



Post 16 Induction Day 2025

25/06/2025



A-Level Sociology

Miss Finnie

Questions: What is sociology
and why choose it?



Sociology is...

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- Study of social life, social change, and the social causes and consequences of human behavior.
- Investigations into the structure of groups, organizations, and societies, and how people interact within these contexts.
- About seeing the multiple perspectives of the social world.
- About recognizing social inequality, patterns of behavior, forces for social change and resistance, and how social systems work.



Task: Creating a new society

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This task is going to help you develop your sociological skills of :-

- Communication
- Interpretation
- Analysis
- Evaluation

This task will also start you thinking about the Core themes in sociology:

- socialisation, culture and identity
- social differentiation, power and stratification.



It will also become familiar with what we call CAGES+ [Class, Age, Gender, Ethnicity, Sexuality, Disability, Religion & Nationality].

Task



About this course

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AO1: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

- sociological theories, concepts and evidence
- sociological research methods

AO2: Apply sociological theories, concepts, evidence and research methods to a range of issues

AO3: Analyse and evaluate sociological theories, concepts, evidence and research methods in order to:

- present arguments
- make judgements
- draw conclusions.



	Miss Laura Finnie
Sociology Yr 12	Education Families & Households Theory and Methods [yr. 12 content]
Sociology Yr 13	Crime & Deviance Beliefs in Society Theory and Methods [yr. 13 content]



How do you become a good sociologist?

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- Read, read and then read a bit more – Newspapers, your textbook, borrow books from the library
- Watch – TV News , documentaries, YouTube channels recommended to you by your teachers
- Listen – Radio programmes and podcasts recommended to you by your teachers
- Join in with extra curricular activities and clubs, the Social Science Department put on



What does it mean for students to *think* like a Sociologists?

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- Never assume anything
- There is more than one correct answer
- Be objective
- Think outside the box, and use your imagination
- Consider individual differences
- Follow the evidence
- Challenge the evidence



What does it mean for students to *talk* like a sociologist?

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- Ask questions
- Ask even more questions
- Use specialist vocabulary
- Be objective
- Use evidence
- Don't stereotype
- •use discriminatory language



To bring to your first lesson...

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- Induction Tasks
- Pencil case – pen, pencil, calculator etc

You will be given the following equipment:

- An A4 file – we have some available for you to reuse
- Helpful documents for your time in Criminology
- Personal Learning Checklist for each topic
- Knowledge organisers

You will have access to the following:

- Teams folder for Criminology which includes; extra curricula reading, Knowledge Organisers for revision, all lessons (particularly if you are absent)



Expectations

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Items to be bought to every lesson:

- Pencil case – pen, pencil etc
- Criminology file with its contents!
- Exercise book
- White board and pen
- Textbook

Attendance:

- The starting point is that you are expected to attend 100% of your classes.
- Poor attendance will result in a Post 16 referral.**
- If your attendance falls below 90% you are in danger of failing the course.



Independent Study

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- A vital and integral part of your course is the work you do outside of the classroom.
- As a rough guide, you should spend for every hour in class, up to an hour outside class on personal study.

- This should include:
 - Class work/homework assignments
 - Reviewing notes made in class
 - Researching key case studies
 - Preparing for class tests
 - Revision

- It is **your responsibility** to get the details of any homework set and completion dates if you miss a class. This will be displayed on MS Teams
- **If you fail to hand in work**, you will receive a Post 16 referral.
- Continued failure to hand in work may result in you being asked to leave the course.
- Extensions may be granted for **genuine** reasons.



What Now?

