

AQA Sociology A Level



What is Sociology?

Sociology is the study of society and the institutions that make up society. By studying Sociology, you will answer questions such as “does the education system favour girls over boys?”, “how has media changed society?” and “to what extent is the criminal justice system, and other institutions, institutionally racist?”. By studying Sociology, we hope our students become tolerant individuals with a critical eye.

Why study Sociology?

Sociology is a complex subject that tackles many abstract and challenging concepts to give you a critical insight into the world we live in today. It develops your critical thinking and extended writing skills which are useful for a range of further areas. Sociology is an extremely broad subject that would offer an advantage to any further area of education/employment you are interested in.

University degrees that require or often prefer Sociology include:

The study of Sociology at this level can lead to a range of further studies. Many Sociology students go on to take degrees in Sociology or a related field such as Anthropology, Criminology, Law, Politics, Psychology or Education. It is also seen as useful for any essay-based subjects such as English, History and Media.

Possible careers:

Studying Sociology can be useful in a range of different career routes including: journalism, law, PR, marketing, social research, politics, charity (NGO), development work, teaching, social work and nursing.

Entry requirements:

Minimum grade 6 in GCSE English Language and a Humanities subject or grade 6 in GCSE Sociology.



Unit title	Description	Assessment Type
Paper 1 Education with Methods in Context	Students will explore trends and patterns in relation to Education – who succeeds and who fails? They will then consider reasons for these patterns including factors that occur outside of school e.g. poverty or racism and factors that occur inside of school e.g. labelling and setting. Students will also consider the function that the Education System serves in society. Students will also explore a range of key methodological approaches to studying Sociology. Students will be expected to apply their knowledge of methods in Sociology to the study of key educational issues.	External examination
Paper 2 Topics in Sociology	Families and Households Students will explore a range of patterns and trends in relation to how Families and Households have changed in recent years. They will then begin to examine the role and function of Families in society. The Media Students will explore how different people are presented in The Media and will examine different sociological perspectives on the function of The Media. Students will consider questions in relation to the impact of Media in wider society.	External examination
Paper 3 Crime & Deviance with Theory & Methods	Students will examine recent patterns and trends in relation to Crime and Deviance and consider why statistics in relation to Crime may be unreliable. Students will consider a range of sociological theories that examine the role and function of Crime and Deviance in wider society as well as the impact that sociological theory has had on punishment and rehabilitation. Students will also consider key issues and debates relating to Sociology such as whether Sociology can be considered a science or the extent to which our behaviour is determined by the structure of society.	External examination

Experiences outside the classroom?

- Crime scene to courtroom days
- Trips to Shrewsbury prison
- Guest speakers in lesson

SUMMER 2024 RESULTS!

A*-A = 36%

A*-C = 100%