

What is Sociology and why should you study it?

We hear words like ‘culture’, ‘power’ and ‘society’ an awful lot, but what do they really mean? Find out by studying Sociology.

I love to study people, and that's basically what sociology is.—Kamaru Usman

Explore big questions

- Why is society the way it is?
- What is family?
- Who holds power in society?
- What is a community and why do we think it's a good thing?
- Why are some people included and some excluded in society?

Sociological knowledge and skills will help you in your career by exploring how the different parts of society fit together, how groups of people are idolised or stigmatised, and so much more. It will also help you to understand how we measure aspects of society, and how we research and learn about people.

Sociology will help you to:

- understand people, society and culture
- understand how to ethically answer research questions about the world around you
- understand how groups in society hold power.

What will I learn in Units 1 and 2 Sociology?

Unit 1: Youth and family

Experience of youth

This area of study introduces students to the discipline of Sociology and the nature of sociological inquiry through the study of youth.

Are these really the best days of your life? What does it mean to be young and what role do you play in society?

The family

This area of study explores different definitions of the family and how families have changed over time.

What is a family, anyway?

Why do stereotypes about families matter?

Unit 2: Social norms: breaking the code

Deviance

This area of study focuses on the concept of deviance, including how what is considered deviant may differ according to age and social status and across time and space.

Why is society scared of those that deviate from the norm?

Crime

In this area of study students develop an understanding of the concept of crime. They learn that crime and its definition are shaped by a community's sense of what is considered right and wrong.

Is there such a thing as a victimless crime?

Source: VCE Sociology Study Design, Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority

