

Sociology Essential Curriculum

Adopted March 23, 2022

SS.SOC.10 — Introduction to Sociological Theories and Methods of Inquiry

SS.SOC.10.01 Identify sociology as a scientific field of inquiry.

SS.SOC.10.01.a Explain the role of the scientific method in sociological research and how hypothesis testing is applied in sociology, including the concepts of dependent and independent variables

SS.SOC.10.02 Compare and contrast the sociological perspective with other social sciences.

SS.SOC.10.03 Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the major methods of sociological research, including surveys and interviews, experiments, observations, content analysis.

SS.SOC.10.03.a Explain how hypothesis testing is applied in sociology, including the concepts of dependent and independent variables

SS.SOC.10.03.a.1 Identify major methods of sociological research including interviews, observations, experiments, surveys, and content analysis. 1.3

SS.SOC.10.03.a.2 Identify ethical standards for research in the field of sociology.

SS.SOC.10.03.b Design, conduct, and draw conclusions from a research experiment

SS.SOC.10.04 Identify, differentiate among, and apply a variety of sociological theories.

SS.SOC.10.04.a Trace the origins of the field of sociology and describe the major theories and thinkers that guide sociological inquiry.

SS.SOC.10.04.b Analyze sociological theories and the founders of Sociology

SS.SOC.10.04.c Evaluate the social construction of reality by applying the sociological perspective and sociological imagination.

SS.SOC.10.04.d Differentiate among various sociological perspectives or theories on social life including but not limited to: functionalist perspective, conflict theory, symbolic interaction.

SS.SOC.10.04.d.1 Identify and evaluate the key concepts of the founders of sociology including: Durkheim, Comte, Weber, Marx, Spencer, Cooper, Addams, Mead, Du Bois, Mills.

SS.SOC.20 — Social Structure: Culture, Institutions, and Society

SS.SOC.20.01 Define Culture and examine the components of culture

SS.SOC.20.01.a Evaluate the Five Components of Culture (physical objects, symbols, language, values, norms (folkways and mores)

SS.SOC.20.01.a.1 Identify examples of material and non-material culture as well as ideal and real culture

SS.SOC.20.01.a.2 Define cultural deviance, conformity, and universals

SS.SOC.20.01.a.3 Identify culture traits, complexes, and patterns

SS.SOC.20.02 Analyze how culture influences individuals including self reflection.

SS.SOC.20.02.a Identify ethnocentrism and cultural relativism

SS.SOC.20.02.a.1 Define and differentiate between cultural appreciation and cultural appropriation

SS.SOC.20.02.b Examine other cultures in comparison with American culture (indigenous cultures)

SS.SOC.20.02.b.1 Identify and evaluate the stages of culture shock

SS.SOC.20.02.b.2 Identify American values (education, freedom, equality, etc.)

SS.SOC.20.02.b.3 Examine changing American values (women in the workforce, LGBTQIA+)

SS.SOC.20.03 Evaluate the role and effectiveness of social institutions and how they respond to social needs.

SS.SOC.20.03.a Identify Social Institutions (family, education, religion, economy, government, etc)

SS.SOC.20.03.b Investigate how social status and roles have changed over time

SS.SOC.20.04 Assess how social institutions and cultures change and evolve

- SS.SOC.20.04.a Examine shifting historical context such as: industrial revolution, urbanization, globalization, the internet age
- SS.SOC.20.04.b Identify subcultures and countercultures
- SS.SOC.20.04.c Evaluate social movements and their effect on society
 - SS.SOC.20.04.c.1 Identify resistance to social change (ethnocentrism, cultural lag, counterculture, xenocentrism, xenophobia)

