

SOCIOLOGY LEARNING JOURNEY

Your study of sociology will broaden your awareness of society, and help you to become responsible agents for change in the world. The curriculum exposes you to a wide range of topics relevant to your own life and helps you distinguish between fact and opinion. It challenges you to look beyond appearances and set aside your own personal beliefs to enable you to grow in compassion and kindness. The experience will leave you with a more tolerant and empathetic understanding of contemporary society.

Exam Board: AQA

Y12

Introduction

An introduction to key sociological concepts and perspectives (such as functionalism, Marxism and feminism) which will be applied to topics throughout the course. Includes an examination of different research methods in sociology.

Education

A consideration of the role of education in contemporary society, including a critical analysis of the relationships and processes in schools that can impact the achievement of different social groups. Includes an examination of how to research in education.

Families and Households

A sociological analysis of the role of the family in society. Includes consideration of changing patterns of marriage, family diversity, childhood and gender roles within the family

Y13

Beliefs in Society

An analysis of ideology, science and religion in society including consideration of religious beliefs and practices, types of religious organisations and the significance of religion in contemporary society.

An in-depth study into crime in the UK with a particular focus on the social distribution of crime (by ethnicity, gender and social class) and sociological explanations for these patterns.

Exploration of how sociologists study society and the debates between perspectives, with synoptic links that connect research choices and theoretical ideas to all other topics

Crime and Deviance

Sociological Theory

Assessment Objectives:

- AO1: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of: sociological theories, concepts and evidence, sociological research methods
- AO2: Apply sociological theories, concepts, evidence and research methods to a range of issues
- AO3: Analyse and evaluate sociological theories, concepts, evidence and research methods in order to: present arguments, make judgements, draw conclusions.

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Introduction	Education	Families & Households
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Sociology - key concepts of socialisation (nature v nurture), identity, social groups: class, gender and ethnicity. • Introduction to sociological theories: Functionalism, Marxism, Feminism, Postmodernism. • Introduction to sociological research: primary and secondary methods, quantitative and qualitative methods, methodological perspectives, practical, ethnical and theoretical issues and types of methods. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theories of the role of Education: Functionalism, Marxism, The New Right • Education and Government Policy: 1944-Present, Privatisation and Marketisation. • Processes inn and out of school: labelling, subcultures, deprivation. • Differences in achievement and experiences: Class, Gender and Ethnicity. • Methods in Context: considerations of researching in the educational context. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theories of the role of the Family - Functionalism, Marxism, Feminism. • Couples - housework, resources and decision making, domestic violence. • Childhood - historical, cross cultural and the changing nature of childhood. • Demography - death rates, ageing population, birth rates, migration. • Family Diversity • Change in Family Patterns: divorce, marriage, civil partnerships. • Government policy and the family - different theoretical perspectives.
Beliefs in Society	Crime and Deviance	Sociological Theory
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of religion in society: Functionalism, Marxism, Feminism. • The role of Science and Ideology in Society. • Religion as a Conservative force or a force for social change? • Religious Organisations: Churches, Denominations, Sects, Cults. • Religion and Social Groups: Class, Age, Gender, Ethnicity. • Secularisation and Religion in a Global Context: is religion disappearing? Is it just changing? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theories of Crime: Functionalism, Marxism, Interactionism, Realism • The Role of the Criminal Justice System: punishment, crime prevention and surveillance. • Who commits (pr appears to) crime and why? Class, Gender and Ethnicity. • Victimisation - who are the victims of crime? Why? • Media and Crime: does it increase crime? Does it label? • Global crime: cyber crime, green crime, state crime. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structural theories in society: Functionalism, Marxism, Feminism (Consensus v Conflict) • Social Action Theory: Interactionism. • Sociology and Science - can Sociology be considered a science? • Sociology and Value Freedom - can Sociology be value free? • Postmodernity - are we in a new age? • Sociology and Social Policy - the debate between theoretical perspectives.