

Sociology (AQA A Level)

What is the course about?

During the two-year course you will investigate human societies today, and study differences between cultures over time. We will look at four key areas: Family and Households, Education, Crime & Deviance, and Beliefs, as well as the cross-cutting topics of gender, social class, ethnicity, sociological theories and research methods.



Is this course suitable for me?

Are you interested in:

- People and their experiences?
- Social issues and their impact?
- Current affairs?
- Diversity and difference within and between societies?
- Understanding society and how it works?
- Looking at social change and why it occurs?



What do I need to know or be able to do before taking this course?

You do not need to have studied Sociology at GCSE, although if you have then you can use the knowledge you have gained as a foundation to the A-Level material. It is important to be interested in society and issues such as gender, ethnicity and social class differences. It will also help if you take an interest in current affairs.

How can Sociology A-Level develop my full range of skills?

During the Sociology A-Level course you will:

- learn how to use evidence from research to support your arguments
- learn research skills
- develop your ability to explain your point of view fluently
- have to learn how to work as a team to achieve results
- have to take increasing responsibility for your own learning



How will the course be taught?

You will use textbooks and notes as a foundation, but we will build on this by looking at current sociological research and current affairs. You will be encouraged to bring in relevant news stories for discussion, and we will use documentary and film to deepen our understanding of the topics covered. At times you will work in groups, pairs and independently to prepare written work and presentation. You will also be encouraged to use ICT to support your learning.



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Course content

AQA (7191/ 7192)

Year 12 content

Families and Households: focuses on family structure, government policy, the nature of childhood and demographic changes and their impact on the family.

Education: areas include the role and purpose of education, reasons for differential achievement, the significance of educational policy changes, and an understanding of research methods.

Year 13 content

Beliefs in Society: includes the relationship between religious belief, social change and stability, links between different social groups and spiritual organisations and the extent of secularisation.

Crime and Deviance: areas include social groups and crime rates, theories of crime, crime control and punishment

Theory and Methods

Assessment

Assessment is exam based (AQA board). There is no coursework.

Possible careers

Sociology is a really good choice for students who would like a career such as social work or nursing. It is also useful in a number of other careers, for example marketing, advertising, PR, journalism, law or teaching.



For further details contact:

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