



# Dallas High School Home of the Dragons



**Sociology**

**2013-2014**

**Instructor:** Steve Dickerson

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**Office Hours:** Tues-Friday 3:00-3:30, 3<sup>rd</sup> period, additional times by arrangement.

**Course Description:** This class is a basic introduction to the study of sociology. We try to gain understanding into why people act the way they do because of their social surroundings. The class also looks at modern social issues affecting the United States and the world. Each unit will end with either a test or a culminating activity. Every student will be expected to participate in the semester final.

**Texts:**

Sociology & You (Glencoe, 2008)

**Course Outline**

	Unit Topic	Summative Assessment
Unit 1	- <u>The Sociological Perspective</u> 1. What is the class about? 2. What is the purpose of Sociology? 3. Sociology terminology.	Introduction to Sociology Exam Power Standard 1

Unit 2	<u>Culture and Social Structures</u> 1. Societal Norms, Values, Mores, and Folkways. 2. Social Groups	Ch. 3 Test (Culture and Social Structures) Norms and Values Article Review Power Standard 2
Unit 3	<u>Conformity and Deviance</u> 1. What is Conformity? 2. Focus on American values.	Ch. 7 Test (Deviance and Social Control) Power Standard #2
Unit 4	<u>Teen Issues</u> 1. Look at peer pressure. 2. Group project about modern teen issues to include teen pregnancy, teen violence, drugs and alcohol, conformity, suicide, etc.	Teen Issues Project/Presentation Power Standard #4
Unit 5	<u>Poverty</u> 1. Poverty in America 2. Is it a problem? 3. The search for solutions.  <u>Racism</u> 1. Understanding racism. 2. Solutions to racism. 3. The world as a global village.	Poverty Paper Inequalities of Race Exam Power Standard #7

## Standards to Be Assessed:

### **Power Standard 1 — Foundations of Sociology as a Social Science**

*Students will describe the development of sociology as a social science, by identifying methods and strategies of research and by examining the contributions of sociology to the understanding of social issues.*

### **Power Standard 2 — Culture**

*Students will examine the influence of culture on the individual and the way cultural transmission is accomplished. They will study the way culture defines how people in a society behave in relation to groups and to physical objects. They will also learn that human behavior is learned within the society. Through the culture, individuals learn the relationships, structures, patterns and processes to be members of the society.*

### **Power Standard 4 - Social Groups**

*Students will explore the impacts of social groups on individual and group behavior. They will understand that social groups are comprised of people who share some common characteristics, such as common interests, beliefs, behavior, feelings, thoughts and contact with each other.*

### **Power Standard 7 - Social Problems**

*Students will analyze a range of social problems in today's world. Social problems result from imbalances within the social system and affect a large number of people in an adverse way.*

**Career Related Learning Standards:** Career-related learning standards (CRLS) are fundamental skills essential for success in employment, college, family, and community life. We have integrated the Personal Management standard from the CRLS into all courses at DHS. **This standard will be assessed and communicated independent of the academic grade.** It is included below and mainly includes behaviors that will be assessed in this course.

- **Personal Management Standard:** Exhibit appropriate work ethic and behaviors in school, community and workplace.
  - Students will identify tasks that need to be done and initiate action to complete the tasks.
  - Students will plan, organize and complete projects and assigned tasks on time, meeting agreed upon standards of quality.
  - Students will take responsibility for decisions and actions and anticipate consequences of decisions and actions.
  - Students will maintain regular attendance and be on time daily.
  - Students will maintain appropriate interactions with colleagues.

## **Grading and Assessment:**

Student's final grade for each course will be broken down into two categories:

- 1) **Academic:** based on assessments, tests, projects and performances that measure learning.
- 2) **Personal Management:** based on homework completion and other behaviors measuring the CRLS personal management standard.

**The Final grade is calculated as follows: 75%** of the course grade will be based on the **Academic** grade and **25%** on the **Personal Management** grade.

- Any items included in the Academic grade (PA) may be retaken and the higher grade recorded. Teachers may extend the retake time period, but as a rule all retakes need to be done within 2 weeks of the initial assessment.
- Students will complete extra preparation before retaking an assessment.
- Personal management work turned in late may be reduced by up to 50% credit.
- Retakes are not allowed on Personal Management assignments.
- Students must schedule performance retakes at their teacher's convenience. (Speech, drama, labs.)