



SOCIOLOGY

A Level

Course Outline

Sociology is the study of human society, human social relationships and institutions.

In Year 12 you will prepare for Paper 1 and Paper 2. We will explore Youth Culture, Socialisation, Culture and Identity. Paper 2 involves studying the research process and key methods used by sociologists to investigate the social world as well as exploring inequalities with regards to Ethnicity, Social Class, Gender and Age.

Year 13 will involve studying the increasingly relevant impact of globalisation on cultural identity and society. As well as this, we will conduct a detailed examination into the patterns, trends and explanations for crime and deviance in UK society



Useful skills and experience

A genuine curiosity about the social world and current affairs is essential. As Sociology is a social science, it is important that you take a scientific and critical approach to studying theories and research. The ability to express yourself clearly in speech and writing is also needed as Sociology is an essay-based subject. You will have to learn about the various research methods Sociologists use to gather their data and carry out studies of your own in a methodical way. Finally, you should be willing to share your ideas and be able to work effectively alone or in a group.



Exam Boards and Specification

OCR

Oxford Cambridge and RSA



Assessment

You will learn from a variety of activities; group work, discussion, independent study, student presentations, creating visual displays, conducting practical investigations and essay practise. You will experience a range of teaching styles to suit your learning preferences.

You will be assessed by regular questioning and timed work in class, written homework exercises and through observation of your practical research skills. The A level course is linear with three examinations at the end of Year 13. Paper 1 examines socialisation, culture and identity, Paper 2 examines researching and understanding social inequalities. Paper 3 includes issues and debates in our society such as globalisation, the digital revolution and crime and deviance.



Where could this subject take me?

Sociology provides an excellent foundation to progress to a multitude of university degrees and career pathways. Common careers paths include social or youth work, probation officer, Solicitor, Marketing, Business management, police officer, social policy administrator, journalism.



Complementary Subjects

- Psychology
- Philosophy
- History
- English Literature
- Media Studies
- Business Studies



Entry Notes

Grade 4 in GCSE Sociology if studied.



Related Additional Activities

Debates and group presentations.

Social Science workshops



What our students say

"I think that sociology is interesting and very beneficial for my wider knowledge. I think I have become more intellectually aware of aspects within our society and how they work to make it function."

