VCE Sociology (2024-2028) Implementation
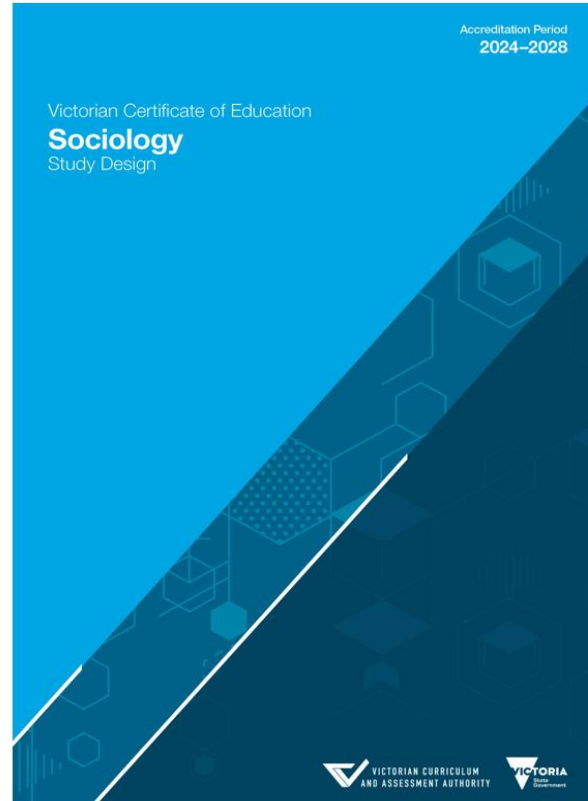
Unit 4: Community, social movements and social change

Acknowledgement of Country

The VCAA respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria and pays respect to the ongoing living cultures of First Peoples.

VCE Sociology Study Design 2024- 2028

General Information

This presentation is one in a series of four On-demand videos –

- Unit 1   Youth and family
- Unit 2   Deviance and crime
- Unit 3   Culture and ethnicity
- **Unit 4   Community, social movements and social change**

and one Question and Answer Webinar covering Units 1-4 Sociology

These support materials will be located on the **VCAA VCE Sociology Study page**.

Important information

Safety and wellbeing

During the course of VCE Sociology students may undertake primary research.

Please refer to the Australian Sociological Association (TASA) for a formal set of ethical guidelines for conducting research.

Child Safe Standards

Schools are required to comply with the Child Safe Standards made under the Victorian *Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005*

Refer to VCE Sociology Study Design 2024- 2028 page 7

Unit 4: Community, social movements and social change

In this unit, students explore the ways sociologists have thought about the idea of community and how the various types of community are experienced. They examine the relationship between social movements and social change.

Area of study 1: Community

Area of study 2 :Social movements and social change

Unit 4: Community, social movements and social change

In Area of Study 1, students examine the **changing definitions** and **experiences of community**. This includes examination of the **challenges** and **opportunities** posed by **political, social, economic and technological change**

Students examine the **concept of community** with particular reference to the theories of **Ferdinand Tonnies** and **Michel Maffesoli**.

Unit 4: Community, social movements and social change

In Area of Study 2, students investigate the **role of social movements**. A social movement involves a group engaged in an organised effort to achieve social change.

Students develop an understanding of the **purpose, evolution, power and outcomes** of social movements.

Area of Study 1 Community

Area of Study 1

Sociologists refer to the concept of community as a group of people who share social relationships through being geographically close to each other and/or being in regular contact with each other, and through having similarities such as mutual interests and/or shared ideology.

Area of Study 1 Community

Area of Study 1

In this Area of study, students explore **community in general** as well as through a **detailed case study of a specific community**.

– the specific community may be located **within Australia and/or overseas**

– however, the chosen specific community **cannot** be any Australian Indigenous community from which examples might have been selected for study in Unit 3, Area of Study 1, or the specific ethnic group explored in Unit 3, Area of Study 2.

Area of Study 1 Community

Area of Study 1

Students investigate **changes to the concept** of community over time by exploring the theories of **Ferdinand Tonnies** and **Michel Maffesoli.**

Area of Study 1 Community

Area of Study 1

The study of the **experience** of community includes an exploration of **economic, social and political factors**, as well as relevant **geographical characteristics.**

Students evaluate a **specific community experience** with an emphasis on the varying levels of **belonging** to the group.

Area of Study 1 Community

Community

Area of Study 1

Data may be drawn from secondary sources **and/or** from primary research undertaken by the student

This research is informed by the **guidelines of the Australian Sociological Association**. The Safety and wellbeing section of the VCE Sociology Study Design 2024-2028 page 7 contains advice for the conduct of primary research.

Area of Study 1

Outcome 1

On completion of this unit the student should be able to **analyse the experience of community generally and analyse and evaluate a specific community**.

