

# Sociology

## Subject Information Sheet

Course Title:	Sociology
Subject:	Sociology
Qualification:	A Level
Exam Board:	AQA
General Course Description	<p>Studying sociology helps you develop a critical approach to understanding society. You will explore issues around culture, identity, media, crime, politics, education, globalisation, inequality and social power.</p> <p>You will be able to evaluate sociological theories such as Marxism and Feminism.</p>
Course Content and Teaching Units	<p>An example:</p> <p><u>Culture and identity:</u> You will critically evaluate sociological explanations of the following content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• different conceptions of culture, including subculture, mass culture, folk culture, high and low culture, popular culture and global culture.</li> <li>• the socialisation process and the role of the agencies of socialisation</li> <li>• the self, identity and difference as both socially caused and socially constructed.</li> <li>• the relationship of identity to age, disability, ethnicity, gender, nationality, sexuality and social class in contemporary society.</li> <li>• the relationship of identity to production, consumption and globalisation.</li> </ul> <p><u>Education and methods in context:</u> You'll consider the role and functions of the education system, including its relationship to the economy and to class structure including the following content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• differential educational achievement of social groups by social class, gender and ethnicity in contemporary society.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• relationships and processes within schools, with particular reference to teacher/pupil relationships, pupil identities and subcultures, the hidden curriculum, and the organisation of teaching and learning.</li> <li>• the significance of educational policies, including policies of selection, marketisation and privatisation, and policies to achieve greater equality of opportunity or outcome, for an understanding of the structure, role, impact and experience of and access to education; the impact of globalisation on educational policy.</li> </ul> <p><u>Theory and Methods:</u> You will learn how sociological research is conducted, from interviews to reviewing documents and official statistics and to evaluate different research methods applied to education.</p> <p>You will also learn about the sociological theories that explain social life – Functionalism, Marxism, Feminism, Interactionism and Postmodern. You will learn the skills of analysis and evaluation.</p> <p><b>In the second year of the A-level you'll broaden your understanding of society. You'll study:</b></p> <p><u>Crime and deviance:</u> You will learn about criminal and deviant behaviour, including factors that might lead a person to follow this path in life and how the media portrays them. You'll also expand on your knowledge of research methods and theory.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• crime, deviance, social order and social control</li> <li>• the social distribution of crime and deviance by ethnicity, gender and social class, including recent patterns and trends in crime</li> <li>• globalisation and crime in contemporary society; the media and crime; green crime; human rights and state crimes</li> <li>• crime control, surveillance, prevention and punishment, victims, and the role of the criminal justice system and other agencies.</li> </ul> <p><u>Media:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The relationship between ownership and control of the media</li> <li>• The media, globalisation and popular culture</li> <li>• Media representations of age, social class, ethnicity, gender, sexuality and disability</li> <li>• The relationship between the media, their content and presentation, and audiences</li> <li>• The new media and their significance for an understanding of the role of the media in contemporary society</li> </ul>
Entry Requirements	Grade 5 or above in English Language or Literature

Assessment	<p>There are two internal exams at the end of year 12. One exam lasts for 1 hour and is worth 40 marks. The next exam lasts 2 hours and is worth 80 marks. The exams consist of few short answer and predominantly extended writing questions.</p> <p>At A-level there are three exams, each account for one third of your A-level grade. The three exams last 2 hours and are worth 80 marks each. The exams consist of a mixture of short answer and extended writing questions.</p>
Financial Information	Text books can be purchased to support learning at approximately £20 per year and a revision guide at £10.
Progression Opportunities	<p>Around half of our sociology students go on to study either sociology, law, criminology or journalism at university.</p> <p>Careers where a foundation in sociology is valued include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Law</li> <li>• Journalism</li> <li>• Social Work</li> <li>• Media</li> <li>• Advertising and Marketing</li> <li>• Human Resources</li> <li>• Youth Services</li> <li>• Politics</li> <li>• Social Policy Planning</li> <li>• Probation</li> <li>• Criminology</li> <li>• Teaching</li> <li>• Academic Research</li> <li>• Police</li> <li>• Business/PR</li> <li>• Medical related careers/nursing/midwifery</li> </ul>
Further Information about our courses including results	<p>In 2018 69.2% achieved A*-B  100% A*-C  3 year average 73.7 A*-B  2019 76.9% A*-B  2020 75% A*-B  2021 75% A*-B</p>
Trips, visits and extra-curricular	<p>Students attend a grade booster workshop in Manchester  Attendance at a sociological conference TBC  Visits from a police officer to explain crime and policies in context.</p>

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