

Sociology Curriculum Map 2025-26

Sociology examines how societies are organised and how social relationships are shaped by culture, institutions and change. Our curriculum develops students' sociological imagination from GCSE through A Level, fostering critical analysis, independent thinking and the ability to form balanced, evidence-based judgements. At GCSE, students gain a secure foundation in key concepts, theories and research methods. They explore core topics such as families, education, social stratification and crime, learning to apply sociological perspectives—Functionalism, Marxism, Feminism and others—to real-world examples. A Level Sociology builds on this foundation with greater depth and complexity. Students engage with advanced sociological theory, evaluate competing perspectives, and analyse how institutions such as the family, the education system, religion and the criminal justice system shape social life. They also undertake more rigorous evaluation of qualitative and quantitative research methods, refining their ability to design, critique and apply sociological research. Throughout both key stages, students learn to debate contemporary issues in a post-modern context, using precise sociological vocabulary and drawing thoughtful comparisons between viewpoints. This journey equips them not only for academic success at GCSE and A Level, but also for higher education, informed citizenship and careers that require analytical, evidence-driven decision-making.

Term	Autumn 1		Autumn 2		Spring 1	Spring 2		Summer 1	Summer 2	
Year 10 WJEC Eduqas GCSE	C1 Topic: Key concepts and processes of cultural transmission. 1.1 Key sociological Concepts 1.2 Debates over the acquisition of identity 1.3 The process of socialisation C1 Topic: Families 2.1 Family diversity and different family forms in the UK and within a global context	Interim Assessment 1 (Oct)	C1 Topic: Families 2.2 Social changes and family structures 2.3 Social changes and family relationships 2.4 Sociological theories of the role of the family 2.5 Criticisms of family	Interim Assessment 2 (Dec)	C1 Topic: Education 3.1 Sociological theories of the role of education 3.2 Processes inside schools 3.3 Patterns of educational achievement 3.4 & 3.5 Factors affecting Educational achievement – Social class, ethnicity and gender	Interim Assessment 3 (Mar)		C1 Topic: Sociological research methods 4.1 Usefulness of different types of data 4.2 Methods of Research 4.3 Sampling processes 4.4 Practical issues affecting research 4.5 Ethical issues affecting research		End of Year Assessment (Jul) C1+CD
Year 11 WJEC Eduqas GCSE	C2 Topic: Crime and Deviance 6.1 Social construction of concepts of crime and deviance 6.2 Social control 6.3 Patterns of criminal and deviant behaviour 6.4 Sociological theories and explanations of deviance and criminal behaviour (structural, subcultural, interactionist and feminist) 6.5 Sources of data on crime	Mock Exam 1 (Nov) C2	C2 Topic: Social differentiation and stratification 5.1 Sociological theories of stratification 5.2 Different forms and sources of power and authority 5.3 Equality/inequality in relation to class, gender, ethnicity, age, disability and sexuality 5.4 Factors which may influence access to life chances and power 5.5 Poverty as a social issue C2 Topic: Applied methods of sociological enquiry 7.1 The process of research design 7.2 Interpreting data	Mock Exam 2 (Jan) C1	Revision of all topics: - Key concepts and processes of cultural transmission. - Families - Education - Sociological research methods - Social differentiation and stratification - Crime and Deviance - Applied methods of sociological enquiry	Mock Exam 3 (Mar) C1 C2		Revision and Summer Exams		

Year 12 OCR A Level	Component 1 Section A Topic: <i>Introducing socialisation, culture and identity</i> 1. What is culture? 2. What is socialisation? 3. What is identity?	Timed Essay on C1 Section A	Component 1 Section B Topic: <i>Families and relationships</i> 1. How diverse are modern families? 2. To what extent are roles and relationships within families and households changing? Timed Essay on C1 Section B	Jan Mock Exam C1	Component 2 Section A Topic: <i>Research methods and researching social inequalities</i> 1. What is the relationship between theory and methods? 2. What are the main stages of the research process? 3. Which methods are used in sociological research?	Component 2 Section B Topic: <i>Understanding social inequalities</i> 1. What are the main patterns and trends in social inequality and difference? 2. How can patterns and trends in social inequality and difference be explained? Trip to Old Bailey	June Mock Exam C1 C2
Year 13 OCR A Level	Component 3 Section A Topic: <i>Globalisation and the digital social world</i> 1. What is the relationship between globalisation and digital forms of communication? Component 3 Section B Topic: <i>Crime and Deviance</i> 1. How are crime and deviance defined and measured? 2. What are the patterns and trends in crime?	Timed Essay on C3 Section A	Component 3 Section A Topic: <i>Globalisation and the digital social world</i> 2. What is the impact of digital forms of communication in a global context? Component 3 Section B Topic: <i>Crime and Deviance</i> 3. How can crime and deviance be explained? 4. How can crime and deviance be reduced?	Jan Mock Exam C3	Topic: Recap Comp 1 Families and Relationships Topic: Recap Comp 2 Researching and understanding social inequalities Topic: Recap Comp 3 Debates in contemporary society	March Mock Exam C1 C2	Revision and A Level Exams