Area of Study 1

Outcome 1

Key knowledge

- changes to the concept of community over time:
    - the theory of **Ferdinand Tonnies**
    - **Michel Maffesoli's** theory of neo-tribes

Area of Study 1

Outcome 1

Key knowledge

- the **experience** of community **generally**:
  - factors that influence **feelings of belonging**
  - the impact of **information and communications technology**
  - the effects of **economic, social and political factors**, and of **geographical characteristics**

Area of Study 1

Outcome 1

Key knowledge

- the nature of a **selected community** and **reasons** this group can be **classified as a community**

- **influences** on the **experience** of the selected community and the **interplay** between these influences:
    - factors that may have influenced feelings of belonging
    - information and communications technology
    - economic, social and political factors, and geographical characteristics
    - different perspectives on the sense of community from different members within the community.

Area of Study 1

Examples of communities that may be studied:

- Sporting clubs (football, netball, hockey etc.)
    - eg Yarra Valley Hockey Club

- Interest based groups (pets, exercise, parenting, environmental)
    - eg Friends of Edwardes Lake

- Gaming groups (who meet in person and/or online)
    - eg Melbourne D&D Adventurers League

- Religion based groups (not tied to a specific ethnicity)
    - eg Hawthorn West Baptist Church

Area of Study 1

Outcome 1

Key knowledge

- the nature of ethical methodology with reference to voluntary participation, informed consent, privacy and the confidentiality of data

- Refer to VCE Sociology Study Design 2024- 2028 page 7

Area of Study 1

Key skills **common** throughout the VCE Sociology Study Design 2024- 2028 Units 1-4

- **explain** and apply sociological concepts

- **gather** and **use** a variety of relevant source materials to support observation and analysis

- **evaluate** sources and critically reflect on their own and others' approaches to understanding the social world

- **synthesise** evidence to draw conclusions.

Area of Study 1

Outcome 1

Key Skills

- **analyse** changes to the concept of community over time with reference to the theories of Ferdinand Tonnies and Michel Maffesoli

- **compare** Ferdinand Tonnies' and Michel Maffesoli's approaches to understanding community

Area of Study 1

Outcome 1

Key skills

- **identify** and explain the factors that influence feelings of belonging

- **analyse** the influence of information and communications technology on the experience of community

- **analyse** and **evaluate** the influence of economic, social and political factors, and of geographical characteristics on the experience of community

- **explain** why feelings of belonging can vary within a community

Area of Study 1
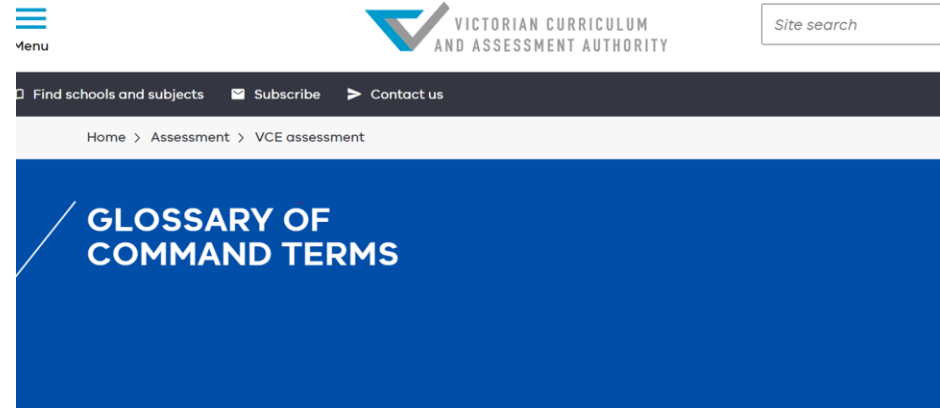
Outcome 1

Key skills

- **apply** an ethical methodology to source and use a range of evidence to support observations and analysis

VCAA glossary of command terms

VCAA glossary of command terms

Area of Study 2
Social movements and social change

Area of Study 2

In this **Area of Study**, students investigate the sociological concept of **power**.

Students undertake a **general** exploration of the **meaning, nature and purpose** of social movements and their ability to achieve **social change**

When **assessing the success** of social movements, students draw upon the work of **Erica Chenoweth**

When exploring the nature and purpose of social movements, students draw on **illustrative examples.**

Area of Study 2
Social movements and social change

Area of Study 2

Students must also investigate **one specific social movement in detail**

The social movement selected for study may be operating at a **local, national or international scale**

The social movement to be examined in its **current context** and be at a stage where its impact on social change has been **commented on in a range of sources**.

Area of Study 2
Social movements and social change

Area of Study 2

Students investigate the way this social movement **uses power** in their attempt to achieve social change

Students identify the **means used** by the **opponents** of the social movement to **prevent this change** from occurring.

VICTORIAN CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY

VICTORIA State Government

Area of Study 2

Outcome 2

On completion of this unit the student should be able to **analyse the nature and purpose of social movements and evaluate their influence on social change**.

