

POST 16 SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Name of Subject - Sociology

Which Examination Specification is Studied for this Course? AQA

Why should I study this course? -Sociology is the central academic discipline for the study of society; it investigates how we become who we are and focuses on aspects of identity such as gender, class, ethnicity and age. Are you interested in how much these factors impact us as individuals and how this has changed over time and cultures? Are you interested in the role of large business and transnational corporations in society and individuals? Do you wonder if the education system is fair and why some students achieve better than others regardless of how much they try? If so, then this course will be of interest to you. It's a fascinating subject and makes you look at the world and your own place within it in a completely new way.

Who is suitable to study this course? - This course is suitable for anyone interested in the way our society operates. Sociology requires an inquiring and critical mind; you will need to be able to look at our society critically and be willing to listen to and respect the opinions of others in debate. You also need to have an interest in current affairs, as being able to apply your knowledge to the real world is a crucial skill. Sociology students need to be highly literate as there is a lot of reading and essay writing involved.

Sociology compliments other subjects such as Politics, Law, Psychology, History and English Literature.

What GCSE Qualifications Support the Study of this Course? GCSE English Literature, History, Media, Business Studies.

What are the Qualification Requirements for this Course? Grade 5+ in English literature and a grade 5+ in a Humanities subject (History or Geography).

How is the Course Delivered? - Delivered by one teacher who you will have 5 lessons with per week to cover the content and practise your application skills. You will need to have an interest in the news and current affairs as you need to be able to apply the theories you learn about in the lesson to real world examples. In class activities include a lot of discussion and debate as well independent tasks. Outside of lessons you will be expected to complete at least 5 hours of independent study a week and a range of tasks will be provided; these include transforming notes, creating revision material, essay planning tasks, watching documentaries, researching examples, watching the news and reading extension material.

POST 16 SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Subject Overview

Half Term	Year 12	Year 13
Autumn 1	<p>Sociology Theory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main sociological theories eg Marxism, Feminism etc <p>Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Types of schools The role and function of the education system Educational Policies since the 1900's 	<p>Media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Representations in the media <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class, gender, ethnicity, sexuality, disability, age Does the media cause violence? The influence of the media on copycat crimes Models of media and debates about the power of the media on its audience
Autumn 2	<p>Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education around the world Differential achievement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social class Gender ethnicity Factors inside school that impact achievement eg teacher labelling, labelling and setting and streaming Factors outside of school that affect achievement eg poverty, language barriers, racism and family structures. 	<p>Crime and Deviance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changing definitions of crime over culture and time Theories of Crime eg Marxism, Feminism, New Right etc. Ways of measuring crime rates Social distribution of crime <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Class and Crime Gender and Crime Ethnicity and Crime
Spring 1	<p>Research Methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The sociological research process Primary methods of data collection eg interviews, observations etc Secondary methods of data collection eg official statistics, diaries etc Case studies of sociological research 	<p>Crime and Deviance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Green crimes eg toxic waste Global crimes eg drugs trafficking, arms dealing etc. Human Rights crime eg Nazi Germany and dictatorships The role of the media on crime Methods to reduce/prevent/ punish crime The role of the criminal justice system and the police

POST 16 SUBJECT OVERVIEW

<p>Spring 1</p>	<p>Research Methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The sociological research process ● Primary methods of data collection eg interviews, observations etc ● Secondary methods of data collection eg official statistics, diaries etc ● Case studies of sociological research 	<p>Crime and Deviance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Green crimes eg toxic waste ● Global crimes eg drugs trafficking, arms dealing etc. ● Human Rights crime eg Nazi Germany and dictatorships ● The role of the media on crime ● Methods to reduce/prevent/ punish crime ● The role of the criminal justice system and the police
<p>Spring 2</p>	<p>Culture & Identity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What is culture ? ● Types of cultures eg subcultures ● The nature nurture debate ● The influence of peers, family, the media, education, workplace and religion 	<p>Theory and Methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The usefulness of sociology in contemporary society ● Is sociology a science? ● The role of sociology in social policy
<p>Summer 1</p>	<p>Culture and Identity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How much control do you have over your identity? ● The importance of different aspects of your identity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Age ○ Sexuality ○ Gender ○ Ethnicity ○ Disability ○ Nationality ○ Social Class ● The influence of work, production and consumption 	

POST 16 SUBJECT OVERVIEW

<p>Spring 2</p>	<p>Culture & Identity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What is culture ? ● Types of cultures eg subcultures ● The nature nurture debate ● The influence of peers, family, the media, education, workplace and religion 	<p>Theory and Methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The usefulness of sociology in contemporary society ● Is sociology a science? ● The role of sociology in social policy
<p>Summer 1</p>	<p>Culture and Identity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How much control do you have over your identity? ● The importance of different aspects of your identity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Age ○ Sexuality ○ Gender ○ Ethnicity ○ Disability ○ Nationality ○ Social Class ● The influence of work, production and consumption 	
<p>Summer 2</p>	<p>Media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New media and how media has changed over time ● The influence of social media such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram ● Media around the world eg North Korea and Chin ● Who owns the media? ● Who decides the content of newspapers? ● What stories make front page news and why? 	

POST 16 SUBJECT OVERVIEW

How is the Course Assessed?

Three two hour A level examinations at the end of year 2:

Paper 1: Education with Methods in Context

Paper 2: Topics in Sociology: Culture and Identity and Media

Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

Progress will be monitored through controlled assessments completed in the classroom every half term along with mock examinations that take place after the Christmas break and around Easter. Students also complete short essays and essay plans set weekly as homework.

What is our Recommended Subject Reading list to Support your Study?

<https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology>

<https://thesociologyguy.com/teaching-resources/>

<https://revisesociology.com/>

Stacey Dooley Investigates: www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b03h2nqh

Panorama: www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006t14n

Dispatches: www.channel4.com/programmes/dispatches/on-demand/68572-001