

# 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.

### Extracurricular Opportunities

#### Excursions and Incursions

Sociology students regularly engage with social justice organisations through incursions to learn more about their activities and connect class content to the real world. For example, we recently heard from the Blue Dragon Foundation in Vietnam about their efforts to end human trafficking, in connection to our unit on crime. Students also attend excursions to our national institutions such as the Museum of Australian Democracy and Parliament House to contextualise their learning.

#### Student Leadership Group (R Unit)

Sociology students care a great deal about their community. As such, many sociology students elect to join the Student Leadership Group, to help make the school and the broader community a better place. From celebrating Harmony Day, facilitating Clean Up Australia Day, raising money for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation for Reconciliation Day, to advocating for equality on Wear It Purple Day, Leadership students are highly engaged in social justice causes.



### Units

#### Constructing Identity

Students 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.

#### Topics:

- The Sociological Imagination
- The Family
- Relationships
- Subcultures

#### Understanding Difference

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.

#### Topics:

- Gender
- Race
- Class
- Intersectionality



#### Applying Sociology

This unit explores the applications of Sociology to particular contexts, such as crime and justice, and the media. 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.

#### Topics:

- Crime and Deviance
- The Media

#### 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.

#### Topics:

- Education
- Religion

#### Careers

Studies in sociology can lead to further humanities studies at university, particularly in fields such as psychology, philosophy, law, history, and literature.

Sociology supports students to develop their critical thinking, and can lead to careers in fields such as journalism, education, public policy, urban planning, communications, and social research.

