

Sociology A Level

AQA

Sociology is a well-established and highly-regarded academic subject that provides a multi-disciplinary approach to understanding society. It combines knowledge from Politics, History and Economics. It provides many opportunities for critically evaluating aspects of the modern world through the lens of different sociological theories.

Course Structure

The course is split into 3 key sections; The Education system (Paper 1), The Family and Religion (Paper 2) and Crime and Deviance (Paper 3) The issue of social inequality is a focus for many sociological theories For example in Unit 1 Education we consider the factors that cause the achievement gap between the social groups in terms of gender, ethnicity and social class. In Year 2 our understanding of crime is developed by applying theories such as Functionalism, Marxism and Feminism to understanding why crime happens. We will examine the criminal justice system particularly policing practices and unfair of the poor in society. This is complimented by a module in learning and applying research skills to researching society.

Skills & Knowledge

There are 3 Assessment objectives that will be targeted in all exam practice, A01-Knowledge and understanding, A02-Application of relevant examples and A03- Analysis and Evaluation. Completing the course will enable you to develop supporting and conflicting arguments on a range of issues and there will be an emphasis on reaching a judgment based on evidence.

Assessment

This course is 100% exam-based, incorporating three papers.

Opportunities & Enrichment

A regular enrichment trip is organised to the Old Bailey where students witness first hand a real life criminal court in session from the Public Gallery. There is an emphasis on debate and current issues and the course will give you the skills to develop confidence to perform in the Debate club run at William Morris.

Future Careers & Pathways

Due to the very nature of Sociology that focuses on society and impact of society on human behaviour most occupations and higher education courses would benefit from a Sociology A Level qualification from medicine to hairdressing. More specifically, many Sociology graduates move to occupations in advertising, marketing, journalism, politics and law as well as data analysis and teaching.