

SOCIOLOGY

A LEVEL

OCR

Entry Requirements	GCSE English Grade 5 desirable
Head of Department or Course Contact	Mrs K Wrenshall-Jones Mrs L Llewellyn
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Brief introduction to subject:

This award is designed to allow student to acquire the essential knowledge and understanding of central aspects of sociological thought and methods, together with the application of a range of skills. Students will also develop an understanding of the integration of sociological themes, such as socialisation, culture and identity and social differentiation, power and stratification.

Sociology allows students to explore facts and opinions from a variety of sociological perspectives including functionalism, marxism, liberalism and feminism to name just four, whilst also being encouraged to think about the various issues from their own point of view.

Progression to Career/ University Courses:

Although it is not essential for entry onto a Sociology degree course, the knowledge and skills that will be developed on this diverse and engaging course would ensure a smooth progression onto any Social Science based courses at university, such as Social Work, Social policy or Sociology. Sociology is a broad subject that would be relevant in many careers including Education, Social Work, Midwifery, Nursing and Journalism.

Key Points:

The AQA specification will encourage students to:

- acquire knowledge and a critical understanding of contemporary social processes and social changes
- appreciate the significance of theoretical and conceptual issues in sociological debate
- understand and evaluate sociological methodology and a range of research methods through active involvement through the research project.
- develop skills that enable individuals to focus on their personal identity, roles and responsibilities within society.
- develop a lifelong interest in social issues.
- foster the development of critical and reflective thinking with a respect for social diversity.
- develop an awareness of the importance of social structure and social action in explaining social issues.

Students will develop their own sociological awareness through active engagement with the contemporary social world.

Year 12

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Unit 1</u></p> <p><u>Title: Families and Households</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The relationship of the family to the social structure and social change. • Changing patterns of marriage, cohabitation, separation, divorce, child-bearing and the life course, and the diversity of contemporary family and household structures. • The nature and extent of changes within the family. • The nature of childhood, and changes in the status of children in the family and society. • Demographic trends in the UK since 1900. • Quantitative and qualitative research methods. 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Unit 3</u></p> <p><u>Title: Education and Methods in Context</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role and purpose of education in contemporary society. • Differential educational achievement of social groups by social class, gender and ethnicity in contemporary society. • Relationships and processes within schools. • The significance of educational policies. • Quantitative & qualitative research methods and the application of sociological research methods to the study of education.
<p><u>Assessment</u> Externally assessed written paper: 1 hour 30 mins <u>Maximum Marks available:</u> 60 <u>Weighting:</u> 50% of total AS Level <u>Assessment Structure</u> Structured short and extended questions</p>	<p><u>Assessment</u> Externally assessed written paper: 1 hour 30 mins <u>Maximum Marks available:</u> 60 <u>Weighting:</u> 50% of AS Level <u>Assessment Structure</u> Structured short and extended questions</p>

Year 13

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Unit 3</u></p> <p><u>Title: Education with Theory and Methods</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revisit the Education unit from AS with a focus on applying theory and methods. • Consensus, conflict, structural and social action theories • The concepts of modernity and post-modernity in relation to sociological theory • The nature of science and the extent to which Sociology can be regarded as scientific • The relationship between theory and methods • Debates about subjectivity, objectivity and value freedom. 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Unit 4</u></p> <p><u>Title: The Media</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The relationship between ownership and control of the mass media. • The mass media, globalisation and popular culture. • The processes of selection and presentation of the content of the news. • Media representations of age, social class, ethnicity, gender, sexuality and disability. • The relationship between the mass media, media content and presentation, and audiences. • The new media and their significance for an understanding of the role of the media in contemporary society. 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Unit 5</u></p> <p><u>Title: Crime & Deviance with Theory and Methods</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The social distribution of crime and deviance by ethnicity, gender and social class. • Globalisation and crime in contemporary society, including the media and crime, green crime and human rights. • Crime control and punishments with focus on the justice system. • Quantitative and Qualitative methods of research with a focus on research design. • The distinction between primary and secondary data. • Determine what is 'social fact'.
<p><u>Assessment</u> Externally assessed written paper: 2 hours <u>Maximum Marks available:</u> 80 <u>Weighting:</u> 1/3 of A Level <u>Assessment Structure</u> Structured short and extended questions</p>	<p><u>Assessment</u> Externally assessed written paper: 2 hours <u>Maximum Marks available:</u> 80 <u>Weighting:</u> 1/3 of A Level <u>Assessment Structure</u> Structured extended questions</p>	<p><u>Assessment</u> Externally assessed written paper: 2 hours <u>Maximum Marks available:</u> 80 <u>Weighting:</u> 1/3 of A Level <u>Assessment Structure</u> Structured short and extended questions</p>