

Topic	Lesson	Objectives
The Sociological Point of View		
	Examining Social Life	
		Define sociology and explain what it means to have a sociological imagination.
		Describe how sociology is similar and different from other social sciences.
	Sociology: Then and Now	
		Explain how the field of sociology developed.
		Describe the ways the three main theoretical perspectives in sociology differ in their focus.
Cultural Diversity		
	The Meaning of Culture	
		Define meaning of the term culture, and how material culture and nonmaterial culture differ.
		Outline the basic components of culture.
	Cultural Variation	
		Define cultural universals and explain why they exist.
		Define ethnocentrism and cultural relativism.
		Identify the factors that account for variations among and within cultures.
Cultural Conformity and Adaptation		
	The American Value System	
		Outline the basic values that form the foundation of American culture.
		Describe the new values that have developed in the United States since the 1970s.
	Social Control	
		Describe how the norms of society are enforced.
		Analyze the differences between positive and negative sanctions.
		Analyze the differences between formal and informal sanctions.
	Social Change	
		Explain the main sources of social change.
		Identify the factors that lead people to resist social change.
Social Structure		
	Building Blocks of Social Structure	
		Describe the two major components of social structure.
		Explain how these two components of social structure affect human interaction.
	Types of Social Interaction	
		Describe the common types of social interaction.
		Identify the types of interactions that stabilize social structure and those that can disrupt it.

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	Types of Societies	
		Identify the types of societies that exist in the world today.
		Describe the roles that individuals play in the these models of group systems.
	Groups Within Society	
		Outline the major features of primary and secondary groups.
		Explain the purposes that groups fulfill.
	The Structure of Formal Organizations	
		Describe how bureaucracies are structured.
		Explain how bureaucracies are effective.
Socializing the Individual		
	Personality Development	
		Outline the four main factors that affect the development of personality.
		Describe how isolation in childhood affects development.
	The Social Self	
		Explain how a person's sense of self emerges.
		Identify the theories that have been put forth to explain the process of socialization.
	Agents of Socialization	
		Identify the most important agents of socialization in the United States.
		Explain why family and education are important social institutions.
The Adolescent in Society		
	Adolescence in Our Society	
		Summarize how adolescence developed as a distinct stage of the life cycle in the Unites States.
		Identify the five general characteristics of adolescence.
	Teenagers and Dating	
		Summarize how dating developed as a form of social interaction.
		Outline the functions that dating fulfills.
	Challenges of Adolescence	
		Summarize some of the social problems facing contemporary teenagers.
		Identify the causes and consequences of these problems.
The Adult in Society		
	Early and Middle Adulthood	
		Summarize Daniel Levinson's theory of male development.
		Summarize the stages of adult female development.

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	The World of Work	
		Describe how the nature of work in the United States has changed.
		Describe how the composition of the labor force in the United States has changed.
	The Later Years	
		Describe the characteristics of life during late adulthood.
		Identify the new challenges that older Americans face.
Deviance and Social Control		
	Deviance	
		Summarize the nature and social functions of deviance.
		Compare the theories that have been proposed to explain deviance.
	Crime	
		Identify the principle types of crime in the United States.
		Describe the characteristics of the American criminal-justice system.
Social Stratification		
	Systems of Stratification	
		Describe the characteristics of caste systems and class systems.
		Compare and contrast the major theories of social stratification.
	The American Class Systems	
		Describe the characteristics of the American class system.
		Explain how different motivations and cultural values influence the American class system.
	Poverty	
		Identify the groups of Americans that are affected by poverty.
		Analyze the steps that have been taken by the federal government to lessen the effects of poverty.
Racial and Ethnic Relations		
	Race, Ethnicity, and the Social Structure	
		Explain how sociologists define the terms race, ethnicity, and minority group.
		Describe the characteristics that distinguishes minority groups from one another.
	Patterns of Intergroup Relations	
		Describe how discrimination and prejudice differ.
		Identify the most common patterns of minority-group treatment.
	Minority Groups in the United States	
		Identify the conditions under which minority groups in the United States live.
		Summarize the government policies that have affected the lives of minority groups in the United States.

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Gender, Age, and Health		
	Gender	
		Describe how gender roles affect the opportunities available to men and women in society.
		Explain how gender roles are affected by socialization.
	Age and Disability	
		Summarize the effect that aging of the population is having on society.
		Explain how aging of the population is affecting the life chances of older Americans.
	Health	
		Analyze the state of health care in the United States.
		Identify some of the special health-care concerns of various segments of the American society.
The Family		
	The Family in Cross-Cultural Perspective	
		Describe the norms that influence the ways in which marriage patterns are organized around the world.
		Identify the basic societal needs that the institution of family satisfies.
	The American Family	
		Summarize how American families begin and the disruptions they might face.
		Outline the trends in American family life that are currently being examined by sociologists.
The Economy and Politics		
	The Economic Institution	
		Describe the characteristics of the capitalist and the socialist economic systems.
		Outline the developments that have transformed the American economic system.
	The Political Institution	
		Describe how the exercise of power varies by type of government.
		Describe the major characteristics of the U.S. political system.
Education and Religion		
	The Sociology of Education	
		Compare and contrast the views of the functionalist, conflict, and interactionist sociologists concerning education.
		Identify some of the current issues in American education.
	The Sociology of Religion	
		Describe the basic societal needs that religion serves.
		Identify the distinctive features of religion in American Society.

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Science and the Mass Media		
	Science as a Social Institution	
		Identify the factors that have contributed to the institutionalization of science.
		Explain how the norms of scientific research differ from the realities of scientific research.
	Mass Media as a Social Institution	
		Summarize the major developments in the history of mass media.
		Identify the types of mass media in the United States.
		Outline some of the contemporary mass-media issues.
Population and Urbanization		
	Population Change	
		Identify the factors that affect the size and structure of populations and how sociologists measure these factors.
		Describe how sociologists explain population change.
		Outline the programs that have been instituted to control population growth.
	Urban Life	
		Explain how cities evolve and why urbanization is such a recent event.
		Outline the models that have been proposed to explain the structure of cities.
		Summarize the theories that have been put forth to explain city life.
Collective Behavior & Social Movements		
	Collective Behavior	
		Describe the differences between various types of collectivities.
		Summarize the explanations that have been proposed to explain collective behavior.
		Summarize the preconditions that are necessary for collective behavior to occur and explain how they build on one another.
	Social Movements	
		Describe the types of social movements that exist and explain how they differ.
		Identify the stages of the life cycle of social movements.
		Explain the existence of social movements.
Social Change & Modernization		
	Explaining Social Change	
		Summarize the theories that social scientists have offered to explain the process of social change.
		Explain how the theories on social change have evolved.
	Modernization	
		Explain how modernization theory and world-system theory differ in their views on modernization in less-developed nations.
		Identify the positive and negative effects of modernization on social life and the natural environment.