

# **SOCIOLOGY**

**Examination Board**      **AQA**  
**Syllabus Number**      **AS-2190**

## **Why study Sociology?**

Sociology is the study of societies and the people who live within them. Your role in society is important, as an individual, as a member of the community, at a national level, and in this modern technological age, the global level. People and societies are fascinating yet complex. In studying this discipline you will gain a deeper understanding of yourself and the people you interact with. As an academic discipline Sociology can be seen as the cornerstone of the Social Sciences with principles proving compatible with other subjects, to include Politics, Philosophy, Psychology, History, English, Business Studies and GNVQ Advanced.

## **Entry Qualifications**

GCSE in English at C or above with a proven ability in other GCSE subjects. An interest in media news, and an awareness of current social issues.

## **Higher Education**

The critical analytical aspect of Sociology offers a good basis for further study and, with the exception of the natural sciences, of value for entry to a wide range of degree subjects.

## **Career Opportunities**

To include Law, Lecturing, Teaching, Research, the Civil Service, Police Force, Social Work, Health, Personnel and Management.

## **Course Content**

The topics are set out below. The core themes include: socialisation, identity and power. Within each topic Sociology will still raise questions, for example, why people behave the way they do. Why do they conform to society's established rules and obligations? Why do some people rebel against this order? Is the system under investigation fair to all members of society? How does social change happen? Students have to be prepared to develop a critical approach and objective to the study of the world around them and to analyse theories and the methods used by sociologists.

## **Assessment**

Year 1    -    AS Examination - to be taken May/June of the 1st Year

Unit 1    -    Written Examination – 1 hour – weighting 40% of total AS & 20% of total A2  
Topic    -    Families and Households.

Unit 2    -    Written Examination – 2 hours – weighting 60% of total AS & 30% of total AS  
Topics    -    Education – Sociological Methods.

Year 2    -    A2 Examination

Unit 3    -    Written Examination – 1 hour 30 mins – weighting 20% of total A level marks  
Topics    -    One topic to be chosen from Mass Media; Beliefs in Society; Global Development; Power and Politics

Unit 4    -    Written Examination – 2 hours - weighting 30% of total A level marks  
Topics    -    Crime and Deviance; Stratification and Differentiation; Sociological Theory and Research Methods. Candidates choose one topic from Crime & Deviance and Stratification & Differentiation; There is also one question on Sociological Theory and Methods.