

WELCOME TO...

GCSE

Sociology

This course is aimed at students who want to explore the way that society works:

Why do we turn into the people that we eventually become? You will study the fundamental influence of families upon the development of people, and how the nature of family has changed during history.

Why do some people commit crimes? You will study different ideas that might explain why some people become criminals whilst others do not. Is it always because of poverty? You will also study some specific case studies, such as the infamous murder of Stephen Lawrence.

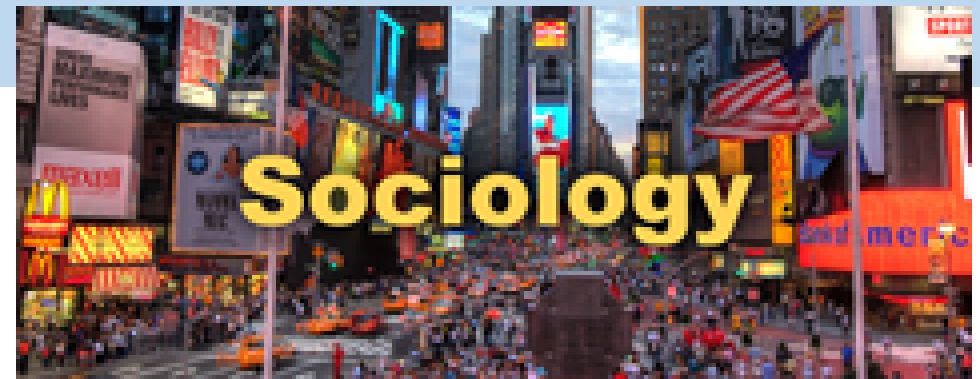
Why do some people do better in school than others? Is it simply an issue of intelligence or might other issues influence how well we do? These are just some of the questions that we explore in Sociology.

The course will cover Social Theories which includes the following:

- socialisation theory
- feral children
- family diversity
- crime, anti-social behaviour and deviance
- equality and inequality
- subcultures (including criminal gangs)
- material and cultural deprivation
- education
- research methods and data analysis
- Functionalism
- Interactionism
- Marxism
- Feminism.

Skills within the context of GCSE Sociology can lead to careers in the following areas:

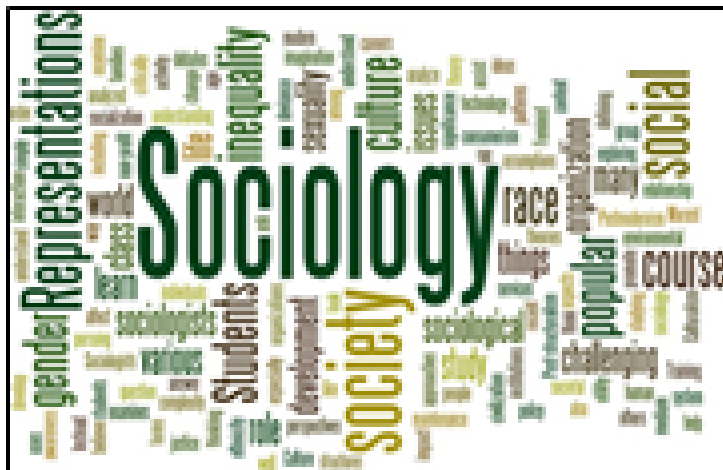
- social services
- teaching
- educational psychology
- law
- police
- criminology and criminal psychology
- prison and probation services
- charitable organisations
- journalism
- politics
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Assessment:

Unit 1 – External Examination (50%) Basics of Sociology / Family and Primary Sociolisation / Education and Secondary Socialisation / Research Methods.

Unit 2 – External Examination (50%) Crime and Deviance / Equality, Inequality, Power and Authority / Research Methods.



What Skills Will Be Developed?

- Observation - Your ability to observe what goes on around you will be of vital importance as a Sociologist.
- Questioning – Your ability to think of and ask difficult questions about the way that society works is at the heart of the subject.
- Data – Your ability to look at research data and information and consider what can be learned from it will become important, especially in the Crime section.
- Writing – As a GCSE examination, you will need to develop your techniques of answering the different styles of questions on the exam papers.
- Discussion – Being able to politely and constructively argue about an issue from different perspectives is essential on this course.
- Enthusiasm and Interest in the subject.