

Sociology



Why Study A Level Sociology?

This subject enables candidates to:

- Acquire knowledge and a critical understanding of contemporary society.
- Understand sociological theories and a range of research methods.
- Reflect on their own experience of the social world in which they live.
- Develop thinking and debating skills

which will enhance their ability to participate more effectively in adult life.

Students engage in active learning through discussions, debates and activities. Sociology classes are lively places where you will be free to express ideas and consider different viewpoints. There will be weekly homework and research tasks to underpin and develop understanding.

Course Content

The course consists of four units studied across two years.

1. Education with Theory and Methods: Candidates will study the policies and theories relating to education as well as learning about sociological research methods.
2. Families and Households: We will study the relationship of the family to social structures and social change and the policies and theories relating to these.
3. Globalisation: We will be looking at the forces of globalisation and how they shape our lives, including trade, aid, debt and cultural factors, the role of transnational corporations and governments. War and conflict are also examined.
4. Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods: We will be studying patterns and social explanations of crime, deviance, social control and studying theories and methods relating to these areas. We will also be setting crime in a global context with human rights and environmental issues.

Assessment

The course will be assessed by three two hour papers worth 33% of the A-level marks each, involving a mix of short questions and long essays.

Exam Board

AQA

Progression

Sociology offers you a number of useful skills and also provides training for a wide range of careers. These include market research, public relations, social work, teaching, advertising, sales, media and broadcasting, personnel management and even the Police and the Armed Forces.