

Sociology A/T

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Sociology is the study of how individuals and groups think, feel, and behave. Students will develop an understanding of themselves and others by exploring the roles and interactions between individuals and society.

Students will also develop their knowledge and understanding of theories, concepts and perspectives to explain behaviour. They analyse the nature and purpose of Sociology and develop insights into types of behaviour across a range of contexts in society.

This course enables students to understand how individuals function within different contexts. Such knowledge has the potential to empower and enhance individual abilities and facilitate awareness of the human condition, along with tolerance and respect for others.

Units

Unit 1: Constructing Identity

In Unit 1, students will explore the construction of individual identity. Students explore social phenomena, such as socialisation, culture, and relationships. They apply and assess sociological theories and methodologies to examine a myriad of interactions in society and how individuals can be defined, constrained, and empowered.

Content

Culture, Popular culture, Subcultures and Family

This unit explores issues of how a person's culture relate to their individual identity. Students studying this unit will learn about how concepts of high and low culture, subcultures and families are defined, how this has changed over time, and how a person's identity shape their life.

Unit 2: Understanding Difference

This unit explores social issues that lend This unit explores the social construction of difference and its impact on society, including inequalities based on class, gender, and race, and the intersection of those and other categories. Students

explore how difference can lead to debate, social organisation, and the development of ideologies. They apply and assess sociological theories and methodologies critically to explain the origins and nature of inequality.

Content

Intersectionality of Class, Gender and Race

This unit explores issues of how a person's class, gender and race relate to their individual identity. Students studying this unit will learn about how concepts of sexuality and gender identity are defined, how this has changed over time, and how a person's sexuality and gender identity shape their life. This unit also explores how race and social class influence societies and their populations. Students studying this unit will learn about sociological approaches to class, gender and race in the past, present and future context.

Unit 3: Applying Sociology

This unit explores the applications of Sociology to particular contexts, such as crime and justice, politics, or health. Sociological concepts and methods will be used to examine areas of significant contemporary discussion. Students consider the assumptions and validity of sociological theories, concepts, methodologies, and models used to research and understand relevant case studies.

Content

Crime, Deviance and Economic Inequality

This unit explores the nature of deviance and theories of criminal behaviour. Students will learn about how certain behaviours are designated as 'deviant' or 'criminal', theories of why people commit deviant acts, the role of the justice system, and contemporary issues such as crime fighting, the justice system and incarceration. This unit also explores the role that economic inequality has on social dynamic and behaviour through the context of sociological theories.

Unit 4: Structure and Agency

This unit explores the exercise of power by the social institutions and systems that inform the structure of society on a



macro level, and in turn influence agency on a micro level. Students apply and assess sociological theories and methodologies to investigate the impact of institutional power on individuals and groups.

Content

Sociological Institutions of Politics, Media and Religion

This unit explores concepts of power and the role of the media in society. Students studying this unit will learn about theories of where power comes from, how it can be used and abused, and the role of the state in distributing and managing power, the influence of news media, issues with the media's role in society and the relationship the news media has with institutions. This unit also explores the major world religions and the role that religion plays in society. Students studying this unit will learn the core beliefs of the major world religions, how different theories of religion apply to them, and about the impact of religion on the modern world.

Unit 3: Independent Study

This unit is available to students in year 12 who have completed THREE units in this course.

