

Year 12 CURRICULUM PLAN for SOCIOLOGY



The curriculum for this stage of students' education has been designed to support discovery of a new and exciting subject option. Students will quickly utilise their extended writing skills obtained in KS4 English as they analyse the changing structure and role of the family in the UK. Students will relate this topic to their own family history and will be able to apply key Sociological perspectives to their experiences. Students will develop their research skills through the theory and methods topic, before studying Education, a compulsory topic that includes evaluating social policies past and present that were designed to improve educational attainment. At the end of the year, students will be challenged to attempt a paper 1 'methods in context' question, which includes students developing the ability to make synoptic links between education and theory and methods.

HALF TERM 1: STUDENTS MUST KNOW:

PAPER 2 FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS

- Theories of the family, including Marxism, Functionalism and the New Right.
- The division of labour between couples; the dual burden and the triple shift.

HOW THIS WILL BE ASSESSED:

Ability to 'outline' key perspectives' in the theories of the family

HALF TERM 4: STUDENTS MUST KNOW:

PAPER 1 EDUCATION

- Theoretical perspectives of education including Marxism, Functionalism and the New Right.
- Educational reform such as the tripartite system, grammar schools and multiacademy trusts.
- Educational policies such as free school meals and pupil premium.

PAPER 1 METHODS IN CONTEXT

- The reasons for choosing an appropriate research method in Sociology.
- Evaluation of laboratory, field and armchair experiments.
- The strengths and weaknesses of open and closed questionnaires.

HOW THIS WILL BE ASSESSED:

Extended writing baseline assessment 2 x assessment opportunity per half term Starters/plenaries
Use of Seneca

HALF TERM 2: STUDENTS MUST KNOW:

PAPER 2 FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS

- Demographic changes such as the decline in birth rate, marriage rate and death rate.
- The aging population, net migration and secularisation.

HOW THIS WILL BE ASSESSED:

MOCK exams
2 x assessment opportunity per half term
Starters/plenaries

Use of Seneca

HALF TERM 5: STUDENTS MUST KNOW:

PAPER 1 EDUCATION

- External factors that affect class differences in achievement, such as material deprivation, cultural capital and parent's education.
- Internal factors that affect class differences in achievement, such as labelling, selffulfilling prophecy and pupil subcultures.
- Statistics regarding ethnic differences in achievement. Theories of institutional racism, absent fathers and linguistic codes.

PAPER 1 METHODS IN CONTEXT

- Evaluation of structured, semi-structured, unstructured and group interviews.
- Types and analysis of observations.

HOW THIS WILL BE ASSESSED:

Mock exam 2 x assessment opportunity per half term Starters/plenaries Use of Seneca

HALF TERM 3: STUDENTS MUST KNOW:

PAPER 1 FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS

- How family patterns are changing, with an increase in divorce and separation and a rise in cohabitation
- Childhood
- Social policies

PAPER 1 METHODS IN CONTEXT

 The strengths and weaknesses of secondary sources, including documents and statistics.

HOW THIS WILL BE ASSESSED:

2 x assessment opportunity per half term Starters/plenaries Use of Seneca

HALF TERM 6: STUDENTS MUST KNOW:

PAPER 1 EDUCATION

- Statistics regarding gender differences in achievement.
- Theories of gender roles, role models within schools and the hyper heterosexual identity.

PAPER 1: METHODS IN CONTEXT

Attempt methods in context (MIC) questions

HOW THIS WILL BE ASSESSED:

Mock exams

2 x assessment opportunity per half term Starters/plenaries

Use of Seneca

Embedding this knowledge can be supported at home by the constant review of lesson content through a range of revision methods, including the completion of past exam papers and analysis of mark schemes. The required commitment to A-Level Sociology is a minimum of 4 hours independent study each week to consolidate and extend knowledge. Students can further develop their understanding of Sociology through taking advantage of securing a year 12 work experience in a social setting, for example a primary school or at a charitable organisation. This will allow them to apply theory to real life settings, as they work with people of different economic backgrounds, which will give them real life experience of potential barriers to education.