



SOCIOLOGY

Subject Leader: Mrs H Greenway
Teacher in charge: Mrs C Phillips
Examination Board: WJEC
Essential GCSE's: Maths, C or above. English, C or above.

Course Outline

The AS/A2 course focuses on the acquisition of knowledge and critical understanding of contemporary social processes and structures. Familiar aspects of life such as Family, Media, Education and Poverty are examined from traditional and more contemporary theoretical perspectives. Students will learn how to conduct sociological research and develop skills required for academic and vocational progression.

AS – Year 12		Weighting
Unit 1	Acquiring Culture	15%
Unit 2	Understanding Society and Methods of Sociological Enquiry	25%

A2 – Year 13		Weighting
Unit 3	Power and Control	25%
Unit 4	Social Inequality and Applied Methods of Sociological Enquiry	35%

Entry Requirements

Students may enrol on the course if:

- They have achieved 5 A*-C passes at GCSE including English.
- They have an interest in current affairs.
- They are keen to study something interesting and relevant

NB: Students do not need to have studied Sociology at GCSE.

What will I study?

You will explore the ways in which we learn the norms and values of our society, who makes “the rules” and why. You will explore some of the explanations for underachievement in education, why some people are poor and others rich and the impact that this has on their lives. You will look at the ways that the media influences us and whether the news provides a reliable “window on the world”. You will learn to look at topical issues and problems from different points of view and to support each with evidence. You will learn how to write effectively and to argue effectively. You will learn that Sociology is a fascinating subject.

How will I be assessed?

Internal assessment will be conducted through homework assignments, tests, presentations and tutorials. External assessments will take place in May and June.

Unit 1 – May (Year 12)

Unit 2 – May (Year 12)

Unit 3 – June (Year 13)

Unit 4 – June (Year 13)

Career Opportunities and Progression

Sociology provides an excellent foundation for a wide variety of higher level courses and professions. Sociological modules are found on many undergraduate courses in subjects such as medicine, law, criminology, journalism, politics, environmental and earth science courses, social work, education, a wide range of health care professional courses and many more. All universities recognise Sociology as an academic A Level. Sociology provides an understanding of the social processes that are part and parcel of any work role and as such enables students to apply their understanding across a wide range of careers. Students of Sociology usually agree that “everyone should do it”. Sociology is an academic discipline which teaches skills required for lifelong learning.