

Introduction to A Level Sociology



Welcome to Sociology! The next two terms give you a wonderful opportunity to start learning about Sociology and we are sure you will be fascinated by the subject. This programme of study has been designed especially to prepare you for the course, with an introduction to 'What is Sociology?' followed by a focus on the key topics you will be studying over the next two years.

We would like you to complete the topics in this programme of study below as follows:

Bronze Award	What is Sociology? Education Culture and Identity Sociology is everywhere
Silver Award	Education and Families in the News Stratification and Differentiation Crime and Deviance
Gold Award	Future Learn Course: What is Sociology OR Extra reading and 400 word book review

Write up all your work and keep it organised. As you move through each topic, you will be gaining invaluable background for all the core topics and you will have a real head start for your Sociology A Level.

Enjoy and if you have any problems, email me on srowden-knowles@rmgs.org.uk

Mrs Rowden-Knowles and Mrs Howlett

Topic	Task set	Complete
What is Sociology? <i>BRONZE</i>	Watch the video clip on YouTube: What is Sociology? Crash Course Sociology https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YnCJU6PaCio and make notes on what you understand about Sociology. Find the definitions for the following key sociological terms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socialisation (primary socialisation and secondary socialisation) • Norms • Values • Beliefs 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture • Social Class • Gender • Ethnicity • Sexuality 	
<p>Education</p> <p><i>BRONZE</i></p>	<p>Research the History of Education in the UK and answer the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When did education become compulsory in the UK? • Prior to compulsory education, what were the differences in who used to receive schooling? • How have the methods of dealing with behaviour changed over time? • What are some of the major changes that have taken place in UK education in the 20th and 21st centuries? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Consider the impact of the following policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Education Act 1944 (Tripartite System) ▪ Comprehensives 1966 ▪ Education Reform Act 1988 • Your personal view on education – what is the role and purpose of education? <p>https://www.schoolsmith.co.uk/history-of-education/</p> <p>https://getrevising.co.uk/revision-notes/social-policy-and-education</p>	
<p>Culture and Identity</p> <p><i>BRONZE</i></p>	<p>Find the definitions for the following key family terms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subculture • Mass culture • Popular culture • Globalisation • Socialisation • Peer group • Social class • Sexual orientation • The male gaze • Ethnicity • Nationalism <p>Consider and answer the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggest 5 ways that individuals can influence how others see them. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the 5 most important factors that you think have influenced how you define yourself and how others see you. Explain your answers with examples. 	
<p>Sociology is everywhere: Sociology in the media</p> <p><i>BRONZE</i></p>	<p>Sociology is everywhere, so you'll be able to see aspects of it in all forms of media.</p> <p>Search for some of the following titles and make notes on any videos you watch, try to keep it relevant to the topics taught in Sociology (Education, Families, Stratification and Differentiation, Crime and Deviance).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stacey Dooley documentaries (BBC iplayer/YouTube) Black Mirror (Netflix) – Nosedive episode School Swap documentary(4OD) Louis Theroux documentaries(Netflix) Dispatches documentaries (4OD) Panorama documentaries (BBC iplayer) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What did you learn about society? How does the programme link to the topics you will be studying? 	
<p>Education and Families in the news</p> <p><i>SILVER</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find the definition of meritocracy. Read the following news article https://www.tes.com/news/few-one-20-born-poorest-areas-go-university and answer the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does this article suggest we live in a meritocracy? Why is it important that 'poor' students go to university? Find 5 news articles that link to Education and/or Families. Download and either print them or briefly summarise them. Some things to look out for are: immigration, poverty, benefits, exam results, private education, achievement, free schools. (These website links might be useful) <p>https://www.independent.co.uk/topic/Sociology https://www.theguardian.com/education/sociology</p>	

<p>Stratification and Differentiation</p> <p><i>SILVER</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find the meanings of both stratification and differentiation. • Research the following key thinkers in Stratification and Differentiation. These thinkers reappear throughout the Sociology course. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Karl Marx ○ Émile Durkheim ○ Kate Millet ○ Anthony Giddens <p>Prepare summary sheet on each of the thinkers, identifying the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Name ○ Period of time their work was published ○ Major works ○ Summary of their sociological approach and thoughts. 	
<p>Crime and Deviance</p> <p><i>SILVER</i></p>	<p>Using the internet, research the answers to the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is a crime? • What is deviance? • What are laws? • What is a white collar crime? • Moral crimes include offences such as prostitution, underage drinking and illegal drug use. Why do some people argue that such crimes are 'victimless'? • What is cybercrime? Name some examples of cybercrimes. • What is a hate crime? • What do you think is more effective in reducing crime: crime prevention or harsher punishments? <p>https://www.coursehero.com/sg/introduction-to-sociology/defining-crime-in-sociology/</p> <p>Go on the following website and research crime in your area or the area near your school. https://www.crime-statistics.co.uk/postcode/AL10%208NL and answer the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where does most crime take place? • What are the top 3 crimes/offences? • Why do you think that those crimes are committed in your area? Think about socio-economic issues and location. 	

<p>Additional Work</p> <p><i>GOLD</i></p>	<p>Future Learn course – What is Sociology? 3 week course https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/what-is-sociology</p> <p>Extra reading: these are examples, you might choose another</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gang Leader for a Day by Sudhir Venkatesh• Watching the English: The Hidden Rules of English Behaviour by Kate Fox• Chavs: The Demonization of the Working Class by Owen Jones• Animal Farm by George Orwell• Lord of the Flies by William Golding• We Should All Be Feminists by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie <p>Write a 400 word book review.</p>	
-------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--