



Sociology

Year 12

Intent: The main purpose of this qualification is to prepare learners by providing a suitable foundation for the study of sociology or related courses in Higher Education. A further purpose of this qualification is to prepare learners intending to pursue careers or further study in social sciences, or as part of a general education. The AQA A Level qualification in Sociology enables learners to: develop essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of the subject and how they relate to each other, develop and demonstrate a deep appreciation of the skills of critical analysis, independent thinking and research, develop their interest in and enthusiasm for the subject, including developing an interest in further study and careers associated with the subject.

	Autumn Term 1: Introduction to Social Theory and Education	Autumn Term 2: Finish Education (Oct-Dec)	Spring Term 1: Methods and Methods in Context (Jan - Feb)	Spring Term 2 Families and Households (March – April)	Summer Term 1 Families and Households (May – June)	Summer Term 2: Beliefs (June-July)
<p>Knowledge (facts, information, concepts and key terminology)</p> <p>Understanding (ability to connect and synthesise knowledge within a context)</p>	<p><u>Social Theory</u> Structure v Social Action Determinism v Free Will Consensus v Conflict Marxism Feminism Functionalism Postmodernism</p> <p><u>Education</u> Theoretical Approaches to the Role of Education</p>	<p><u>Education</u> Differential educational achievement of social groups by social class, gender and ethnicity in contemporary society</p> <p>Relationships and processes within schools, with particular reference to teacher/pupil relationships, pupil identities and subcultures, the hidden curriculum, and the organisation of teaching and learning</p> <p>The significance of educational policies, including policies of selection, marketisation and privatisation, and policies to achieve greater equality of opportunity or outcome, for an understanding of the structure, role, impact and experience of and access to education; the impact of globalisation on educational policy</p>	<p><u>Methods</u> Quantitative and qualitative methods of research</p> <p>Research design</p> <p>Sources of data, including questionnaires, interviews, participant and non-participant observation, experiments, documents and official statistics</p> <p>The distinction between primary and secondary data, and between quantitative and qualitative data</p> <p>The relationship between positivism, interpretivism and sociological methods; the nature of 'social facts'</p> <p>The theoretical, practical and ethical considerations influencing choice of topic, choice of method(s) and the conduct of research.</p> <p><u>Methods in Context</u> Students must be able to apply sociological research methods to the study of education.</p>	<p><u>Families and Households</u> The relationship of the family to the social structure and social change, with particular reference to the economy and to state policies</p> <p>Changing patterns of marriage, cohabitation, separation, divorce, childbearing and the life course, including the sociology of personal life, and the diversity of contemporary family and household structures</p> <p>Gender roles, domestic labour and power relationships within the family in contemporary Society</p>	<p><u>Families and Households</u> The nature of childhood, and changes in the status of children in the family and society</p> <p>Demographic trends in the United Kingdom since 1900: birth rates, death rates, family size, life expectancy, ageing population, and migration and globalisation.</p>	<p><u>Crime</u> Crime, deviance, social order and social control</p> <p>Functionalist, Marxist, Interactionist and Realist perspectives on crime</p>

Skills (successful application of knowledge and understanding to a specific task)	AO1: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of: sociological theories, concepts and evidence, sociological research methods AO2: Apply sociological theories, concepts, evidence and research methods to a range of sociological issues AO3: Analyse and evaluate sociological theories, concepts, evidence and research methods in relation to: present arguments make judgements and draw conclusions.					
Formal Assessments (those done by all/vast majority of the cohort)	Exam Style Questions in Booklets Whole School Assessment Week	Exam Style Questions in Booklets Whole School Assessment Week	Exam Style Questions in Booklets Whole School Assessment Week	Exam Style Questions in Booklets Whole School Assessment Week	Exam Style Questions in Booklets Whole School Assessment Week	Exam Style Questions in Booklets Whole School Assessment Week
By the end of the year students on course for at least a grade C will... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate reasonably accurate and detailed knowledge and understanding of a range of sociological theories, concepts and evidence and research methods • Be able to apply these sociological theories, concepts, evidence and research methods to a range of issues • Be able to analyse and evaluate sociological theories, concepts, evidence and research methods in order to present arguments and make judgements 						