

Sociology - A Level AQA

Course Outline

Sociology is a great subject for anyone with an enquiring mind and an interest in discussion and healthy debate, giving you the opportunity to broaden your understanding of the society you participate in; its influence over you and your influence over it.

Key Areas of Study

Year 1

Topic 1 - Education with Methods in Context: theoretical debates about the role and purpose of education; an understanding of differential achievement; the application of sociological methods to the study of education.

Topic 2 - Research Methods and Topics in Sociology: how sociologists research: different research methods, their strengths and weaknesses. Family and Household: the role of the family in society; changes in family structure; position of children in society; demographic trends.

Year 2

Topic 1 - Education with Methods in Context: theoretical debates about the role and purpose of Education, an understanding of differential achievement. How sociologists research: different research methods, their strengths and weaknesses. The application of sociological methods of research to the study of education.

Topic 2 - Topics in Sociology: Family and Household: the role of the family in society; changes in family structure; position of children in society; demographic trends. The Media: role of media in society; globalisation and popular culture; media representations of different groups.

Topic 3 - Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods: definitions of crime and deviance; purpose of crime and deviance. Different theories of society, how sociologists view the purpose of sociology and the methods they use to research their ideas.

Taught Through:

Seminars; discussion; independent research; self/peer assessment; presentations; blogging; Twitter; documentaries.

Next Steps

What could you be?

Sociologist; Teacher; Criminal Justice System; Social Worker; Marketing; Business; Law; Social Care.

Recent student destinations:

Winchester - Creative Writing; Bath Spa - English Literature/Sociology; London Met - Education Studies; Aberystwyth - International Politics.

Key Information

Entry Recommendations:

Grade 5 or above in English GCSE.

Assessment:

A Level: 3 Written Exams

Tutor

Sian Bell

bells@budmouth.dorset.sch.uk