



# Sociology

Course objectives	This qualification aims to introduce students to key concepts and core themes of Sociology and to encourage them to develop their understanding and sociological awareness by engaging with contemporary issues.
Main qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A Level</li></ul>
Awarding Body	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• OCR</li></ul>
Other compulsory qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None</li></ul>
Duration/ Lessons per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 10 x 1 hour lessons over a two week timetable</li></ul>
Entry requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Standard entry requirements.</li><li>• A minimum of a level 5 in English language GCSE</li></ul>
Progression opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This qualification is suitable for anyone who has an interest in society and social policy. The course reflects on social issues and attempts to explain social inequalities in relation to social class, gender, age and ethnicity. It looks at how globalisation and the rise of the internet has impacted on individuals and society as a whole. Students are encouraged to reflect on their own experiences and apply these to their learning.</li><li>• This qualification is an excellent foundation for the study of Sociology or Criminology in higher education, or for those intending to pursue a career in any of the social sciences. There are strong cross-curricular links with both Psychology and Health and Social Care.</li></ul>

## Course content

The A-level course comprises three units:

### Unit 1- Socialisation, culture and identity

In this unit students will address three key questions:

- What is culture?
- What is socialisation?
- What is identity?

These will be explored and developed through a study of Youth Subcultures examining:

- How and why youth subcultures are formed.
- Why young people participate in deviant subcultures.



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## Course content continued

### Unit 2—Researching and understanding social inequalities

Students will explore the methods of sociological enquiry. They will develop knowledge and understanding of social processes and change, in the context of social inequality and difference for people of different age, gender, social class or ethnicity.

### Unit 3 – Debates in contemporary society

Students will carry out a detailed studies of sociological concepts focusing on:

- The relationship between Globalisation and the digital world.
- The impact of digital forms of communication such as social media on identity, relationships and social protest
- How crime and deviance are defined and measured
- The patterns and trends in crime
- How crime and deviance can be explained
- How crime and deviance can be reduced.

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## Assessment

Students are assessed through three external examinations weighted as follows:

Unit 1: 1 hour 30 minute written paper (30%)

Unit 2: 2 hours 15 minute written paper (35%)

Unit 3: 2 hours 15 minute written paper (35%)

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## Costs

- Approximately £30. Students are encouraged to purchase the Student Guides for each unit, currently available for £9.99 each.

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## Staff contact

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