Welcome to Sociology

This course is meticulously designed to align with state standards and targeted learning objectives, ensuring comprehensive coverage of essential knowledge and skills required for student success.

Course Description:
Sociology, Semester 1, is a self-paced, independent study course designed to provide students with a comprehensive introduction to the study of society and human behavior in a social context. Throughout the course, students will explore the dynamics of social groups and institutions and their interrelationships. Key topics include culture, socialization, deviance, stratification, race, ethnicity, social change, and collective behavior.

Students will gain a deeper understanding of how individuals and groups influence society, how society shapes individuals, and how various factors such as power, inequality, and culture affect human interaction. This course helps students develop a sociological perspective to critically examine societal structures and their impact on everyday life.

Units and Learning Outcomes

Unit 1: Introduction to Sociology
- Define the scope and methods of sociology.
- Understand the history and key contributors to the field.
- Learn how to analyze social behavior and societal trends through a sociological lens.

Unit 2: Culture and Society
- Examine the concept of culture and its role in shaping societies.
- Study cultural diversity, norms, values, and beliefs.
- Explore how culture influences individual identity and social behavior.

Unit 3: Socialization
- Understand the process of socialization and its role in shaping individual behavior.
- Identify agents of socialization such as family, education, media, and peers.
- Explore how socialization affects the development of self-concept and identity.

Unit 4: Deviance and Social Control
- Define deviance and understand how it is defined within different societies.
- Study theories of deviance and the mechanisms of social control.
- Learn about the role of social institutions in addressing deviant behavior and maintaining order.

Unit 5: Social Stratification
- Understand the concept of social stratification and how society divides people into categories.
- Explore the impact of class, race, gender, and other factors on social mobility.
- Analyze the consequences of inequality on individuals and communities.

Unit 6: Race and Ethnicity
- Investigate the concepts of race and ethnicity and their role in shaping social interactions.
- Explore issues of prejudice, discrimination, and racial/ethnic identity.
- Examine the historical and contemporary effects of racism and ethnicity on society.

Unit 7: Social Change and Movements
- Explore the causes and effects of social change in societies.
- Study the role of social movements in challenging and transforming societal norms.
- Understand factors that contribute to social progress and resistance.

Unit 8: Collective Behavior and Social Groups

- Learn about different types of social groups and their influence on individual behavior.
- Explore the dynamics of collective behavior, such as crowds, fads, and mass movements.
- Understand the causes and consequences of group behavior in various social settings.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this self-paced course, students will be able to:

- Understand the key concepts and methods of sociology.
- Identify how culture, socialization, and deviance shape individual behavior.
- Analyze the impact of social stratification, race, and ethnicity on society.
- Examine the role of social change and collective behavior in shaping societal norms.
- Apply sociological principles to understand real-world social issues.

Conclusion:

Sociology, Semester 1, is a self-paced, independent study course that provides students with the tools to critically analyze and understand the complexities of social life. Through exploring the relationships between individuals, groups, and institutions, students will develop a sociological perspective on key issues like inequality, race, and culture.

This course encourages critical thinking about social phenomena and prepares students to evaluate societal trends and issues. By the end of the course, students will have gained a deeper understanding of the forces that shape society and their role within it.