

SUBJECT: GCE A-Level Sociology

YEAR: 12 and 13

HEAD OF DOMAIN: Mr Mitchell

EXAM BOARD: OCR

SPECIFICATION LINK:

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

Curriculum Intent

Sociology aims to provide students with opportunities to explore social structures with an understanding of different theoretical concepts that tend to underpin social policy and social norms. Sociology aims to get students to think more critically and not accept face value analysis of both media and political representations of society and culture. Sociology provides students with skills needed to explore and analyse sociological phenomena both at a theoretical and practical level by applying knowledge to current events. The aim is to better prepare students for access to university through the development of academic skills such as debating and academic writing, but also provide the skills to become an informed and productive member of society, whether that be in the world of work, apprenticeships or politics.

Curriculum Content

Year 1 (AS-Level) - 3 components

This is delivered in such a way that allows students to access an As- Level qualification at the end of the year. This can either be taken then to second year or be taken as part of the student's academic portfolio should they decide to pursue other passions.

1. Introducing Socialisation, Culture and Identity - Students learn about the formation of culture; the process of socialisation and its role in forming identity. The themes of culture and socialisation are developed through the study of the Sociology of the Family.

2. Researching and understanding social inequalities – Students are introduced to a range of methods and sources of data as well as the factors influencing the design of sociological research and the relationship between theory and methods. This is applied to the context of social inequalities.

Year 2 (A-Level only)

We go back through elements of the first-year components upgrading knowledge from AS to A-Level in order to allow students to achieve a full A-level by the end of the second year. Students will explore further constructs within sociology such as Weberianism, Neo-Marxism and Postmodernism.

3. Debates in Contemporary Society – Contemporary and global debates are introduced through the topic of 'Globalisation and the digital social world.' Students will examine the development in digital forms of communication (e.g. social networking) in a global society. They will also focus on the social construction of crime and deviance and the ways in which crime is socially distributed, explained and reduced.

ASSESSMENT:

AS Assessment: 2 papers (75 minutes each)

- **Paper 1:** 50% (topics: Socialisation, Family,)
- **Paper 2:** 50% (topics 4-6)

A-Level Assessment 3 Papers

- **Paper 1:** 30% 90 minutes
- **Paper 2:** 35% 2 hours 15 minutes
- **Paper 3:** 35% 2 hour 15 minutes

Links to Curriculum:

This subject works well in combination with other subjects such as:

- Criminology
- Psychology
- Health and Social Care
- History
- English Literature
- Philosophy and Ethics.

Resources:

- Textbooks
- Folder
- Stationery