

## Sociology A/T

**Sociology promotes students to question the power and influence our society has over our own behaviour. Students study modern social issues by assessing them against sociological concepts and theories.**

### **Rationale**

*Why would you do this course?*

Sociology is a course that helps students gain a broader understanding of the world they live in. Through a study of modern social issues including the impact of media, clashes of culture, criminal behaviour and social institutions students develop the ability to analyse, evaluate and assess the perspectives and agenda of different social agents while learning academic concepts about social structure.

The course also provides students with the opportunity to participate in several extracurricular activities and excursions including guest speakers, court excursions and a behavioural science trip to Melbourne. The course also prepares students for learning opportunities on the Lake Tuggeranong USA Excursion.

Sociology compliments studies in Psychology, Legal Studies and Global Studies.

### **Learner dispositions**

*Who usually studies this course?*

Students selecting Sociology should have an interest in inquiry and a tendency to question the world around. They have a genuine interest in understanding the perspectives of different groups in society.

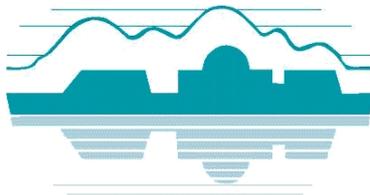
Students studying Sociology are well prepared to engage in further tertiary studies in the humanities and behavioural sciences. The skills are also relevant to careers in public institutions, law enforcement, public service and research.

### **Readiness**

*What courses or previous experience would make a student ready to study this course?*

There is no prerequisite for Sociology. An interest in social issues and an understanding of the concepts of social justice is valuable and will put you in a good position to succeed in this class. Throughout the course there is a focus on developing the skills of discussion, debate, oral and written communication and analysis.





## Content and Assessment Overview

Students in Sociology commence their studies investigating and evaluating the impact of social structures and institutions on criminal behaviour. In Semester Two studies focus on the role of religion and factors that contribute to extremism and acts of terror around the world. In the second year of studies students explore the impact of the media and way that social constructs of identity influence our choices.

### Unit breakdown and Course Pattern

Sociology is taught as a combined class with Year 11 and 12 students in the class. In 2020 students will commence studies with the Sociology of Social Justice.

Year 11: Units 2 and 4

Year 12: Units 3 and 1

#### Unit 2: Sociology of Social Justice

Students explore the social divides that are present in Australian Society, applying classical sociological concepts to the socioeconomic status, class divide, and social mobility. In the second part of the semester, students will focus on the social impacts on criminal behaviour.

#### Unit 4: Power and Institutions

This unit explores and develops students' understanding of the role of religion, education and employment in setting and challenging standard behaviour in societies. Students get an understanding of fundamentalism, extremism and causes of terror acts.

#### Unit 3: Cultural Icons

This unit looks at the role culture plays in the media and explores the media as a communicator of culture impact on our social values, perspectives and social discourse. Students question the role of social media and the future ways in which we consume information.

#### Unit 1: Identity

Students explore the concepts of race, family and national identity to gain an understanding of the role these concepts play in influencing social behaviours. The unit focuses on contemporary issues through sociological lenses.

#### Types of Assessment Items:

- Interviews
- Research Reports
- News articles
- Oral Presentations
- Podcasts
- Sociological Experiments

For more information, visit the BSSS website, speak to the SLC of **Business, IT & Social Sciences**, or visit the LTC website: [http://www.ltc.act.edu.au/Learning/unit\\_outlines](http://www.ltc.act.edu.au/Learning/unit_outlines)

