

Sociology

A Level Specification:
AQA 7192

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What will I study?

Year 1

In Sociology Year 12 you will study two different components. Education and Methods looks at the how education has impacted society, whether it supports all people equally and the different theories of education. Families and Households considers the different aspects of family and whether there is equality, the governments impact on family through law and policy and the different sociological theories.

Year 2

In Year 13 you will look at Beliefs in Society and Crime and Deviance. Beliefs in Society considers the impact of religion on society and society on religion, the impact of secularisation on religion and theories on the purpose of religion. In Crime and Deviance, you will consider why people commit crimes, if crime data is accurate or fair and theories on how we should tackle crime.

How will I be assessed?

There are three papers; paper 1 (Education), paper 2 (Topics: Family and Beliefs) and paper 3 (Crime). Paper 1 – students answer some shorter questions and some essay questions. Paper 2 – students answer 3 essay questions on each topic. Paper 3- students answer some shorter questions and some essay questions.

How will I Learn?

Throughout the course you will have the opportunity to consider a number of different theories on Sociology including Feminism, Functionalism, Marxism, the Personal life Perspective and the New Right. You will engage in reading and note taking, looking at a wide of different sources to help you build evidence. You will have the opportunity to carry out your own research through interviews, questionnaires, and observations. Debate and discussions in class, and presentations for your peers will also form a part of the course.

What skills will I need?

The course is assessed through exams so written communication is important. The ability to analyse critically and select the relevant information is also important. Most importantly is approaching sociology with enthusiasm, being willing to ask questions and participate and a keenness to analyse the society we live in. It is important to be able to approach Sociology with an open mind and not just assume that you have all the answers, sometimes you will learn things that surprise you!

Careers and Progression

Sociology is an excellent preparation for university, teaching you important skills such as research, essay writing and critical evaluation. Sociology also teaches you research skills that lead into several different jobs. The field of sociology is also growing and fits well with jobs in the Police, Government and Research.