Area of Study 2

Outcome 2

Key knowledge

- the **concepts** of social movement and social change

- the nature and purpose of social movements:
  - alternative, redemptive, reformative and revolutionary **types of social movements**
  - the **stages** in social movements of emergence, coalescence, bureaucratisation and decline
  - how **power** is used by a social movement and its opposition
  - **influences** of social movements **on social change**, with reference to the work of **Erica Chenoweth.**

Area of Study 2

Outcome 2

Key knowledge

- the nature and purpose of **one specific** social movement and an understanding of the following **interrelated components**:

  - the social movement as alternative, redemptive, reformative or revolutionary
  - how power is exercised by the social movement
  - the current stage of the social movement
  - how power is used by the social movement's opposition in an attempt to prevent it from achieving its desired social changes
  - the influences of the social movement on social change, with reference to the work of Erica Chenoweth.

Area of Study 2

Key **skills common** throughout the VCE Sociology Study Design 2024- 2028 Units 1-4

- **explain** and apply sociological concepts

- **gather** and **use** a variety of relevant source materials to support observation and analysis

- **evaluate** sources and critically reflect on their own and others' approaches to understanding the social world

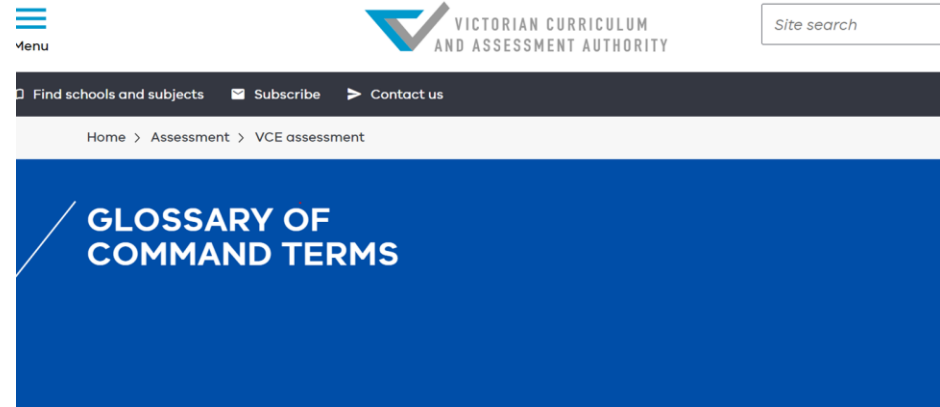- **synthesise** evidence to draw conclusions.

Area of Study 2

Outcome 2

Key skills

- **analyse** the nature and purpose of social movements
- **analyse** how power is used by social movements and by their opposition
- **evaluate** the influence of social movements on social change

VCAA Glossary of command terms

[VCAA Glossary of Command Terms](#)

School-based assessment

Satisfactory completion

Satisfactory completion for a unit is based on whether the student has **demonstrated the set of outcomes specified** for the unit

Teachers should use a **variety** of learning activities and assessment tasks to provide a **range of opportunities** for students to demonstrate the key knowledge and key skills in the outcomes.

School-based assessment

Assessment of levels of achievement

School assessment Coursework

- The student's **level of achievement** in Units 4 will be determined by **School-assessed Coursework**

- The **types and range of forms** of School-assessed Coursework for the outcomes are **prescribed** within the study design

- Teachers will **provide** to the VCAA a **numerical score** representing an assessment of the student's level of achievement.

School-based assessment

Assessment of levels of achievement

Contribution to final assessment

School-assessed Coursework for Unit 4 will contribute **25 per cent** to the study score

Assessment

Outcomes	Marks allocated
Outcome 1 Analyse the experience of community generally and analyse and evaluate a specific community.	**50**
Outcome 2 Analyse the nature and purpose of social movements and evaluate their influence on social change.	**50**
Total marks	**100**

Assessment tasks

The student's performance will be assessed using **two or more** of the following:

- a case study involving primary research
- an extended response
- a film analysis
- a media analysis
- a multimedia presentation
- a representation analysis
- a research report
- a selection of structured questions requiring short-answer responses.

External assessment

End-of-year examination The level of achievement for Units 3 and 4 is also assessed by an end-of-year examination (see page 28 in the VCE Sociology Study Design (2024- 2028)), which will **contribute 50 per cent to the study score**.

The examination will be **set by a panel** appointed by the VCAA. **All the key knowledge and key skills** that underpin the outcomes in Units 3 and 4 are **examinable.**

External assessment

Conditions

The examination will be completed under the following conditions:

- Duration: 2 hours.
- Date: end-of-year, on a date to be published annually by the VCAA.
- VCAA examination rules will apply. Details of these rules are published annually in the VCE and VCAL Administrative Handbook.
- The examination will be marked by assessors appointed by the VCAA.

Further advice

The VCAA publishes specifications for all VCE examinations on the VCAA website.

Resources

For ideas on planning and developing teaching and learning activities and assessment please refer to the Support materials on [VCAA VCE Sociology Study](#) page

- Sample weekly planner

- Teaching and learning activities

- Advice on the design of assessment tasks and the assessment of student work for a level of achievement.

- VCAA Performance Descriptors

- **Support materials**
  These support materials incorporate the previously known *Advice for teachers*.
  - **Assessment**
  - **Planning**
  - **Teaching and learning**

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Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority