Why Study A Level Sociology?

Course Introduction

Explore how society shapes the way we live, think and behave. A-level Sociology investigates the relationships, institutions and social forces that influence our everyday lives. You'll develop a deeper understanding of contemporary society while questioning assumptions and exploring different perspectives.

Entry Requirements

5 GCSEs with a minimum Grade 5
Minimum Grade 5 in GCSE English or any GCSE Humanities

Course Content

- Education: Investigate how schools operate and how factors such as social class, gender and ethnicity influence educational achievement.
- Families and social structures: Explore the impact of changing family relationships, culture, identity and social beliefs.
- Crime and deviance: Examine why crime occurs, how society responds to it and how crime patterns differ between social groups.
- Theory and research methods: Explore sociological perspectives and learn how researchers investigate social behaviour and evaluate evidence.

Skills Developed

Develop your ability to think critically, evaluate evidence and understand different perspectives. You'll strengthen your research, analysis and essay-writing skills while learning to interpret social trends, challenge assumptions and construct balanced arguments supported by sociological theories and evidence.

Career Opportunities

A-level Sociology can lead to university courses and careers in sociology, criminology, law, social work, education, journalism and politics. It also provides a valuable foundation for roles in public services, human resources and community development, where understanding people, social issues and inequality is key to success.

Course Assessment

Assessment is through three written examinations featuring short answers, application of sociological concepts and extended essays.

- Paper 1: Education with Theory and Methods: 2 hours (33.3%).
- Paper 2: Topics in Sociology: 2 hours (33.3%).
- Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods: 2 hours (33.3%).