

AS Sociology (WJEC)



Careers in Sociology: Teaching, social work, counselling, family support worker, nursing, police, occupational therapy, health service careers, marketing, criminal justice & criminology, management (all types), government roles, policy analyst. Really most careers that involve people and interaction with others.

Sociology Unit 1: Acquiring Culture Written examination: 1 hour 15 minutes

15% of A level qualification (37.5% of AS qualification)

This unit focuses on the theme of socialisation, identity and culture and is divided into two sections.

Section A

Focuses on culture, cultural transmission, socialisation and the acquisition of identity.

Section B

Develops understanding of the key concepts and processes of socialisation and culture through detailed study of families and households. We explore family forms / types, relationships in the family, divorce, changes to the family and sociological theories of the family.



Unit 2: Understanding Society and Methods of Sociological Enquiry

Written examination: 2 hours 25% of A level qualification (62.5% of AS qualification)

Section A

Focuses on methods of sociological enquiry. You will develop a knowledge and understanding of sociological concepts and research methods – how sociologists do their research.

Section B

Education is the focus of section B of the unit 2 exam. We will explore:

- The role and function of education in contemporary society
- Patterns and trends of different educational attainment - social class, gender and ethnicity
- Current educational policy in England and Wales
- Factors that affect educational attainment such as wealth, culture and labelling.
- Sociological theories of education



A2 Sociology (WJEC)

Unit 3: Power and Control Written examination: 2 hours 25% of qualification

Crime and deviance - this unit focuses on the themes of power, differentiation and stratification with issues relating to social order and social control. We will explore:

- patterns of the social distribution of crime and deviance related to social class, gender, ethnicity and age in England and Wales
- measuring crime; official government statistics including police statistics and the British Crime Survey, victim studies and self-report studies and the impact of contemporary social policies on crime rates in England and Wales
- definitions of crime and deviance as social constructs including the role of the media
- the influence of theories and explanations on social policy
- theories and explanations of crime and deviance: functionalist, Marxist, neo-Marxist, interactionist, right and left realism, postmodernist, feminist, sub-cultural theories.

Unit 4: Social Inequality and Applied Methods of Sociological Enquiry

Written examination: 2 hours 15 minutes 35% of qualification

Section A

Research Design - focuses on the processes of research design and on the application of knowledge and understanding of methods of sociological enquiry (research methods) previously studied in unit 2.

Section B

Social Inequality and stratification (age, class, ethnicity, gender) - focuses on evidence and examples of areas of inequality related to social class, gender, ethnicity and age in contemporary society. Explores theories of social inequality and stratification including – Functionalist, Marxist and neo-Marxist, Weberian and neo-weberian, Feminist, Postmodernist, New Right Theories.

