• What role does culture play in shaping individual and group behavior? • How do culture and society differ? • Why do cultural values and norms change over time? • How can people interact effectively across cultural differences? • What are the benefits and challenges of cultural diversity?
AHS Expectations	
• Apply critical thinking skills to solve problems. • Access, evaluate, apply and communicate information and ideas through writing, speaking and effective use of technology. • Read effectively for a variety of purposes. • Work independently, reflectively, and/or collaboratively to accomplish goals.	
Skills (I will be able to...)	
• Define culture and explain its components. • Distinguish between material and nonmaterial culture. • Analyze cultural universals and cultural variations. • Explain the role of norms, values, mores, and folkways. • Compare ethnocentrism and cultural relativism. • Examine how culture influences behavior and identity. • Interpret information from primary and secondary sources.	

- Analyze examples of cultural change and adaptation.
- Evaluate the impact of cultural diversity on society.
- Support claims with evidence from texts and research.
- Communicate ideas effectively through writing and discussion.
- Develop informed conclusions about cultural issues.

Unit 3: Social Structure, Self & Deviance

Priority Standards:	Supporting Standards:
1.5 Describe the interaction of humans and the environment. 1.13 Understand the characteristics of and interactions among culture, social systems, and institutions. 2.2 Interpret information from a variety of primary and secondary sources. 3.1 Use evidence to identify, analyze, and evaluate historical interpretations.	WHST.11-12.2: Write informative/explanatory texts. WHST.11-12.4: Produce clear and coherent writing appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. RH.11-12.1: Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis. WHST.11-12.9: Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
Big Ideas	Essential Questions
• Social structures influence individual behavior, opportunities, and interactions. • Identity and personality develop through socialization and interaction with others. • Individuals occupy multiple roles and statuses that shape their experiences. • Deviance is socially defined and varies across cultures and time periods. • Understanding deviance helps societies address social problems and maintain order.	• How do social structures influence human behavior? • What factors contribute to the development of self and personality? • How do family, peers, schools, and media shape identity? • Why do individuals conform to or violate social norms? • How does society define and respond to deviant behavior?
AHS Expectations	
• Apply critical thinking skills to solve problems. • Access, evaluate, apply and communicate information and ideas through writing, speaking and effective use of technology. • Read effectively for a variety of purposes. • Work independently, reflectively, and/or collaboratively to accomplish goals.	
Skills (I will be able to...)	

- Explain the concepts of status, role, and social structure.
- Analyze how social institutions influence behavior.
- Describe major theories of socialization.
- Evaluate factors that shape personality and identity.
- Examine the influence of family, peers, schools, and media.
- Analyze the functions and characteristics of bureaucracies.
- Interpret sociological explanations of deviance.
- Compare theories explaining why individuals engage in deviant behavior.
- Evaluate the role of the criminal justice system in responding to deviance.
- Analyze primary and secondary sources related to social issues.
- Conduct research and support conclusions with evidence.
- Write explanatory and analytical responses using sociological concepts.
- Apply sociological theories to real-world situations and case studies.