



SOCIOLOGY



How can we explain human behaviour and our society?

Level: AS and A Level	Specification: AQA	(http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology)
AS Paper 1	Education with Methods in Context <i>1 ½ hr written exam in May/June</i>	
AS Paper 2	Research Methods and Topics in Sociology – ‘Families and Households’ <i>1 ½ hr written exam in May/June</i>	
A Level Paper 1	Education with Theory and Methods <i>2 hr written exam in June</i>	
A Level Paper 2	Topics in Sociology – ‘Families and Households’ + ‘Beliefs in Society’ <i>2 hr written exam in June</i>	
A Level Paper 3	Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods <i>2 hr written exam in June</i>	

Assessment

During the course, students’ knowledge will be assessed regularly through discussions, individual/group presentations, written essay questions and mock exams

Course Aims

This course teaches candidates to:

- Understand sociological theories, research, terminology, concepts and methods
- Develop skills of analysis, interpretation and evaluation
- Design, present and critique sociological investigations and analyse and interpret data
- Develop an understanding of what society is and how people interact and behave

Qualities Required

- An interest and ability to do independent reading and research
- An interest and enthusiasm for learning about society, people and how they behave

Teaching and Learning Methods

You will experience a variety of class-based activities during the course including:

- Individual and group based learning
- Using texts, articles or videos to make notes and answer questions
- Carrying out small scale investigations
- Researching a topic or critiquing a sociological theory and presenting the information to the class
- There will be regular written and research work set for homework, alongside past paper questions and exam technique exercises.

Complementary Subjects and future pathways

Sociology complements a wide range of subjects. There are clear links to Religion, Philosophy and Ethics and Psychology. It also works well with Geography, Politics, History and with other courses that develop analytical and evaluative skills in written work like English Literature. It is useful in careers in social work/research, law, politics, human resources, business, counselling, child care and teaching.