

# Sociology



AQA  
A-Level

## Overview

Sociology is the study of societies and how they shape people's ideas, their social behaviour and their cultures. Studying sociology allows students to acquire a critical understanding of contemporary social life and discuss the social world in which they live.

## Aims

- ▶ Acquire knowledge and a critical understanding of contemporary social processes and social changes
- ▶ Appreciate the significance of theoretical and conceptual issues in sociological debate, and understand and evaluate sociological methodology.

## Grade Requirement

Students must achieve 5 A\*-C grades at GCSE, including 'B' grades in English Language and Mathematics, in order to study Sociology.

## Complementary Subjects

Sociology complements most subjects offered at Bacon's but is particularly useful for students of Media, Psychology, History, English Language and Economics.

### AS-Level

Culture and Identity; Families and Households; Wealth, Poverty and Welfare

Education, Health and Sociological Method

### A2-Level

Beliefs in Society; Global Development; Mass Media; Power and Politics

Crime and Deviance; Stratification and Differentiation with Theory & Methods



Sociology is the study of societies and how they shape people's ideas, their social behaviour and their cultures, and how, in turn people interact together and shape their societies. Studying Sociology allows students to acquire a critical understanding of contemporary social life, enabling them to reflect on their own life experiences and discuss the social world in which they live.

The course will teach students how to acquire knowledge and a critical understanding of contemporary social processes and social changes. Applicants will come to appreciate the significance of theoretical and conceptual issues in sociological debate. Sociology will help students to understand and evaluate sociological theories and a range of research methods through active involvement in the research process and develop skills that enable individuals to focus on their personal identity, roles and responsibilities within society.

As with any subject at A-level students will need to be self-motivated and organised. Students will be required to write essays in class and at home in preparation for the final exam, with regards to sociological concepts and methodology. It is also worth bearing in mind that Sociology is assessed entirely through examinations.

The qualification lays an appropriate foundation for the further study of Sociology and related subjects in higher education. The material studied would also be useful for candidates intending to pursue careers in the Social Services, Law, Police Service, Prison Service and a wide range of related areas. Students interested in their own society will find this a fascinating subject to study.