



Sociology A level

Why take this subject?

Sociology is the study of Society. It is one of the only subjects which truly explains our world. You will discover and examine how society shapes our behaviour, beliefs and identity. Also, it will give you the opportunity to study some key social issues, such as: Crime, racism, sexism and poverty. In studying sociology you will improve your literacy, analytical skills and communication skills. Overall studying Sociology at A level will enable you to see your world in a different, clearer, way.

What do I need to have studied in year 11?

- You must have at least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5 including English and Maths
- At least a Grade 6 in GCSE Sociology
- Students who have not taken Sociology will be considered depending on their English, Humanities or other Social Science result

What will we study?

We will be following the Sociology OCR specification. The specification offers students a challenging and stimulating course that covers a range of relevant subjects with an emphasis on contemporary society, ranging from youth culture to the exploration of inequalities in society.

Component 1 introduces you to the key themes of socialisation, culture and identity and develops these themes through the context of Families and relationships. Specifically, you will look at how our identities are constructed through culture and society. Specifically you will explore how the structure of the family has evolved over time, how relationships between family members have changed as well as looking in the 'dark side of the family'.

Component 2 will look at the methods of sociological research; and develops knowledge and understanding of contemporary society and social change in the context of social inequality and difference. This component aims to foster the development of critical and reflective thinking with a respect for social diversity in terms of social class, gender, ethnicity and age. It develops links between the nature of sociological thought and methods of sociological enquiry. Although not directly assessed, in this component you will carry out your own small scale research projects!

Component 3 will develop your knowledge and understanding of social processes and social change. It develops links between the topics studied in this component, the nature of sociological thought, contemporary social policy and the core themes. Contemporary and global debates are introduced through a compulsory topic of 'Globalisation and the digital social world' in Section A, whilst Section B explores them in more depth from a detailed study of Crime and deviance.

How will I be examined?

Unit	Assessment	Weighting
Socialisation, culture and identity	Examination	30%
Researching and understanding social inequalities	Examination	35%
Debates in contemporary society	Examination	35%

What super curricular opportunities will be available to me?

There may be opportunities for sociological trips and conferences throughout the course to aid students in their studies.

What can this subject lead to?

A Level Sociology is very good preparation for university, where strong essay writing skills are very important. Universities recognise that sociology A Level provides students with a very good foundation in social, political and policy knowledge.

Sociology students go on to a wide range of jobs in policing, research, teaching, medicine, politics and civil service as well as taking jobs in the service sector. Graduates of sociology have higher Levels of employment than many other subjects.

Subject Specification

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/170212-specification-accredited-a-level-gce-sociology-h580.pdf>



Hertswood



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