




## A-Level Sociology Curriculum Map 2021-22

Aim: To deliver an intrinsically, extrinsically and socially relevant course that will inspire all students to acquire the knowledge, skills and confidence to achieve their full potential - being able to think creatively and critically to take their places in an increasingly complex society.

<b>Year 12</b>	<b>Autumn 1:</b> <u>An introduction to A-level Sociology / The Sociology of Education</u>	<b>Autumn 2:</b> <u>The Sociology of Education</u>	<b>Spring 1:</b> <u>Research Methods (+ Education)</u>	<b>Spring 2:</b> <u>Families &amp; Households</u>	<b>Summer 1:</b> <u>Families &amp; Households</u> and <u>Exam preparation</u>	<b>Summer 2:</b> <u>The Media</u>
<b>Curriculum Content</b>	<p>Students to be encouraged that concepts such as these below will have been encountered in previous school years - e.g. in 'Humanities' and related subjects. </p> <p><b># A basic introduction to sociological thinking</b>, social patterns, structures and processes</p> <p><b># An introduction to the basics of sociological theory:</b> functionalism, Marxism, Feminism, Social Action Theory and Postmodernism</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Students have been in the Education system for eleven years, so Education is 'student friendly' for the first main topic.</p> <p><b># Functions of the Education System</b></p> <p><b># Education and Social Class</b></p>	<p><b>Ethnicity and educational achievement</b></p> <p><b>Gender and educational achievement</b></p> <p><b>Factors and Processes in Schools</b> such as Labelling streams/sets and so on.</p> <p><b>Education and Govt Policy</b> Current cohorts of students will be well aware of govt involvement in education</p> <p><b>Education policy related to Globalisation and Privatisation</b> What <u>might</u> seem like complex terms will become straightforward once the specific govt changes are considered.</p>	<p><b>Types of research methods that sociologists use.</b> Their relevance to the study of Education.</p> <p>-----</p> <p><b># Experiments</b> <b># Questionnaires</b> <b># Types of Interviews</b> <b># Participant Observation</b> <b># Secondary sources</b></p> <p></p> <p>The above to include references to relevant concepts such as: <u>Reliability</u>, <u>Validity</u>, <u>Positivism</u> &amp; <u>Interpretivism</u> (Linked to Quantitative Primary Methods and Qualitative Primary Methods)</p>	<p>Aspects of Family life are touched on in Education, besides which students are familiar with families (!)</p> <p>-----</p> <p><u>BASICS</u> What is the family? <b>Couples in family life:</b> division of labour; power relationships, etc.</p> <p><b>The changing status of childhood</b></p> <p><b>Theories of the family (Functionalist, Marxist, Feminist especially)</b> These perspectives will have already been encountered in the Education topic.</p> <p><b>The family, social structure and social change</b> Exploring student awareness prior to detailed coverage to follow.</p>	<p><b>The family, social structure and social change</b> (<u>continued</u>)</p> <p><b># Demography</b></p> <p><b># Family diversity</b></p> <p><b># Govt policies related to these changes</b></p> <p>-----</p> <p><b>Revision of topics that will feature in the end of year exams.</b> To be done by practising past papers and emphasising the key AO1 AO2 AO3 key skills.</p> <p>These will already have been practised and emphasised throughout the course thus far.</p>	<p></p> <p>Another 'student friendly' module topic that can develop from students' basic prior knowledge.</p> <p><b>Introducing the media</b></p> <p><b>The various types of media</b></p> <p><b>How the media is regulated</b></p>

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➡ Experience shows that most students have usually benefited greatly from the ground work in (what were new) concepts and theories covered in Year 12. Ideas tend to be understood much more rapidly In Year 13, given the students' increasingly sociological way of thinking

<b>Year 13</b>	<b>Autumn 1</b> The Media ( <u>continued</u> )	<b>Autumn 2</b> Crime & Deviance	<b>Spring 1</b> Crime & Deviance	<b>Spring 2</b> Sociological Theory & Research Methods	<b>Summer 1</b> Sociological Theory - <u>concluded</u> . Revision/ Exam technique	<b>Summer 2</b> Revision / Exam technique ( <u>continued</u> )
<b>Curriculum content</b>	<p><b>Ownership and control of the media:</b> Pluralist, Marxist and neo-Marxist views.</p> <p><b>Globalisation postmodernism and popular culture</b> # Also referring to the 'new media'.</p> <p><b>The selection and presentation of news</b> # Referring to 'new media' also.</p> <p><b>Media representations of</b> # Age, Social class, Ethnicity. # Gender Sexuality Disability</p> <p><b>Media influence:</b> the relationship between the media and audiences.</p>	<p><b>Basic definitions:</b> <u>crime</u>, <u>deviance</u> and <u>social control</u></p> <p><b>Functionalist &amp; related subcultural theories</b></p> <p><b>Interactionist theories</b></p> <p><b>Marxist theories</b></p> <p><b>Neo-Marxist theories</b> (first mention of 'ethnic crime').</p> <p><b>Left / Right Realist ideas</b></p>	<p><b>Gender and Crime</b> and Feminist views.</p> <p><b>Ethnicity and crime</b> (as touched on in neo-Marxist views).</p> <p><b>Crime &amp; the Media</b> – including 'moral panics'.</p> <p><b>Global crime</b> and its various types (e.g. green crime, state crime).</p> <p>Theories regarding <b>Punishment and Victims</b> (Links to Left Realist &amp; Right Realist ideas).</p>	<p><b>Quantitative and Qualitative Methods</b> – reviewed / expanded from Y12 knowledge. ----- Issues related to the <u>objectivity or not</u> of Sociology / sociologists ↓</p> <p><b># Sociology &amp; Science</b> <b># Sociology &amp; Values</b> ----- <b>Functionalist theories</b></p> <p><b>Marxist/Neo-Marxist theories</b></p> <p><b>Feminism</b></p> <p><b>Interactionist approaches</b></p> <p>Globalisation and <b>Postmodernist ideas</b></p>	<p><b>Sociology &amp; Social Policy</b> ----- Reviewing / reinforcing exam preparation and technique with specific reference to all the A-level papers:</p> <p># Paper 1 (Education)</p> <p># Paper 1 (Research Methods)</p> <p># Paper 2 (Families)</p> <p># Paper 2 (Media)</p> <p># Paper3 (Crime / Theory &amp; Methods)</p>	<p><b>Final Exam preparation and technique</b> for the forthcoming papers.</p>