



AS / A2 Sociology (Level 3)

WHY TAKE THIS COURSE?

Sociology is the systematic study and explanation of human social life, groups and societies. Sociologists aim to investigate and understand the social world and human behaviour within it. They are especially interested in understanding the ways in which society influences us and shapes our lives.

In studying Sociology, you will be actively involved in exploring and asking thought provoking questions about the society in which you live. Studying Sociology offers you opportunities to develop a greater understanding and critical awareness of society and to make sense of your own experiences within it. Sociology is an academic and challenging subject because it forces people to 'step outside of their bubble' and rethink some of their taken for granted common-sense opinions and assumptions. Sociology will certainly develop a critical edge to your thinking and make you challenge the obvious.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The AS course has two modules: Family and Household, and Education with Sociological Methods. At A2, you will study Beliefs in Society and Crime and Deviance. Each module is underpinned with sociological perspectives based on the work of key theorists. Some of the issues we look at include: Why do working class pupils get worse results than middle class pupils? Why do males commit more crime than females? Why do women still do more housework and childcare than men?

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Both AS and A2 Sociology are examined with one exam in January and one in May / June. Exam questions are mainly essay based.

WHAT SKILLS AND SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

Sociology is not a common sense based subject and therefore it is essential that you are able to construct logical and critical arguments and articulate them effectively in class discussions and written essays. A very good command of English is crucial.

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

People who study Sociology often choose careers in the Police, Probation Service, Journalism, Anthropology, Social Work, Teaching, Law and any other career where you will have to deal with people from different social backgrounds. Sociology combines well with many subjects like English, Law, Politics, Media Studies, Health and Social Care, History and Business Studies and is suitable for a range of degree programmes.

PRIESTLEY EXTRA

Sociology students get to visit the Magistrates Courts in Warrington and attend a Crime and Deviance Tour in London.