

# High School Workshop Toolkit: Introduction to Research Methods in Sociology

Maria De Jesus Mora, Jared Wagenknecht

November 30, 2023

## **SUGGESTED CITATION**

*When using resources from TRAILS, please include a clear and legible citation*

De Jesus Mora, Maria, and Jared Wagenknecht. 2023. "High School Workshop Toolkit: Introduction to Research Methods in Sociology". *TRAILS: Teaching Resources and Innovations Library for Sociology*, November. Washington DC: American Sociological Association. <https://trails.asanet.org/article/view/intro-to-methods>.

## **Abstract**

This lesson includes notes and a class activity where students learn about the different methods used in sociology. Students will learn about diverse methodological approaches, but the lesson will focus on survey research and content analysis. The activities presented in the lesson were designed with high school level or undergraduate sociology students in mind. The lesson ends with a homework assessment, in which students map research questions to the appropriate research methods.

In 2022, ASA assembled a workshop with high school sociology teachers and sociology professors to develop resources for a new "High School Sociology Toolbox." The goal of the toolbox was to provide out of the box lesson plans and other materials to help high school teachers offer a high-quality sociology curriculum that is consistent with the National Standards for High School Sociology. The Standards

introduce four learning domains for high school sociology and include assessable competencies and essential concepts for each domain. Through the toolbox, instructors have access to ready-to-use lesson plans and class activities that align with concepts in each domain.

## Details

**Subject Areas:** Qualitative Methodology, Quantitative Methodology, Research Methods

**Resource Types:** Lecture

**Class Levels:** College 100, High School

**Class Sizes:** Any

## Usage Notes

See detailed instructions in notes of the PowerPoint Document. The lesson can be adapted to one or two 50-minute class periods.

## Learning Goals and Assessments

### LEARNING GOALS

- 1) Students will learn the primary methods used in sociological research
- 2) Students will better understand how sociologists study the social world around them
- 3) Students will define and analyze what are surveys and content analysis

### ASSESSMENTS

Examples of Survey Questions (In-Class Discussion)

Content Analysis (In-Class Group Activity)

Survey Questions (Homework Assignment)

Mapping Research Questions (Assessment)

## Resource Files

PPTX

PDF