

POST 16 SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Name of Subject - Sociology

Sociology is the study of society and which groups make up society. It allows us to study social processes and ultimately improve the world around us with policies and a research-based understanding.

Sociologists explore issues such as crime and deviance, social stratification, culture, social mobility and changing dynamics within families.

Which Examination Specification is Studied for this Course? AQA

Why should I study this course? -

If you like to question the issues that affect all of our lives and understand the factors which influence our culture and society, then you will enjoy this course. You will develop your sociological imagination which enables you to see the world from different perspectives and you will develop your research and essay writing skills.

Who is suitable to study this course? -

A level Sociology links well with Psychology and Health and Social Care as there is some crossover with common content such as research methods.

An A Level in Sociology tells future employers and universities that you have a good understanding of the social world around you, you understand different cultures and groups of people and that you have developed sound essay writing and research skills.

Sociology is particularly useful for future careers which involve working with different sections of society such as the police, social work, teaching and nursing.

What GCSE Qualifications Support the Study of this Course?

Good passes in English and Maths and any Humanity subject will prove a solid foundation for studying this course.

What are the Qualification Requirements for this Course?

All students undertaking this course are expected to have secured 5 passes at GCSE, including English and Maths.

How is the Course Delivered? -

The course is delivered by two experienced Sociology specialists, Jim Wright and Heather Watson. Both teachers have many years experience as teachers and A level examiners. The course is delivered through five hours taught content per week and there is an expectation to support this with five hours independent study which includes homework tasks and structured revision. All class resources can be accessed through google classroom once you are enrolled on the course.

| Subject Overview | | |
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| Half Term | Year 12 | Year 13 |
| Autumn 1 | Introduction to Sociology Research Methods: Experiments, Social surveys and Interviews. Family: Couples | Crime and Deviance: Class, Power and Crime Beliefs in Society: Key Theories, Religion and Social Change |
| Autumn 2 | Research Methods: Observations, Secondary Sources and key debates. Family: Diversity, Key Theories, Domestic Division of Labour | Crime and Deviance: Gender/ Ethnicity and Crime Beliefs in Society: Religion, Organisations, Cults and Sects. |

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| Spring 1 | Education: Key Policies, Class differences in achievement Family: Demography and Childhood | Crime and Deviance: Crime and the Media, Globalisation and Crime. Beliefs in Society: Religious fundamentalism, Globalisation and Secularisation |
| Spring 2 | Education: Gender and ethnic differences in educational outcomes. Family: Social policy and Changing Family Patterns | Crime and Deviance: Control, Punishment and Victims Theories and Methods: Application Beliefs in Society: Ideologies and Science |
| Summer 1 | Introduction to Crime and Deviance Introduction to Beliefs in Society | Preparing for the Examinations |
| Summer 2 | Crime and Deviance: Key Theories Beliefs in Society: Key Theories | |

How is the Course Assessed?

Students are assessed against three Assessment Objectives;

Assessment Objective 1 - Knowledge and Understanding

Assessment Objective 2 - Application

Assessment Objective 3 - Analysis and Evaluation.

Students sit three, two hour exams, each worth 80 marks, at the end of the two year course:

Paper 1 - Education and Research Methods

Paper 2 - Family and Households and Beliefs in Society

Paper 3 - Crime and Deviance, Methods and Theories.

Praising Stars cycles will be used to assess and monitor progress and to identify appropriate intervention to maximise student outcomes from the course.

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

AQA recommended textbooks will be loaned to students for the duration of the course.

A good knowledge and interest in current affairs is recommended and this can be achieved by keeping up to date through reading reputable broadsheet newspapers, following broadcast media and some social media.

YouTube - Crash Course - An introduction to Sociology

Sociology Review Journal - available in Post 16 LRC.

A variety of linked articles and websites will be available on Google Classroom.