

Glendale Unified School District

Senior High School

September 14, 2010

Department: Social Science

Course Title: Sociology (formerly Sociology Today)

Course Number: 6187

Grade Level: 11, 12 (10 if recommended)

Semester Hours: 5

Recommended
Prerequisite: None

Recommended
Textbook: *Sociology*, Macionis, John J., Pearson Prentice Hall;
ISBN-13:978-0-13-713532-5; 12th Edition, 2008.

Course Description: This semester class emphasizes the social reality of the world we live in. It focuses on how groups influence our realities, those interpretations and pressures that affect how we behave and act with others. Participants will develop an understanding of the many social forces that impact our lives on a daily basis.

I. Course of Study:

A. The Social Framework

1. Culture

- a. Students will identify the difference between material and nonmaterial culture.
- b. Students will analyze the origins of culture.
- c. Students will examine the importance of ethnocentrism and cultural relativism.

2. Socialization

- a. Students will compare and contrast the importance of nature and nurture in humans.
 - b. Students will analyze the role of personality in socialization.
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3. Groups and Organizations
 - a. Students will examine their personal role within the larger society.
 - b. Students will describe the roles different groups play in society.
 - c. Students will analyze the functions and results of group dynamics.
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- B. Social Differentiation and Inequality
1. Deviance and Conformity
 - a. Students will compare and contrast deviance and crime.
 - b. Students will analyze the role of media in relation to conformity
 - c. Students will discuss formal and informal social controls and norms
 2. Race and Ethnicity
 - a. Students will examine the destructiveness of prejudice, stereotypes and discrimination.
 - b. Students will analyze ethnic diversity within the U.S. and on a global level, including genocidal acts.
 - c. Students will trace the rise of multiculturalism and pluralism in America.
 3. Sex and Gender
 - a. Students will differentiate between sex and gender.

- b. Students will explain gender differences and expectations within societies.
- c. Students will identify sexism within families, religion, politics and the work place.

C. Social Institutions

1. Families

- a. Students will analyze the effects of patrilineal and matrilineal descent patterns.
- b. Students will understand courtship, marriage and divorce rituals.
- c. Students will describe the impact of residence and authority patterns in contemporary America.
- d. Students will trace the marital and divorce rates in the last century.

2. Education

- a. Students will compare and contrast education in different cultures and countries.
- b. Students will identify the relationship between education and occupational opportunities in the U.S.
- c. Students will compare and contrast public, private and home schooling.

3. Religion

- a. Students will analyze the role of religion in society
- b. Students will trace the evolution of religion and its effects on individuals and groups.
- c. Students will identify the role of religious symbols, beliefs, rituals and artifacts.

4. The Economy and Work

- a. Students will compare and contrast the different types of economic systems and their impact on society.
- b. Students will differentiate blue-collar, white-collar and pink-collar occupations.
- c. Students will understand work as a social role and its part in the social structure.

II. Sample Assessments

1. Short Answer Questions
2. Multiple Choice Questions
3. Essays
4. Research Projects
5. Class Activities
6. Class Participation/Discussion
7. Surveys
8. Primary Source Document Analysis

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III. Topics of Study - Suggested Time Distribution

- A. The Social Framework - 6 weeks
 1. Culture - 2 weeks
 2. Socialization - 2 weeks
 3. Groups and Organizations - 2 weeks
- B. Social Differentiation and Inequality - 6 weeks
 1. Deviance and Conformity - 2 weeks
 2. Race and Ethnicity - 2 weeks
 3. Sex and Gender - 2 weeks
- C. Social Institutions - 6 weeks
 1. Families - 2 weeks
 2. Education - 2 weeks

3. Religion - 1 week

4. The Economy and Work - 1 week

IV. Recommended Materials: *Sociology*, Macionis, John J., 12th Edition, 2008. Pearson Prentice Hall.