

Course title: Sociology A-Level AQA

Academic year:	2026
Course Venue:	King Edwards VI High School
Course Type:	A-level
Duration:	2 years

Course Description:

A level Sociology is a two year linear course concluding with three two hours papers. The course will review topics that are pertinent to the study of sociology and contemporary society. Students must study the following two core themes: socialisation, culture and identity plus social differentiation, power and stratification. These are incorporated into the topics studied so are not discrete subjects. The students are also expected to draw on British society today for examples, and modern society runs as a theme throughout the two years.

Course Content:

Unit (Paper) 1:

Compulsory content - Education with Theory and Methods.

This Paper looks at the underpinning theories that inform the study of sociology, the research methods used by sociology to gather data and key issues in the sociology of education.

Unit (Paper) 2:

Optional Topics in Sociology - The Centre will look at:

- Option 1 – Culture and Identity. We examine the nature of culture in various societies, and how identity is affected by age, gender and other characteristics.
- Option 2 - Beliefs in Society. This option looks at a range of belief systems that are used by individuals and groups to make sense of everyday life,

Unit 3 (Paper) 3:

Compulsory content - Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods.

This Paper looks at the underpinning theories that inform the study of sociology, the research methods used by sociology to gather data and key issues in the sociology of crime and deviance.

Entry requirements:

The standard entry criteria to study in the sixth form are a 9-4 in at least seven different subjects, including English and mathematics, which would usually be at grade 4 or above.

Assessment:

Paper 1 - A two hour written exam 80 marks 33.3% of A-level

- Education: Short answers and extended writing, 50 marks
- Methods in Context: extended writing, 20 marks
- Theory and Methods: extended writing, 10 marks

Paper 2 - A two hour written exam 80 marks 33.3% of A level

- Section A: extended writing, 40 marks
- Section B: extended writing, 40 marks

Paper 3 - A two hour written exam 80 marks 33.3% of A level

- Crime and Deviance: short answers and extended writing, 50 marks
- Theory and Methods: extended writing, 30 marks

Throughout the course there are research projects that assist learning of both main subjects, topics and particularly methods. Students are expected to take a full part in these.

Financial Information:

Students are advised to buy a personal text book. Prices vary depending where it is purchased. Student are required to have an A4 ring binder for class notes, handouts etc. Trips to conferences and the local Crown Courts are offered to students whenever possible and when financially viable.

Future opportunities: Students can progress to university degrees in the subject. Also a knowledge of society can form the basis of seemingly unrelated subjects such as, teaching, nursing, midwifery, politics and law. Sociology is classed as a science for nursing and midwifery for some universities.

Further information:

For more information on this subject please contact Miss Tickell: tickell.d@kevi.org.uk

