



St John's Curriculum Overview – A Level



Subject title	A Level Sociology (OCR)	Introduction The course offered is A Level OCR Sociology, which is a linear course. There are three examinations at the end of Year 13. The exams are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introducing Socialisation, Culture and Identity, including the Family (30% of total A Level) 2. Researching and understanding social inequalities (35% of total A Level). 3. Debates in Contemporary Society, including globalisation and education (35% of total A Level).
Setting arrangements	No setting	
Time allowance each fortnight	9 hours	

Topics, Skills and Assessment covered during the course

	Topics covered	Assessment and Skills
Year 12 Split between two teachers.	<p>Paper 1:</p> <p><u>Section A:</u> Introducing socialisation, culture and identity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Culture, norms and values and different types of culture - Socialisation, nature/nurture, social control - An introduction to sociological theory - Introduction to identity. Disability and identity, sexuality and identity - Gender identity and changing gender identities - Social class identities and changing social class identities - Ethnic, national and hybrid identities - Age identities and the intersection of identities <p><u>Section B:</u> Families and Relationships.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The diversity of family and household types in the contemporary UK - Marriage, divorce, cohabitation. Demographic changes. Patterns, trends and reasons. - The ideology of the nuclear family / the role and desirability of the nuclear family - Theoretical debates and the extent of family diversity - Roles and relationships between partners - Roles and relationships between parents and children 	<p>There are regular exam questions set throughout the year. The Year 12 Mock Exam includes a series of questions on the Family.</p> <p>There are regular exam questions set throughout the year. The Second Year 12 Mock Exam includes a series of questions on Research Methods.</p> <p>There are regular exam questions set throughout Year 13. The Year 13 Mock Exam tests content from all papers.</p>

	<p>Paper 2: <u>Section A:</u> Research Methods and Researching Social inequalities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An introduction of social inequality and an introduction to research methods - What is the relationship between theory and methods? - What are the main stages of the research process? - Evidence of class inequalities - Methods in the context of class inequalities <p><u>Section B:</u> Understanding Social Inequalities (Social Class, Gender, Age and Ethnic Inequalities)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understanding Weberianism and applying it to social class - Evidence of ethnic inequalities (and link to research methods) - Sociological explanations of ethnic inequalities: Functionalism, New Right, Marxism, Weberianism - Evidence of age inequalities (and link to research methods) - Sociological explanations of age inequalities (Functionalism, New Right, Feminism) - Sociological explanations of age inequalities (Marxism, Weberianism) 	
<p>Year 13 Split between two teachers.</p>	<p>Paper 3: <u>Section A:</u> Globalisation and the Digital World</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction to the theme of globalisation and digital forms of communication - Developments in digital forms of communication in a global society - Theories applied to digital forms of communication: Marxism and feminism - Theories applied to digital forms of communication: Postmodernism - The impact of digital forms of communication on: people’s identity, and relationships - The impact of digital forms of communication on social inequality - The impact of digital forms of communication on cultural homogenisation; cultural defence/ globalisation <p><u>Section B:</u> Sociology of Education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The diversity of educational provision: Different types of educational institutions - Government policies from 1988: link with ideological influences (New Right and social democratic) 	<p>The skills are current throughout all three examination papers and lessons. These are the three Assessment Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Knowledge and understanding of sociological theories, concepts and evidence. There is also an understanding of the various research methods used by sociologists to gather data and evidence. 2. The ability to apply theories and concepts, evidence and research methods to a range of social issues. 3. To analyse and evaluate sociological theories, concepts, evidence and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Functionalist theories of the role of education - Marxist theories on the role of education - Liberal views on the role of education. Social democratic views - Feminist views on the role of education - Applying theories to the relationship between education and work: functionalism, Marxism and New Right - Differential educational achievement: Patterns and explanations – social class - Differential educational achievement: Patterns and explanations – gender - Differential educational achievement: Patterns and explanations – ethnicity - Educational inequalities in a global context - Recap on government educational policies from 1988. - The impact of educational policy on: competition, diversity and choice. - The impact of educational policies on: raising standards; equality and equality of opportunity. 	<p>research methods in order to present arguments, make judgements and to draw conclusions.</p>
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Resources Recommended for Revision and where they are available:

Hodder publishes the two textbooks which are issued to the students. In addition, Hodder also publishes revision materials. CGP also publishes revision guides for sociology. These revision guides and materials are available online to order and are recommended.

Homework

Expected time allocation for the subject – Around two hours per week. Keeping up to date with contemporary development is encouraged, such as following the news.

Additional support and help for the course

- Revision sessions are available at the end of the course in lesson time.
- Revision guides are available from the library but students are encouraged to produce their own revision resources as they go.
- Use of past paper questions on the OCR website as well as the full specification.
- Extra reading from the British Sociological Association website.

Extra-Curricular:

TBA