

Sociology

AS/A Level

AQA

Structure & Specification

Year 1- AS 1191

Year 2- A2 2191

What does the course include?

Year One- AS

SCLY 1: *Families and Households.* You will study the relationship of the family to the wider society, the wide range of contemporary families and changing relationships within the family.

SCLY 2: *Education and Sociological Methods.* You will study the history of the education system and contemporary issues such as the development of student subcultures, teacher/pupil relationships and the different educational achievement of social groups by social class, gender and ethnicity. In addition you will study the range of research methods used by sociologists to examine both the education system and wider society.

Year Two- A2

SCLY 3: *Global Development.* The nature of development and under-development and the cultural, political and economic relationships between societies. You will study key issues such as the role of aid and trade and issues relating to urbanisation, industrialisation and the environment.

SCLY 4: *Crime and Deviance: Theory and Methods.* You will examine different explanations of crime, deviance, power and social control and societal reaction to crime. You will also study the different methods used to research aspects of crime and deviance. You will explicitly study the theoretical basis of methodology.

How will I learn?

A variety of teaching and learning strategies will be employed, including discussion, study guides, video and group work. You will be encouraged to take an active role in the learning process and should be able to work with a sense of maturity and a degree of independence. The coursework in this specification gives students the chance to investigate a sociological topic of their own.

How will my work be assessed?

Units are assessed through external exams. Examiners will be assessing knowledge and understanding of sociology, the application of skills of identification, analysis, interpretation and evaluation and the quality of written communication.

What skills will I need to be successful in this subject?

You will need to enjoy and be able to contribute to group learning through class discussion. The communication of ideas is central to your learning. You will develop your IT skills including using the Internet for research purposes. Other necessary skills are the organisation of ideas, research and investigation, and working with others. You will benefit from having an interest in current affairs.

What are the entry requirements?

The normal requirement for advanced level study is at least 5 GCSEs at Grade C or above, including English language.

What are the opportunities after this course for further/higher education and employment?

AS/A Level Sociology at C or above can lead to a wide range of degree courses. As Sociology broadens your understanding of the world and develops your analytical skills set it is applicable to most degrees ranging from law to International relations.

Employment opportunities will be enhanced as this subject develops both your critical skills and knowledge.