Sociology



Exam Board AQA

Syllabus number 7192



"History is, strictly speaking, the study of questions; the study of answers belongs to the sociology and the anthropology."

WH Auden

Course entry requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or Literature.

Why should I study Sociology?

Sociology is a relevant, exciting, and current course that provides an insight into how our behaviour is shaped by the world around us. The topics covered on the A Level course help to explain why young working-class males are over-represented in criminal statistics, why middle-class students achieve better grades in education and why some people join cults. If you are inquisitive and keen to understand these points, sociology is the course for you.

What does the course look like?

The course consists of three components.

- Paper 1: Education with Theory and Methods
- Paper 2: Topics in Sociology. Chosen topics:
 - Families and Households
 - Beliefs in Society
- Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

Each exam is 2 hours, 80 marks and 22.3% of the A level. Exams consist of short and extended writing questions. Paper 2 consists of two extended writing questions (40 marks each). Paper 1 and 3 include a combination of short answer and extended writing.

In Year 12 you will study: research methods, Education and Families and households. In Year 13 you will study: Sociological Theories, Crime and Deviance and Beliefs in Society.

How will I learn?

In sociology we examine different sociological perspectives that provide a unique take on society, the variety of research methods employed by different groups of sociologists and the strengths and weaknesses of employing them to study aspects of society. You will need to be able to assess the quality of the sociological views and methods covered, be good at working on your own and as part of a group, take part in discussions and debates, construct balanced arguments, and keep up to date with relevant news stories.

What kind of things might the subject lead me to?

Studying sociology provides an excellent foundation for several popular university courses. For example, criminology, education studies and social policy. Sociology provides knowledge and skills that are transferable to several careers such as those related to education, media, or health.