



WALNUT GROVE HIGH SCHOOL

Social Studies



SOCIOLOGY SYLLABUS 2020-21

SOCIOLOGY OVERVIEW: Sociology is the study of social life, social changes, and the social causes and consequences of human behavior. Sociologists investigate the structure of groups, organizations, societies, and how people interact within these contexts. Since most human behavior is social, the subject matter of sociology ranges from the intimate family to the hostile mob; from organized crime to religious cults; from the divisions of race, gender and social class to the shared beliefs of a common culture; and from the sociology of work to the sociology of sports.

We will be discussing many topics in this class that may be very close to some people, whether that be religion, suicide, or lifestyle, and it is of the utmost importance that you be mature enough to be sensitive to these topics and how people in this class deal with these topics. If you feel that you will not be able to handle the discussion of such topics, or how others feel about them, you need to get your schedule changed today.

Laughing at such topics proves your immaturity and will hinder your learning. Have an open mind and do your best to learn about something new.

COURSE OUTLINE AND CURRICULUM MAPS:

Although this course has proven to be extremely popular and rewarding amongst students, the course is a very labor-intensive class. It requires students to learn numerable complex psychological perspectives in 1 semester. It will require students to stay focused, actively participate in class activities, complete outside class assignments and homework, and read assigned unit readings.

A detailed course curriculum map for each unit will be provided to each student at the beginning of each unit. Each unit has a timeline indicating the

starting and ending periods to be covered during that unit and the corresponding Georgia Performance Standards covered during the unit. It also indicates the Chapters and sub-sections that students should be familiar with during the unit.

UNITS OF STUDY:

- Unit 1: Foundations and Research
- Unit 2: Culture and Social Structure
- Unit 3: Socialization and Social Control
- Unit 4: Social Inequalities and Change

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO REVISION. TIME GUIDELINES GIVEN ON THE COURSE OUTLINE ARE TENTATIVE.

CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT: Learning should be fun, energetic, hands-on, and challenging. Every effort will be made to keep students actively challenged and engaged during the daily classroom activities. However, this depends a lot on student involvement and cooperation.

All students will have assigned seats within the classroom for the purposes of attendance and getting to know student names. However, the class structure will provide ample opportunities for students to move around and work with each other throughout the class period. All students are expected to comply with all major school rules. Classroom Consequences may include any of the following:

- Verbal and Written Warnings
- After School Detention
- Parent / Guardian Contact
- Referral to Administrator

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES: Students usually learn in a variety of ways. Some students are visual learners (learn by seeing things done or demonstrated), some are auditory learners (learn by hearing things told 'or read to them), and some are kinesthetic learners (learn by doing things themselves). It is our objective to reach all our students through the use of a variety of class activities. Classroom Activities will include (but not limited to) all of the following:

- Lecture
- Note-Taking Worksheets (Lecture, Q & A's, Fill-in, Video, Teambuilding)
- Graphic Organizers (Timelines, Maps, Wire-diagrams, Story-Maps, etc.)
- Overheads, PowerPoint, and Video Presentations
- Student Reading and Writing Activities (Note taking, Paragraphs, Essays, Reports)
- Student Peer Activities (Pair Share, Group Discussion, Peer Teaching)
- Role-Playing Activities
- Teacher Demonstrations
- Research Projects
- Creative Student Projects
- Sociology Labs

WORK SUBMISSION POLICY: All set tasks require completion and submission. All tasks, unless a task completed in class, will be due on **Friday** at the end of the week **@11:59 PM**. Students will submit the document electronically. Students completing the task prior to the completion date may receive extra credit. Students seeking extra credit will present the work to the class teacher. Extra credit will only be applied if the task is complete.

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT MAKE-UP WORK DEPARTMENTAL POLICY: If you are absent you have 3 days to turn in any assignments missed to receive 100% of the credit you earn. Late work will not be accepted

after 5 days. Work that is late will incur a 10-point deduction.

STUDENT PROJECTS, HOMEWORK, AND ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENTS: All students will be required to produce class projects during the course of the semester. Due to the volume of information that must be covered within a semester, students must make effective use of the limited time provided at school and are responsible for finishing required work at home if they do not do so at school. Student projects are purposely designed for students to demonstrate what they have learned during the semester. Projects may include (but are not limited to):

- Formal Research Reports and/or Presentations,
- Critical Thinking Pyramids, Posters, or PowerPoint Presentations
- Creative Writing Activities (Formal Letters, Magazine and Newspaper Articles, etc.)
- Create Historical Timelines, Murals, Wall-Writings

INDEPENDENT STUDY: All students will be required to take part in an independent study prepared during the students' own time. Grades are partially determined by class assessment whilst the remainder is determined by self-evaluation. Students usually find this activity both challenging and enjoyable.

GRADING: In general, grading is done on an assigned points scale. Each assignment is given a total number of possible points that a student may earn. Student work is then graded based on the quantity of work completed, the accuracy of the completed work, and the student's demonstrated knowledge of the subject material. Graded work will be returned to the students as soon as possible. Grades will be noted at the top of all graded assignments and be indicated out of a possible score of 100.

Students and parents are encouraged to keep track of the progress regularly using the county's on-line reporting system. Grades will be calculated using in the following scale:

Class work and Activities	Tests and Quizzes	Projects and Labs	Final Exam
30%	30%	30%	10%

QUIZZES AND TESTS: Unit tests will be issued throughout the semester and will cover the work learned during that unit. Should a student be absent during the testing period, the missed TEST can only be provided after-school. Quizzes will be periodic and apply to the unit currently under instruction

EOCT: There is not an End of Course Test for this course. There will be a final examination at the end of the term.