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- Complete the induction tasks – this will give you a better insight into the subject.
- To access your induction tasks go to the school website and click on 'Post 16' you should see 'Induction Task' in the drop down menu.
- Visit the [AQA](#) website to look at the specification
- New to the school? – email us for the tasks
finnie@heles.plymouth.sch.uk
- Want the tasks as word documents? – email me for the tasks –
finnie@heles.plymouth.sch.uk



Paper 1: Education with Theory and Methods

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Education - Students are expected to be familiar with sociological explanations of the following content:

- the role and functions of the education system, including its relationship to the economy and to class structure
- differential educational achievement of social groups by social class, gender and ethnicity in contemporary society
- relationships and processes within schools, with particular reference to teacher/pupil relationships, pupil identities and subcultures, the hidden curriculum, and the organisation of teaching and learning
- the significance of educational policies, including policies of selection, marketisation and privatisation, and policies to achieve greater equality of opportunity or outcome, for an understanding of the structure, role, impact and experience of and access to education; the impact of globalisation on educational policy.

Assessed

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

Questions

Education: short answer and extended writing, 50 marks

Methods in Context: extended writing, 20 marks

Theory and Methods: extended writing, 10 marks



Paper 1: Education with Theory and Methods

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Theory & Methods- Students must examine the following areas:

- quantitative and qualitative methods of research; research design
- sources of data, including questionnaires, interviews, participant and non-participant observation, experiments, documents and official statistics
- the distinction between primary and secondary data, and between quantitative and qualitative data
- the relationship between positivism, interpretivism and sociological methods; the nature of 'social facts'
 - the theoretical, practical and ethical considerations influencing choice of topic, choice of method(s) and the conduct of research
- consensus, conflict, structural and social action theories
- the concepts of modernity and post-modernity in relation to sociological theory
- the nature of science and the extent to which Sociology can be regarded as scientific
- the relationship between theory and methods
- debates about subjectivity, objectivity and value freedom
- the relationship between Sociology and social policy

Assessed

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

Questions

Education: short answer and extended writing, 50 marks

Methods in Context: extended writing, 20 marks

Theory and Methods: extended writing, 10 marks



Paper 2: Topics in Sociology: Families and Households

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Students are expected to be familiar with sociological explanations of the following content:

- the relationship of the family to the social structure and social change, with particular reference to the economy and to state policies
- changing patterns of marriage, cohabitation, separation, divorce, childbearing and the life course, including the sociology of personal life, and the diversity of contemporary family and household structures
- gender roles, domestic labour and power relationships within the family in contemporary society
- the nature of childhood, and changes in the status of children in the family and society
- demographic trends in the United Kingdom since 1900: birth rates, death rates, family size, life expectancy, ageing population, and migration and globalisation.

Assessed

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

Questions

Section A: extended writing, 40 marks

Section B: extended writing, 40 marks



Paper 2: Topics in Sociology: Media

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Students are expected to be familiar with sociological explanations of the following content:

- the new media and their significance for an understanding of the role of the media in contemporary society
- the relationship between ownership and control of the media
- the media, globalisation and popular culture
- the processes of selection and presentation of the content of the news
- media representations of age, social class, ethnicity, gender, sexuality and disability
- the relationship between the media, their content and presentation, and audiences.



Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

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Crime and Deviance

Students are expected to be familiar with sociological explanations of the following content:

- crime, deviance, social order and social control
- the social distribution of crime and deviance by ethnicity, gender and social class, including recent patterns and trends in crime
- globalisation and crime in contemporary society; the media and crime; green crime; human rights and state crimes
- crime control, surveillance, prevention and punishment, victims, and the role of the criminal justice system and other agencies.

Assessed

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

Questions

Crime and Deviance: short answer and extended writing, 50 marks

Theory and Methods: extended writing, 30 marks



Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

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Theory & Methods

Students must examine the following areas:

- quantitative and qualitative methods of research; research design
- sources of data, including questionnaires, interviews, participant and non-participant observation, experiments, documents and official statistics
- the distinction between primary and secondary data, and between quantitative and qualitative data
- the relationship between positivism, interpretivism and sociological methods; the nature of 'social facts'
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- consensus, conflict, structural and social action theories
- the concepts of modernity and post-modernity in relation to sociological theory
- the nature of science and the extent to which Sociology can be regarded as scientific
- the relationship between theory and methods
- debates about subjectivity, objectivity and value freedom
- the relationship between Sociology and social policy

Assessed

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

Questions

Crime and Deviance: short answer and extended writing, 50 marks

Methods: extended writing, 30 marks