

Sociology



Overview

Sociology A-Level can help students gain a better understanding of society, its systems, and its functions. Contrasting perspectives within Sociology naturally create debate and when combined with potentially controversial topics of study. Sociology encourages pupils to challenge their view of society and appreciate how certain societal groups suffer or lose out, whilst other groups prosper. As part of the A-level you will have the opportunity to investigate and analyse societal institutions like the criminal justice system, the education system, and mass media.

Requirements

Sociology requires students to have strong literacy skills. Therefore a Grade 5 in English is required. Having good grades in other Humanities subjects can be beneficial because of the critical thinking skills these subjects teach.

Assessment

Sociology A-Level is a two year course of study ending with three 2 hour examinations.

Exams comprise of a variety of short answer and extended writing questions. Each paper is worth 33.3% of the total marks.

Paper 1 looks at Education with Theory and Methods.
Paper 2 examines Topics in Sociology. This exam includes units on Families & Households and The Media.
Paper 3 is the Crime & Deviance with Theory and Methods.

Exam Board



More details on the sociology specification studied at Woodrush can be found via this link:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/as-and-a-level/sociology-7191-7192>

Progression and Career Opportunities

A Level Sociology gives you a strong foundation if you choose to go on to study of a range of academic subjects at degree level. The knowledge you learn can be applied to all aspects of society and it provides a variety of academic skills especially thinking critically about the world. Popular degree choices include Law, Social Policy, Economics, History, Psychology and Criminology. Because of the variety of topics studying in Sociology, it can lead students into careers in social work, politics, law, education, policing or social research.

“Studying sociology has given me the chance to explore my options of what I want to do in the future. The variety of topics mean I have learnt a lot about the world I live in and how different people experience it in very different ways. We regularly discuss events that happen in the news and I feel more confident in explaining these because of what I have learnt in Sociology. It has allowed me to look at many different university courses and keep a broad view of what I could do in my future.” Amie