

Faculty : Humanities
Subject : Sociology – Key Stage 5



St John Fisher
Catholic High School

Faculty Introduction:

AS / A2 in Sociology is an exciting and thought provoking course which gives a detailed insight into the study of our society – how it works and what happens when there is conflict and major issues such as income, social class, the family and education. It also looks at social trends which may help us to understand the dilemmas of modern life. What we take for granted about societies - what might seem obvious - is usually challenged by the sociological imagination.



Topics/Modules to be covered in the Key Stage:

Year 12

Unit 671 - *Individual and Society*

- The formation of culture
- The process of socialisation
- The role of socialisation in the creation of identities
- Exploring the research process
- Exploring the use of quantitative data-collection methods and analysis in the context of research
- Exploring the use of qualitative data-collection methods and analysis in the context of research
- Exploring the use of mixed methods in the context of research

Unit 672 - *Sociology of the Family.*

- Key concepts and key trends within the family.
- The role of the family in society.
- Family diversity.
- Roles, responsibilities and relationships within the family.

Year 13

Unit 673 - *Sociology of Education.*

- The structure and organisation of the education system
- The role and function of education in society
- Differential educational achievement
- The relationship between education and the economy
- Education and social policy

Unit 674 - *Exploring Social Inequality and Difference.* This final unit covers all AS topics and there are two key issues to consider:

- Social inequality and difference illustrated by the study of gender, class, ethnicity and age
- Exploring sociological research on social inequality and difference.

Assessment:

Formal external assessment of the AS and A2 elements of the OCR Sociology course is by examination and takes place at the end of Year 12 and Year 13. To assess academic progress during both years, students are also tested regularly using past OCR exam papers and essays. These assessments are completed both in class and at home and are assessed before being fed back to students. They are also used as the working grades which are reported to parents on a termly basis.

Homework expectations/key deadlines:

Students should expect to receive 90 minutes of formal sociology homework per week. This will range from writing essays and reading and making notes from various sources. Homework is an integral part of the students learning and will be directly related to classroom teaching. Students are also expected to spend an additional 90 minutes informally each week, reading around the subject, improving knowledge and understanding to reinforce the work covered in class.

Enrichment activities/revision sessions:

To prepare students for the final examinations, after school sessions are also provided in the summer term.

Useful websites for revision/revision guides/exam boards: