

Sociology History Day Topics List

Social Studies Content Standards	History Day Example Topics
1. Recognize sociology as a social science, identify methods and strategies of research, and examine the contributions of sociology to the understanding of social issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baby Boomers and the Threat of Nuclear Annihilation: A Study in Mass Hysteria • Southern Secession: The Fruits of Illogical Groupthink and Fear • A Ruinous Mix of Fear and Racism: The California Workingmen’s Party and the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882
2. Examine the influence of culture and the way cultural transmission is accomplished.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Japanese American Incarceration: How Irrational Fear Affected the Lives of 120,000 Americans • The Jim Crow South: An Examination of Social Forms of Oppression
3. Identify how social status influences individual and group behaviors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrew Lloyd Garrison’s <i>Liberator</i>: How the Fourth Estate Can Affect the Marketplace of Ideas
4. Examine how social groups are composed of people who share common characteristics including interests, beliefs, behaviors, and feelings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Betty Friedan’s <i>The Feminine Mystique</i>: Sparking Second Wave Feminism • Rudyard Kipling: Legacy of the “White Man’s Burden”
5. Identify the effects of social institutions on individual and group behavior and explain how these institutions influence the development of the individual.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rosie the Riveter and the Changing Roles of Women during World War II • Leading a Communist Island: Marshal Tito and Yugoslavia • Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar and the Fight Against India’s Caste System
6. Examine social change over time and the various factors that lead to these changes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emmeline Pankhurst: Leading a Militant Struggle for Suffrage in Great Britain • Nazism and Eugenics: Legacy of a “Superior” Race
7. Analyze social problems that affect large numbers of people or result from imbalances within a social system.	
8. Explore both individual and collective behavior.	