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# PETERS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

## COURSE SYLLABUS: SOCIOLOGY

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### **Course Overview and Essential Skills**

Students taking Sociology will be provided with a greater understanding and appreciation of the theoretical background, content, and research methodology of the field of sociology. The course is designed as an introductory survey addressing topics such as: cultural diversity, social structure, group dynamics, adolescence, deviance, and socialization. In this course, students will examine socially transmitted beliefs, values, institutions, behaviors, traditions and way of life of a group of people and their interaction with one another. Students will leave the course with the ability to answer the questions: Why do individuals behave as they do? What influences how people learn, perceive, and grow? How do people meet their basic needs in a variety of contexts? How do individuals develop over time? How do social and cultural interactions support the development of identity? Special focus will be placed upon the student recognizing his/her relationship to peers, social groups, and institutions. Students interested in the social sciences, marketing field, and interpersonal skill sets should consider taking this course.

### **Course Textbook and Required Materials**

- Holt Sociology: The Study of Human Relationships (2005) & ISBN#: 0-03-037496-0
- Some resources for class will be found in the corresponding chapter/day on the class website.
- You will need a binder, paper and pen/pencil for class each day.

### **Course Outline of Material Covered:**

| Unit or Topic                            | Concepts/Skills/Resources   | Timeframe   |
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| Invitation to Sociology –<br>Chapter One | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How does Sociology differentiate itself from other social sciences?</li><li>• What outside factors influence your behaviors?</li><li>• Who I Am Project</li><li>• Theories of Sociology</li><li>• <i>Resources:</i> Articles and Video clips from approved sources</li></ul>  | two weeks   |
| Culture –<br>Chapter Two                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In-depth study of the components and features of culture</li><li>• Study of multiple groups/countries and their cultures</li><li>• Social Norms Evaluation/Project</li><li>• Look at PTHS through the years – Yearbook Cultural Analysis</li><li>• <i>Resources:</i> Articles and Video clips from approved sources, Gods Must Be Crazy Video</li></ul> | three weeks |

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| Cultural Adaptation –<br>Chapter Three  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding values through behaviors and norms</li> <li>• American Values and how values have changed in America</li> <li>• Countries and Culture Project</li> <li>• <i>Resources:</i> Articles and Video clips from approved sources</li> </ul>  | two weeks   |
| Groups –<br>Chapter Four                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding how statuses and roles play a part in our behaviors</li> <li>• Why do people group together?</li> <li>• Modern Family Episode</li> <li>• Study of Stanford Prison Experiment and Stanley’s Milgram’s Experiment</li> <li>• <i>Resources:</i> Articles and Video clips from approved sources</li> </ul>                      | two weeks   |
| Socialization –<br>Chapter Five         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do we shape children into their gender?</li> <li>• Nature v. Nurture and the effects on behavior</li> <li>• I Love Lucy TV Clips</li> <li>• Create a Children’s Story Project</li> <li>• Theories and Socialization</li> <li>• The Social Self</li> <li>• <i>Resources:</i> Articles and Video clips from approved sources</li> </ul> | three weeks |
| Adolescence –<br>Chapter Six            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Characteristics of Adolescence</li> <li>• Peers, Cliques and Crowds</li> <li>• <i>Resources:</i> Articles and Video clips from approved sources, Mean Girls video clips</li> </ul>  | two weeks   |
| Deviance –<br>Chapter Eight             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What makes a behavior deviant?</li> <li>• Theories on Deviance</li> <li>• Comparison of Crime in PT, PA and the United States</li> <li>• <i>Resources:</i> Articles and Video clips from approved sources, The Breakfast Club Video (clips)</li> </ul>  | three weeks |
| Social Stratification –<br>Chapter Nine | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What defines each social class in the United States?</li> <li>• How do classes effect groups, genders, race, etc?</li> </ul>  | one week    |

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Socially Stratified Monopoly</li><li>• <i>Resources:</i> Articles and Video clips from approved sources</li></ul> |  |
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***\*Depending on the needs of the class or changes in the school year, the course outline is subject to change.***