SS. SOC.30 — Social Relationships: Self, Groups, and Socialization

- SS.SOC.30.01 Describe the process of socialization across the life course
 - SS.SOC.30.01.a Define socialization, and describe the primary agents of socialization (i.e., family, peers, media, schools, religion, etc.).
 - SS.SOC.30.01.a.1 Define courtships and examine dating (emergence and patterns ie “talking”)
 - SS.SOC.30.01.a.2 Identify family systems (nuclear family, family of orientation, family of procreation, extended family, and kinship)
 - SS.SOC.30.01.a.3 Identify the functions of the family (regulation of sexual activity, reproduction, socialization, and economic and emotional security)
 - SS.SOC.30.01.a.4 Define and evaluate types of marriage (monogamy, polygamy, polygyny, and polyandry)
 - SS.SOC.30.01.a.5 Identify trends in American family life (delayed marriage and childbearing, childlessness, dual-earner marriages, one parent families, same sex marriages, and remarriage)
 - SS.SOC.30.01.a.6 Identify the characteristics of life in later adulthood including physical aspects of aging and death as part of the life cycle
 - SS.SOC.30.01.b Differentiate among various explanations or theories for deviant behavior (i.e., control theory, anomie theory, differential association theory, labeling theory, etc.)
 - SS.SOC.30.01.b.1 Define deviance, and describe conformity with and deviation from cultural norms.
 - SS.SOC.30.01.b.2 Identify the main functions of deviance (clarifying norms, unifying the group, diffusing tension, promoting social, and providing jobs)
 - SS.SOC.30.01.c Define and describe the characteristics of adolescence (biological growth & development, undefined status, increased decision-making, increased pressure, and search for self)
 - SS.SOC.30.01.d Identify problems of adolescence (teen pregnancy, drugs, suicide, and eating disorders)
- SS.SOC.30.02 Evaluate the process of the social construction of the self.
 - SS.SOC.30.02.a Compare achieved and ascribed status
 - SS.SOC.30.02.b Define reciprocal roles, role conflict, role strain, role expectation vs. performance
 - SS.SOC.30.02.c Identify and define: I and Me, role-taking, generalized other, identity, etc.).
- SS.SOC.30.03 Examine the social construction of groups and their impact on the life chances of individuals.
 - SS.SOC.30.03.a Identify the four requirements for a group
 - SS.SOC.30.03.b Define types of groups (primary, secondary, reference, in-groups, and out-groups)
 - SS.SOC.30.03.c Examine group role dynamics (harmonizer, gate-keeper, follower, distractor, etc.)
 - SS.SOC.30.03.d Identify the seven types of social interaction (exchange, competition, conflict, cooperation, coercion, conformity and accommodation)

SS. SOC.40 — Social Stratification & Inequality

- SS.SOC.40.01. Identify and analyze common patterns of social inequality.
 - SS.SOC.40.01.a Evaluate and define privilege
 - SS.SOC.40.01.b Define Class Inequality and evaluate the three determinants of social class (wealth, power, prestige)
 - SS.SOC.40.01.c Define race, ethnicity, ethnic group, and minority group
 - SS.SOC.40.01.c.1 Define prejudice, discrimination, and racism
 - SS.SOC.40.01.d Define and identify types of bias and the impact on marginalized groups in society
 - SS.SOC.40.01.e Define and evaluate Gender Inequality
- SS.SOC.40.02. Analyze the effects of social inequality on groups and individuals

- SS.SOC.40.02.a Evaluate Life Chances and inequality (vertical and horizontal)
 - SS. SOC.40.02.a.1 Analyze status symbols, class consciousness, and social mobility
- SS.SOC.40.02.b Discuss the effects of social inequality on social problems.
- SS.SOC.40.02.c Identify patterns of minority group treatment (assimilation, cultural pluralism, population transfer, subjugation, and extermination)
- SS.SOC.40.02.d Analyze effects of social inequality on inter- and intra- group conflict.
- SS.SOC.40.03 Identify and explain the relationship between social institutions and inequality.
 - SS.SOC.40.03.a Evaluate the distribution of power through social institutions.
 - SS. SOC.40.03.a.1 Identify negative outcomes of racial and ethnic identification
 - SS.SOC.40.03.b Analyze the potential of institutions to produce, reinforce, or challenge inequality
 - SS.SOC.40.03.b.1 Analyze various social control techniques (e.g., informal social control, formal social control, stigma, criminalization, etc.)
 - SS.SOC.40.03.b.2 Examine the American criminal justice system's response to deviant behavior
- SS.SOC.40.04 Assess responses to social inequality.
 - SS.SOC.40.04.a Identify Individual responses to inequality
 - SS.SOC.40.04.a.1 Differentiate between social inequality and social stratification
 - SS.SOC.40.04.b Evaluate group responses to inequality such as social movements (Me Too, BLM)
 - SS.SOC.40.04.c Analyze Social policy responses to inequality (welfare, social security, housing, healthcare, etc.)