

## Why study A Level Sociology?

What does it mean to understand the world in which you live?

What will your contribution be to this changing world?

How do your own experiences and life chances compare to those of others?

Sociology – the study of humans in society – attempts to capture, perhaps more than any other discipline, the rich variety and complexity of human social life. Indeed, it is difficult to think of any area of social existence that a sociologist wouldn't be interested in examining, from the most intimate of personal relationships, to the worldwide circulation of ideas, beliefs, goods and people.

Sociologists are encouraged to cultivate a 'sociological imagination'. This is the ability to see our own lives and the lives of those we study, as intrinsically linked to wider social processes and structures.

## What skills will I learn?

A Level Sociology will help you develop a range of skills that will benefit you, whether you decide to go on to further study or the working world, including:

- the use of evidence to support your arguments
- how to investigate facts and use deduction
- critical thinking
- making reasoned arguments
- developing opinions and new ideas on societal issues
- the ability to analyse and better understand societal issues.

## Career routes in Sociology

The Department of Work & Pensions forecasts that people entering the jobs market today will change careers several times over the course of their work life. Studying Sociology does more than prepare students for a narrow specialty; it helps individuals to be ready to meet the challenges and opportunities of our increasingly diverse and complex society.

Career opportunities for those with a Sociology degree are numerous and diverse. According to [bestcourse4me.com](http://bestcourse4me.com), the top six degree courses taken by students who have an A-level in Sociology are: Sociology, Psychology, English Studies, Business Studies, Law and Teaching.

**The food we eat, the clothes we wear, the relationships we form, the pets we keep, the money we use, the consumables we buy, the languages we speak, the ambitions we pursue, and even the opinions we hold are all dependent on the particular historical and social context in which we find ourselves.**

**Choose Sociology and find out more about what makes us do what we do!**

# Course Outline

## Year 1:

Culture and identity.  
Education and methods in context.  
Research methods.

## Year 2:

Crime and deviance.  
Theory and methods.  
Mass Media.

## What will I study?

With the study of social life at its heart, the scope of sociology is almost limitless. Its subject matter encompasses education, crime, culture, identity, capitalism, power, the self, globalisation, human relations and the media, to name just a few.

Sociology also has an abiding concern with the main markers of social difference in modern society - class, gender, 'race'/ethnicity, age, sexuality and (dis)ability - and how these often intersect in shaping the life chances and experiences of individuals.

## How will Sociology fit in with my other subjects?

There's no limit to the other subjects that you can take alongside Sociology. There's such breadth to the subject that it will complement just about anything.

Students who study Sociology often also study Psychology, English and Media Studies.

But students, who want a career in any of the caring services, or in marketing or business, will find an understanding of sociology useful.

## Can't wait to get started?

Ms Fawcett or a career adviser will be the best people to help you decide whether this course is the right choice for you. They'll be as passionate as you to find the best subjects to develop your talents.

For more information visit [aqa.org.uk/sociology](http://aqa.org.uk/sociology) or contact Ms Fawcett on [sfawcett@bbs.calderdale.sch.uk](mailto:sfawcett@bbs.calderdale.sch.uk)

**Lead Teacher:** Ms S Fawcett

**Exam Board:** AQA

## Sixth Form Entry Requirements:

To study **Level 3** (academic A Level) courses students must have a minimum of at least **five** GCSEs at 9 - 4 grades (or equivalent). These must include a grade 4 and 5 in English Language and Mathematics (either way round, but higher grade must support subject choices).

## Additional requirements:

GCSE Grade 5 or above in English Language.

## Assessment:

### A Level

There are three exams, each account for one third of your A Level grade. The three exams last two hours and are worth 80 marks each. The exams consist of a mixture of short answer and extended writing questions.

**Find out more ... visit our website [www.bbs.calderdale.sch.uk](http://www.bbs.calderdale.sch.uk)  
Here to help ... speak to the course tutor or your form tutor  
Call us on 01422 328928. Email us at [admin@bbs.calderdale.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bbs.calderdale.sch.uk)**

