

DAGENHAM PARK SUBJECT CURRICULUM

Subject	Sociology
Year Group	Year 12
Overview	<p>A-level Sociology offers the opportunity for students to develop the essential knowledge and understanding of central aspects of sociological thought and methods. The course content is based around two key themes. One; socialisation, culture and identity and two; social differentiation, power and stratification. Students will also be expected to understand different theoretical perspectives in relation to these key themes and how sociologists approach research in different ways according to their approach. In addition students need to know how sociology can be applied in the real world, such as through influencing government policies and social change. During the A-level course students will cover the topics of Education, Family, Mass Media and Crime and Deviance underpinned by Sociological Theories and Research Methods. These topics will be examined in three papers all worth 33% of the A-level. Course aims: Knowledge: - To develop knowledge of a range of perspectives including, consensus/conflict/social action, Marxist, Functionalist, New Right Sociologists, Interactionist, Feminists, Post Modernists and Social Democrat and the sub divisions within these theoretical approaches - To develop knowledge of key sociological themes such as socialisation (primary and secondary, social control), culture (values, norms mores, roles, customs), identity, social differentiation, power and stratification (status, class, gender. ethnicity) - To develop knowledge of the core topics and concepts within education, family, crime and deviance and mass media - To keep abreast of current developments within society (such as state policy relating to the family and education, current representations within the media and new laws or ways of controlling crime) and the links with sociological study Understanding: - To apply understanding of research methods to the study of education and crime and deviance - understanding key studies - To understand the full range of sociological material available including how to use findings from sociological research (both qualitative and quantitative data from formal and informal sources) - To understand and apply current issues and debates in the exam context Skills:</p> <p>- To research and find relevant evidence that can be applied in the exam as well as selecting appropriate evidence given by the teacher and course text book - To make synoptic links between social structures, processes and theories - To take a questioning approach to</p>

	evidence and issues, thus developing critical, evaluative skills - To fully evaluate a range of sociological material and issues - To write fluently in an academic style, assessing and evaluating throughout with a clear line of argument.
Autumn Half term 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Functionalism perspective on the family • Marxist perspective on the family • Feminist perspective on the family • The research process • Choosing a research method • Functionalism and the New Right: Education • Marxist perspective on Education
Autumn Half term 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal life perspective on the family • Gender roles in the family • Power relationships in the family • Policies and the family • Primary data collection • Experiments • Interviews • Observations • Secondary data • Social class and achievement: Patterns of achievement, Internal and External factors
Spring Half term 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies and the family • Divorce and partnerships • Parents, children and ethnic differences • Modernism • Late modernity and post-modernism • Research methods in context • Gender and achievement: Patterns of achievement, Internal and External factors
Spring Half term 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Births and deaths • Ageing population • Migration and globalisation • Childhood • Future of childhood • Has childhood improved • Social policies in education

<p>Summer Half term 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mass media project
<p>Summer Half term 2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime and deviance project
<p>Homework</p>	<p>Students should expect to be set at least one exam question a week in class or as homework. In addition to this they may also be required to carry out an independent research task or group work project to be presented or discussed in their next lesson. Students should also keep up to date with current affairs as using recent examples in the exam can raise exam grades. In total students should be completing at least 5 hours of additional study per week. As well as their homework they should be using the course text book to read ahead for the next lesson. They should also go over their notes and make mind maps and revision cards and complete additional reading and research. As the subject is 100% examined students should try to complete as many practice question as they can. In sociology it is also important to employ a range of evidence in the exam and for students to show that they understand the links between their study of sociology and wider society. This is why it is important for students to keep an eye on the news and read beyond the course text book</p>
<p>Useful Resources</p>	<p>Exam specification: http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/as-and-a-level/sociology-7191-7192/specification-at-a-glance www.sociology.org.uk www.sociologyonline.co.uk</p>