



## Sociology A level

### What is the course content?

#### Year 12:

##### **Education**

You will study changes to the education system and the impact this has on achievement for different groups in society. Answering questions such as:

- Why do girls do better than boys?
- Why should some have a better education than others?
- How is education being privatised?
- What is the impact of globalisation on education?
- What is the function and purpose of schools and education in our society?

##### **Research Methods**

You will investigate how Sociologists study society, looking at the different research methods used and the different forms of data. As well as exploring the internal debate within Sociology: Is Sociology a Science? You will explore methods in the context of education, looking at existing research carried out by Sociologists into education, and the variety of problems and issues that have been encountered. In order to fully comprehend the advantages and disadvantages of different methods you will carry out your own small scale piece of research.

##### **Families and Households.**

You will study the different types of families and households that exist in the UK today, looking at how these have evolved over time. You will learn about different theoretical perspectives and apply this knowledge looking at the functions of the family in society. Answering questions such as:

- What family types exist in the UK?
- How does social policy impact on the family?
- Has the family privatised?
- Why has the family changed over time?
- What is the purpose and function of the family in our society?

#### Year 13:

##### **Theory and Methods**

You will examine different theories that exist within Sociology, looking at the impact of these on our understanding of society and how theoretical perspectives can impact on choice of research methods, as well as looking at the long term impact of Sociology on social policy and everyday life.

##### **Crime and Deviance.**

You will examine present day issues surrounding crime including punishment and prevention strategies. You will broaden your knowledge of theoretical perspectives investigating key areas such as:

- Why we have crime and deviance?
- What function does crime serve for society?
- What are the causes of crime in our society?
- Who is more likely to be a victim of crime and why?
- Who is more likely to commit crime in society and why?
- How do we prevent crime?



### **Beliefs in Society**

You will investigate the different religions and belief systems in society asking is religion still relevant in a postmodern society or whether science is now the dominate belief system? You will explore the reasons behind the growth of sects and cults, as well as the apparent decline of Christianity, exploring questions such as:

- What is the role of religion in society?
- Why are some groups more religious than others?
- How does religion affect social change?
- Is religion declining in society?
- What is the role of religion in conflict?
- What is the effect of globalisation on religious participation?

### **How is the course assessed?**

Sociology is 100% exam and is assessed by 3 exams at the end of the two year course. All three exams are 2 hours long and worth 33.3% of the A-level. The exams are made up of a mixture of 4 – 30 mark questions.

**PAPER 1 – EDUCATION WITH THEORY AND METHODS**

**PAPER 2 – TOPICS IN SOCIOLOGY (FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS / BELIEFS IN SOCEITY)**

**PAPER 3 – CRIME AND DEVIANCE WITH THEORY AND METHODS**

### **Future Opportunities**

Sociology will help with careers working with others or the public sector, for example: Teaching, Social Work, Police, Law, Educational Psychology, Human Resources, Media, Probation Officer, Researcher, Nursing and other Health professions.

### **Key Contact**

For further information, please contact Ms A Williams [awilliams@rodillianacademy.co.uk](mailto:awilliams@rodillianacademy.co.uk)