

Sociology A Level

Examining Body: AQA

Subject: SOCIOLOGY

Entry Requirements

At least 5 A*-C grades at GCSE, including English Language or English Literature and Core and Additional Science B grade.

A2 RESULTS =100% pass, 12% A, 55% A*-B

ALPS 2 = well within top 10% of UK schools for value-added

Synopsis of Content

Sociology is the study of Society, the 'social world'. Sociology looks beyond the day-to-day and asks; what is the real nature of Society, why does it function like it does and for whose benefit? Sociology asks you to understand and apply key concepts such as power, gender, ethnicity and culture to important and topical issues such as the Mass Media, Education, Crime, Deviance and Religion which shape the world we live in.

Paper 1 2 hours	Education with Methods in Context: Methods in context Research methods What is education for? Why do some students achieve and others don't? Do schools have a hidden curriculum?
Paper 2 2 hours	Research Methods and Families and Households: Are husbands and wives today equal? How far has the position of children changed? Demography (Birth, death and family size) Changes to marriage, cohabitation and divorce Is the family fair? Who has the power?
Paper 3 2 hours	Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods What are the roots of crime and deviance from norms? How is social order maintained and how does social control happen? How is crime to be understood in a globalised world? How is crime surveilled, controlled, prevented and punished? Data analysis

Assessment Methods / Teaching Methods and Resources

All units are assessed through examinations. All exams involve short answer questions and extended writing. In addition to the exams, students will be required to complete several investigations throughout the two years.

A variety of teaching methods will be used including worksheets, discussions and practical experiments. Students will have access to one of the main supporting textbooks and there are several other useful books and websites.

Suitability for Combination

Sociology combines well with both Social Science and Science A levels and is particularly complemented by English Literature, History and RE.

Progression to Higher Education / Vocational Destinations

Sociology is excellent preparation for higher education as it requires good literacy. Sociology is an academic subject and is accepted by all top Universities. The study skills learnt in Sociology are an excellent preparation for Higher Education and for career paths such as Law, the Police, Market research, Politics, Education, Medicine and Social work. Sociology is relevant to any career where a deeper understanding of people would be useful.