

A LEVEL

Sociology

Sociology helps you make sense of the world around you — why people behave the way they do, how society is organised, and what shapes our identities and opportunities. It's an engaging subject for anyone curious about people, culture and social change.

You'll explore real-world issues such as crime, inequality, media influence and education, learning to question assumptions, evaluate evidence and debate big ideas. It's a discussion-based course that develops critical thinking, communication and analytical skills, all highly valued by universities and employers.

Sociology pairs brilliantly with Psychology, History, Economics, and Geography, but it also works well alongside other subjects, such as Sciences and Mathematics, providing a strong foundation for degrees in the social sciences, law, and humanities.



COURSE CONTENT

Students will explore the following key areas:

Component 1: Socialisation and Culture

- Families and Households
- Education
- Culture, Identity and Socialisation

Component 2: Methods of Sociological Enquiry

- Research design and methodology
- Quantitative and qualitative data analysis
- Ethical and practical issues in research

Component 3: Power and Stratification

A choice from one of:

- Crime and Deviance
- Health and disability
- Politics
- World Sociology



SKILLS REQUIRED

An interest in people, society and current affairs is essential. You'll need to enjoy discussion, writing and critical thinking, as you'll explore theories, research and evidence from multiple perspectives.



ASSESSMENT

All course content is examined at the end of the 2-year course and is assessed by three written papers.

Paper 1: Socialisation and Culture

Written exam. 2 hours 30 minutes. 40% of final marks.

Paper 2: Methods of Sociological Enquiry

Written exam. 1 hour 45 minutes. 20% of final marks.

Paper 3: Power and Stratification

Written exam. 2 hours 30 minutes. 40% of final marks.



ENRICHMENT

Sociology Students have opportunities to attend lectures, conferences and workshops exploring real-world issues such as media representation, crime and social justice.

Cross-department collaborations with Psychology encourages wider discussion and deeper understanding. For those keen to go further, a wider reading clinic allows students to explore current research and present findings for peer discussion and critical evaluation.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

Sociology opens doors to degrees and careers in Criminology, Law, Psychology, Politics, Social Policy, Journalism, Marketing, Human Resources and Education. It's ideal for students who enjoy debate, critical thinking and understanding the bigger picture of how societies work. The analytical, research and communication skills developed are valuable across a wide range of professions.



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