

**NORTHGATE HIGH SCHOOL  
SOCIOLOGY CURRICULUM MAP**

Fall Semester

Spring Semester

<p><b><u>Unit 1: Definition of the science/Introduction</u></b>  <b><u>Focus Questions:</u></b> What is Sociology? What do sociologists do? Who are the major Sociologists and what did they research?  <b><u>Chapter:</u></b> 1  <b><u>Time Allocation:</u></b> 2 weeks</p>	<p><b><u>Unit 7: Deviance and Crime:</u></b>  <b><u>Focus Questions:</u></b> What are the nature and the social functions of deviance? Why do people break the law? What constitutes a crime? Who are the criminals and why? How should our criminal justice system work? Discussion of the death penalty, the police, and the prison system.  <b><u>Chapter:</u></b> 8  <b><u>Time Allocation:</u></b> 3 weeks</p>
<p><b><u>Unit 2: Culture:</u></b>  <b><u>Focus Questions:</u></b> What is culture? What is American culture? What are the subcultures and countercultures? What are norms, folkways, and mores? Are cultures around the world similar or different in all regards?  <b><u>Chapters:</u></b> 2 &amp; 3  <b><u>Time Allocation:</u></b> 2 weeks</p>	<p><b><u>Unit 8: Social Structure, Organization, and Stratification:</u></b>  <b><u>Focus Questions:</u></b> What is a social class? What is occupational prestige? What is class consciousness? How is income inequality affecting the American social structure? What groups have been affected by poverty and what has been done to lessen the effects of poverty? How do gender and ethnicity affect social status?  <b><u>Chapter:</u></b> 9  <b><u>Time Allocation:</u></b> 3-4 weeks</p>
<p><b><u>Unit 3: Socialization:</u></b>  <b><u>Focus Questions:</u></b> What are our values? What factors influence how we act? What are American values? Topics for discussion include: isolation, nature vs. nurture, personality development, birth order, gender, parental characteristics, genetics, and cultural environment.  <b><u>Chapters:</u></b> 5 &amp; 11  <b><u>Time Allocation:</u></b> 3-4 weeks</p>	<p><b><u>Unit 9: Inequalities/Discrimination:</u></b>  <b><u>Focus Questions:</u></b> How do racism, heterosexism, classism, ageism, ableism, and sexism manifest itself in this society? What constitutes a hate crime?  <b><u>Chapter:</u></b> 10  <b><u>Time Allocation:</u></b> 3-4 weeks</p>
<p><b><u>Unit 4: Social Structure, Groups, and Society:</u></b>  <b><u>Focus Questions:</u></b> How is society formed? Why do people join groups? What is collective behavior?  <b><u>Chapter:</u></b> 4  <b><u>Time Allocation:</u></b> 3 weeks</p>	<p><b><u>Unit 10: Institutions: Government, Economics, Education and Religion:</u></b>  <b><u>Focus Question:</u></b> What purpose do they serve in a society? What are the characteristics of the capitalist and the socialist economic systems? What developments have transformed the American economic system? How does the exercise of power vary by type of government? How do the views of functionalist, conflict, and interactionist sociologists differ concerning education? What are some of the current issues in American education? What basic societal needs does religion serve? What are the distinctive features of religion in American society?  <b><u>Chapters:</u></b> 13 &amp; 14  <b><u>Time Allocation:</u></b> 4 weeks*</p>
<p><b><u>Unit 5: Family</u></b>  <b><u>Focus Questions:</u></b> What is the typical American family? Topics include: marriage, divorce, abuse, death, and alternatives to traditional marriage/family.  <b><u>Chapter:</u></b> 12  <b><u>Time Allocation:</u></b> 4 weeks</p>	<p><b><u>Unit 11: Mass Media: (This unit may be intertwined throughout the course as it relates to the units above).</u></b>  <b><u>Focus Question:</u></b> How does the media influence the public and society? How do the sociological perspectives of mass media? What are some contemporary mass-media issues?  <b><u>Chapter:</u></b> 15  <b><u>Time Allocation:</u></b> 1-2 weeks*</p>
<p><b><u>Unit 6: Pressures on teenagers and adults:</u></b>  <b><u>Focus Questions:</u></b> What worries does each age group face? Topics include: drugs, alcohol, sexuality, eating disorders, suicide, depression, abuse, peer pressure, the work world, and the elderly  <b><u>Chapters:</u></b> 6 &amp; 7  <b><u>Time Allocation:</u></b> 3 weeks</p>	<p><b>*During the last 3-4 weeks of the semester, some class time will also be devoted to preparation for the Group Final Project, where students will work in groups of their choice to research and utilize previous theory to create a solution about a social problem or issue.</b></p>