What is Sociology?
Sociology emerged around the time of the French Revolution as an enlightened science. Its function is to understand how and why society works as it does. Sociological thinking has been around for a long time as part of Philosophy. Modern sociology is studied as a way for Institutions (the pillars of society) to understand the far-reaching changes that have occurred in human societies and how best to prepare for future changes.
Sociology is the study of people
Well...

the people in your "society"; Australia
For Year 12, Sociology is the systematic study of human societies, giving special but not exclusive emphasis on modern industrialised societies e.g. Australia.
"I love our lunches out here, but I always get the feeling that we're being watched."
Sociology can contribute to **social criticism** and practical **social reform** in several ways. By **improving understanding** of social circumstances, sociology gives us all a better chance of controlling negative interactions and reactions. At the same time, sociology provides the means of **increasing cultural sensitivities**, allowing policies to be based on an awareness of **divergent cultural values**.
The practice of sociology involves the ability to think imaginatively and to detach oneself from preconceived ideas about social life.
The Sociological Imagination (Mills, 1959)

- A knowledge of the society’s history to help understand where the society came from.
- Historical perspective also helps you understand where people are placed in society.
- Engaging in the contemporary public issues of the society from various sources.
- Multiple perspectives helps you get a good idea of what the society faces.

So how do you view society from multiple perspectives?
Sociological Imagination (Mills, 1959)

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So how do you view society from multiple perspectives?
Engaging in the context:

Multiple perspectives
So how do you view society from multiple perspectives?
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Historical Perspective: “How have past events shaped the present understanding of those events, those people, those cultures?”

Structural Perspective: "How do social institutions and organisations affect people’s experiences?" "Has this influence changed over time?"

- Economic Institutions
- Political Institutions
- Religion - Society Institutions
- Education Institutions
- Family Institutions
Historical Perspective: “How have past events shaped the present understanding of those events, those people, those cultures?”
Structural Perspective:
“How do social institutions and organisations affect cultural experiences?”
“Has this influence changed over time?”
Family Institutions
Education Institutions
Religion - Society Institutions
Political Institutions
Economic Institutions
Cultural - Critical Perspective:

“How do we know how
- indigenous
- non-indigenous
- middle class
- white collar
- blue collar, etc

Australians view this issue?”

“Why are there changing perspective on these issues?”
Sociology Unit 3 - Culture & Ethnicity

Area of Study One - Australian Indigenous Culture
On completion of this unit, the student should be able to analyse and evaluate changes in the public awareness and perception of Australian Indigenous Culture.

This area of study aims to critically examine both the historical suppression and increasing public awareness of Australian Indigenous culture. This requires some knowledge of the past and its influence on subsequent generations, as well as knowledge about contemporary factors that support and/or limit the increasing awareness of Australian Indigenous culture. An awareness of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous perspectives and responses is integral to this study.
Unit 3 AOS 1 Timeline

Yep, that’s your whole course mapped out. So you can keep track each week.

Coursework & homework tasks are on the outline.
Unit 3 AOS 1 Timeline
that's your whole course mapped
So you can keep track each week.

Coursework & homework tasks are on the outline
It's important to come to every class as the text book only gives you a bare outline of the unit. You really need the support from lessons, group discussion and the writing practice of coursework tasks to make it through without much stress.
Homework Expectations

- Read your notes
- Finish any assignments
- Keep up with classwork
Coursework & homework tasks are on the outline

Homework Expectations

- Read your notes after every class - do your notes make sense?
- Finish any outstanding work from class
- Keep your glossary up to date
- Follow your timeline planner,
  - Annotate a few pages each week.
  - do the chapter questions
Important Info

- The text book is necessary. Buy it
- Class resources are posted onto Compass
- I live in the humanities office (behind the door)

Homework is on the timeline. Coursework checks come every few weeks in line with reporting requirements.

All the resources (powerpoints, handouts, etc) are up on Compass, usually in advance so that you can download them before class.

Elana (lives in the library) & Desi (lives in Hums office) are your teachers
Your teacher in “transition week” is your teacher for 2017.

Elana: elana.bibby.e@edumail.vic.gov.au.
Desi: rentos.despina.d@edumail.vic.gov.au