



Curriculum Map

Subject: Sociology

Year group: 12

	<p>At A Level, students are required to demonstrate knowledge and understanding (AO1) of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sociological theories, concepts and evidence • sociological research methods 			
	<p>Topic 1: Education</p>	<p>Topic 2: Families and Households</p>	<p>Topic 3: Sociological Methods</p>	<p>Topic 4: Sociological Theory</p>
<p>Content</p> <p><i>Declarative Knowledge – ‘Know What’</i></p>	<p>Students need to know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the role and functions of the education system, including its relationship to the economy and to class structure • differential educational achievement of social groups by social class, gender and ethnicity in contemporary society • 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 • 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>Students need to know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the relationship of the family to the social structure and social change, with particular reference to the economy and to state policies • 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 • gender roles, domestic labour and power relationships within the family in contemporary society • the nature of childhood, and changes in the status of children in the family and society • demographic trends in the United Kingdom since 1900: birth rates, death rates, family size, life expectancy, ageing population, and migration and globalisation. 	<p>Students need to know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • quantitative and qualitative methods of research; research design • sources of data, including questionnaires, interviews, participant and non-participant observation, experiments, documents and official statistics • the distinction between primary and secondary data, and between quantitative and qualitative data • the relationship between positivism, interpretivism and sociological methods; the nature of ‘social facts’ • the theoretical, practical and ethical considerations influencing choice of topic, choice of method(s) and the conduct of research. 	<p>Students need to know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consensus, conflict, structural and social action theories • the concepts of modernity and post-modernity in relation to sociological theory • the nature of science and the extent to which Sociology can be regarded as scientific • the relationship between theory and methods • debates about subjectivity, objectivity and value freedom • the relationship between Sociology and social policy.



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<p>Skills</p> <p><i>Procedural Knowledge – ‘Know How’</i></p>	<p>The AQA specification identifies the key skills needed for success in A Level Sociology:</p> <p>AO2 Apply sociological theories, concepts, evidence and research methods to a range of issues</p> <p>AO3 Analyse and evaluate sociological theories, concepts, evidence and research methods in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • present arguments • make judgements • draw conclusions. <p>These skills are developed in each of the units of work in Year 12, carefully sequenced to ensure the different skills required for different exam questions are addressed.</p>			
	<p>PAPER 1</p> <p>Introduction to the AO2 and AO3 skills required in A Level Sociology. PEEL/PEEEL structure. Analyse 10 mark questions – use of the Item. How to effectively answer 4 and 6 mark questions.</p> <p>Introduction to 30 mark essays.</p> <p>Analyse 10 mark questions – use of the Item.</p>	<p>PAPER 2</p> <p>Particular focus on 10 mark Outline and Explain questions – analysis.</p> <p>Introduction to 20 mark essays.</p>	<p>PAPERS 1 and 3</p> <p>10 mark Outline and Explain questions and 20 mark essays.</p> <p>Focus on how to use examples of research to improve analysis.</p> <p>Application – Methods in Context question.</p>	<p>PAPERS 1 and 3</p> <p>10 mark Outline and Explain questions and 20 mark essays.</p>
<p>Key Questions</p>	<p>What is the role of the education system? Why do different social groups achieve differently in the education system? What is the purpose of education policy?</p>	<p>What is family? What is the purpose of the family? How have families changed/are continuing to change? Is childhood socially constructed? Who has power in families? What demographic change has the UK experienced?</p>	<p>How do sociologists research the social world? What are the strengths and weaknesses of different sociological research methods? What are the PET considerations when choosing a research method or topic?</p>	<p>How do we explain social order? Are we in a postmodern society? Is sociology a science? Should values influence research? What is the relationship between sociology and social policy? What theoretical approaches are there to sociological research?</p>
<p>Assessment</p>	<p>Education end of unit assessment (November/December)</p>	<p>End of unit assessment (February)</p>	<p>End of Unit assessment (May)</p>	<p>Threshold exam (June)</p>



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Literacy	Focus on developing Tier 3 vocabulary throughout each unit of work to ensure students are able to use the academic language of sociology. Improving Tier 2 vocabulary. Development of paragraph structure using PEEL and PEEEL Writing effective conclusions.
Numeracy	Analysis of statistics, graphs and tables at different points during the year.
SMSC Character	Reflection on viewpoints and appreciation of others' opinions. Opportunities to work in different groups and pairings. (See SMSC overview document)