

Social Science: OCR GCSE Sociology

Overview of the course

Sociology Basics (Paper one)

This unit aims to give learners a basic introduction to the key methods sociologists use to carry out research, and the key concepts used within Sociology.

Socialisation, culture and identity (Paper two)

In this unit learners will study the following areas:

- **Family**

Learners will explore the four key issues; family and identity, definitions of the family, structural change in the family and changing family relationships.

- **Crime and Deviance**

Learners will explore the four key issues; definitions of crime and deviance, how society controls deviance and crime, patterns of crime and explanations of why people commit crime.

- **Youth**

Learners will explore the four key issues; defining youth, control through peer group and gangs, youth subculture and gangs.

Applying Sociological Research Techniques (Paper three)

In this unit learners will develop their knowledge of research methods.

What skills will students develop?

The assessment objectives for the GCSE course are as follows:

A01= Knowledge and understanding of social structures (family, education and the mass media), social processes (socialisation, culture, social interaction and social change).

A02= Skills (the ability to) Acquire information, interpret information, use information to examine issues and ensure that text is legible (correct spelling, grammar and punctuation are accurate).

Learners will enjoy Sociology and acquire valuable skills such as:

- Communication skills
- Extended writing skills
- Presenting reasoned arguments and conclusions
- Critical thinking skills

Sociology prepares learners for advanced courses at post 16. It is recognised by all universities because it is extremely popular and relevant in today's society!

Assessment

During the GCSE course students will complete a range of assessments in lessons which will help prepare them for their final examinations.

Students will be assessed by three examinations at the end of year 11.

- **Paper One:** Sociology Basics (25%)
- **Paper Two:** Socialisation, culture and identity (50%)
- **Paper Three:** Applying Sociological Research Techniques (25%)

SMSC

The study of societal issues, cultural factors and the complexities of human interaction is, of course, our forte in Sociology. This therefore, enables learners to develop an all-encompassing awareness of social, moral and cultural issues.

Literacy

Students will engage with an assortment of text including academic and newspaper articles. During the course students will be required to write a range of Sociological essays. Students will be encouraged to explain, express and debate different viewpoints.

Numeracy

Students will engage with data, as well as collating and analysing their own, all the while sharpening their numeracy skills.

ICT

In Sociology, students are encouraged to use ICT to aid their learning. Students will conduct research using ICT. Also, students will create presentations using PowerPoint. Throughout the course, students will be encouraged to use the internet to explore key trends in society and current social issues.

Meeting the needs of individual students

Students learn in many different ways and all have different individual needs. In order for students to make progress in GCSE Sociology a range of different learning styles are used within lessons, such as:

Team leaders - This involves students teaching each other when completing independent research tasks
Use of ICT in lessons
Collaborative group work
Investigating and exploring social issues in contemporary society using the internet.

Resources used to support learning

Students will be taught using a variety of methods including individual work, group work, videos, class debates and research. Extension classes will be available for all students. Extension classes will focus on preparing students for exams. Students will be provided with revision packs for all exam papers. Students will be provided with a text book at the start of the academic year.

Specification: <http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-sociology-j696-from-2012/>

Extra-curricular activities

Students will be given the opportunity to carry out mini studies, attend talks on social issues in society and receive presentations from guest speakers.

Additional support for learning

- Extension classes will be provided.
- Revision material will be available.

Independent study & VLE

Our students will be encouraged to use the VLE both in and out of class. Independent study is required for students to explore current social events and issues. Students are also encouraged to work in small groups to develop independent learning skills.