Course Description

Sociology

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AS Level

Paper 1: Education with Research Methods in Context

Analysing why students from particular backgrounds are more or less successful. Investigating the importance of relationships between teachers and pupils to achievement.

Learning which methods are best to use when we study different aspects of education.

Assessment: 1 hour 30 minutes written exam, 60 marks; 50% of AS level

Paper 2: Research Methods and The Family

Investigating how the family is changing in modern Britain. Explaining the rising divorce, decreasing marriage, changing childhood and the 'battle of the sexes'.

Analysing the advantages and disadvantages of different research methods e.g. secretly joining and observing a criminal gang or giving questionnaires to students.

Assessment: 1 hour 30 written exam, 60 marks, 50% of AS level

A Level

Paper 1: Education with Theory and Methods

Much of the same content as the AS Paper 1 but with more work on the big theories of sociology.

Assessment: 2 hour written exam, 80 marks; 33.3% of A-level

Paper 2: Topics in Sociology

The Family; Beliefs in society

Similar 'Families and Households' content to the module at AS.

Beliefs in Society investigates the way we make sense of the world today and tries to explain why religious sects and cults emerge, why religious fundamentalism is growing and whether religion is dying off in countries like the UK. It asks if we trust science any more.

Assessment: 2 hour written exam, 80 marks; 33.3% of A-level

Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

We investigate the different explanations for the causes of crime and the different approaches to reducing crime. We analyse which types of people appear to be more involved in different types of crime. We look at 'new' crimes of the environment and the global drugs and trafficking trades.

We look at key theories explaining society.

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

Entry Criteria

GCSE Grade 6 or above in English Language or English Literature.

Exam Board: AQA Specification link:
https://cdn.sanity.io/files/p28bar15/green/2dd8b4693a21360d91b21ea4ab9180ab9b6a2c34.pdf **AS and A-level Sociology Specifications for first teaching in 2015**

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