FINAL EXAM: Dates for the final exam are defined by the calendar adopted by the Walton County Board of Education for the current school year. All teachers must give some aspect of their final assessment on the dates given in the adopted calendar.

HOMework AND STUDYING

Homework is one of the most valuable tools to student success in this type of class. Except for occasional essay assignments, there will be only two primary forms of homework:

- Completing unfinished class work, and
- Completing assigned project work.

Students WILL NOT receive a study guide or outline prior to a unit test or quiz. Student in-class notes, and summary review questions will be their study guide. Extensive resources to support study are available on my website.

NOTE TAKING: It has been my experience that students that are organized and prepared are much more successful. As a result, I discourage the use of binders and prefer students to use a bound composition book for note taking and writing assignments. Given this, student work may only be submitted in a Composition Book for grading. If a student is unable to provide one, it is expected that the student will speak to me so one may be arranged for them.

EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES: There will be

extra credit opportunities during the semester. Students may complete prepared chapter study guides that align to the unit being undertaken. Students are required to turn those in at the time of the test. Credit will not be given to packets turned in after the test date. These study guides are available from my website and in printed form in the classroom.

HONOR CODE POLICY Penalties of the School Honor Code (Cheating) policy is outlined in the information package. However, to ensure that every student is aware of this policy, it is outline below.

Any student who copies another student's homework, essay, project, or other assignment without expressed permission from the teacher has violated the honor code (cheating) policy and will receive a zero for the assigned work and a referral to a referral to an administrator.

Any student who allows another student to copy their work, without expressed permission from the teacher has also violated the honor code (cheating) policy and will receive a zero for their assigned work and a referral to an administrator.

If a student is not sure about any assignment, they should first ask the teacher and not assume anything in relation to the rules for completing the assignment.

TEXTBOOKS: Students WILL NOT be issued a hard copy of the class text unless to support a disability. Our text is available as an online version or as a fully downloadable .PDF document.

STUDENT SUPPLIES:

1. PEN, PENCIL, MARKERS and COLORED PENCILS
2. 1 x BINDER
3. HEADPHONES OR EARBUDS
4. Due to the high use of printed material, students are also encouraged to provide 1 x PACK OF REGULAR PHOTOCOPY PAPER

COMMUNICATION: New this year – You may

enroll in *Remind* for class updates. These updates will be sent out approximately once a week. This is NOT mandatory, and there is NO cost to you other than normal text message charges. If you and your student wish to enroll, simply text **@wghssoc** to **81010**. *Remind* will send you back a message asking for your full name – please provide first and last name – and will set you up to receive future text messages from me. My cell phone number will never be available to you, and yours will never be available to me through *Remind*. If you have any questions or concerns about this system, please e-mail me at **robert.mcpherson@walton.k12.ga.us** or by phone at **678-507-3900**

WEBSITES: In an effort to increase communication and information between the Walton County Schools staff and the local public, the school web site has added individual web pages for each member of the staff. Teachers will be updating their sites to include, homework, special projects and events, and other information that parents/guardians and students may find useful. Please feel free to check the school website and make suggestions for additions and improvements to the staff. My website provides a comprehensive bank of resources and can be found at <http://sociology.education>

COURSE VIDEO LIST: As part of the course, students will view a variety of video excerpts to enhance their understanding of social studies topics and concepts. All videos contain materials that

ensure academic value and content. Much of this viewing is time-related and may not be seen by every student in every class.

NOTE: Any video's that may be added during the semester will meet prior approval from the school principal.

TECHNOLOGY: In this technological age, students must learn to make effective use of computers and internet resources. Students must also learn to respect both the strengths and weaknesses of technology. Technology can and will fail at the most inopportune times and students must learn to anticipate and prevent these difficulties when they can. The use of technology forces the user to be more responsible if they plan to be successful.

While extenuating circumstances will always be considered; as a general rule, technological difficulties WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED EXCUSES for late work. (Example: "My printer is broken!" "It's not on my disk!" or "I can't get my disk to open."). Students should always ensure they have a printed copy of any work that they have done on a computer, just in case they experience technical problems later.

Regards;

Rob McPherson

Behavioral Science (Social Studies)



Sign up for important updates from Mr. McPherson.

Get information for **Walnut Grove High School** right on your phone—not on handouts.

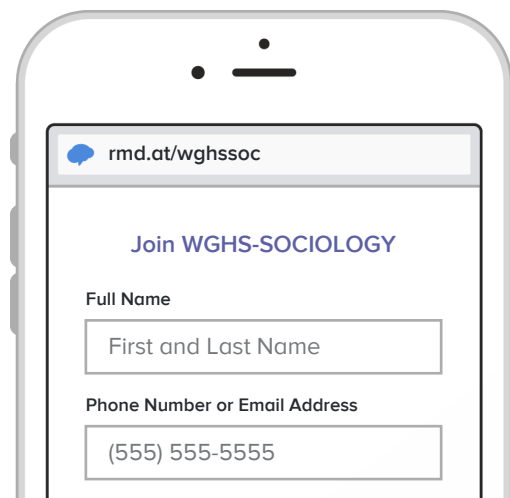
Pick a way to receive messages for **WGHS-SOCIOLOGY**:

A If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

rmd.at/wghssoc

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.



B If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message **@wghssoc** to the number **81010**.

If you're having trouble with **81010**, try texting **@wghssoc** to **(706) 956-2448**.

** Standard text message rates apply.*



Don't have a mobile phone? Go to rmd.at/wghssoc on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.