



Sociology

Expectations for success:

- Attendance at every lesson is expected and if absence is unavoidable it is the student's responsibility to get work in advance or catch up any missed work. **Absence is not an excuse for not handing in homework.**
- Homework will be set regularly by teachers with clear deadlines. Tasks will include reading, note taking, research from relevant magazines and websites, essays, essay plans, mock exam questions, creative tasks and preparing group presentations. It will total 5 hours a week.
- Students are expected to participate fully in discussions and group tasks including making presentations to the class for which they will be graded. All students should also seek support and guidance when necessary.
- All students should organise their work methodically. They must acquire an **A4 ring binder** and store all clearly headed and dated work at each lesson. Students should bring notes for the current module and textbook to **every** lesson. All deadlines must be met and the WG6 behaviour policy will come into effect to deal with problems and rewards given for students who work well.
- Students should be aware of what is going on in the news and be on the lookout for relevant newspaper articles and TV programmes that we can all watch or contribute to discussion. (see wider reading list below)
- There are a number of other resources that you can access such as the The Sociology Review (in the library) and of course a daily newspaper (on-line) to keep abreast of current affairs. There will also be an opportunity to buy the Sociology Review.
- If students are to be successful they should immerse themselves in the subject and heed advice and opportunities given.

Characteristics of an outstanding student in Sociology:

- Make **profound comments** in the initial stages of a topic to show that thinking has raced ahead.
- Consider and evaluate a **wide range** of sociological arguments to draw a reasoned conclusion to the question posed.
- Use, **with confidence**, a wide range of appropriate sociological terms and concepts.
- Tackle discussion with **sensitivity** and respond to issues raised with **clarity** and **perception**.
- Make **connections** between theoretical and methodological aspects of sociology.
- Make links between **substantive areas** of the course – perhaps those **not studied** for the examination.
- Is **quick** to apply new concepts and be able to make connections between sociological theory and **contemporary issues**.
- **Resourceful** in accessing a variety of available information.
- Work with **curiosity**. Making **unusual but accurate** connections between ideas.

Wider reading list:

Useful websites

1. www.socialtrends.co.uk
2. www.statistics.gov.uk/ this resource contains national statistics for the UK covering most areas of the course.
3. www.sociology.uk.net – this site gives extended resources and answers to the questions posed in the Webb textbook. Essential resource.
4. www.bbc.co.uk - this can be a complicated site to move around but once mastered it will keep you up to date with recent news events and provides images.
5. www.aqa.org.uk - on this site you can access past papers and mark schemes completely free. An essential resource.
6. www.jrf.org.uk The Joseph Rowntree Foundation is one of the largest independent social policy research and development charities in the UK
7. www.esds.ac.uk/government/ghs/ this is the General Household Survey used by government to plan and make policy decisions.
8. www.womensaid.org.uk/index.htm this is a charity working for the safety of women and children in the home.
9. www.dwp.gov.uk/ this is the government department that will give you an insight into work, pay and benefits available to families and individuals
10. RM Unify which includes the AQA Specification, a wide variety of resources for independent study and information on examination techniques
11. WG6 Sociology Twitter
12. Pinterest

Books

- 1000 Splendid Suns – Khaled Hosseini – story of a woman in Afghanistan
- Wild Swans – Jung Chang. Story of Communist Chinese rule and its effect upon family life.
- Small Island – Andrea Levy – prejudice and discrimination in Post War Britain.
- Brick Lane – Monica Ali – A young Asian woman's arranged marriage which takes her to Britain.
- One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest – Ken Kesey
- A Beautiful Mind - Sylvia Nasar
- Chavs – The demonization of the working class. – Owen Jones
- Injustice – Daniel Dorling
- The Help – Kathryn Stokett

Independent studies:

Independent study tasks that will enhance the modules studied during the year:

- Completion of key terms glossary on the modules

- Article review – using Sociology Review in library
- Internet research on Women in Communist countries
- Structured investigation of Social Trends database
- Research of government policies that affects the family
- Use Sociology since 2000 on VLE eg. Lads and Ladettes in school. Create key study sheet
- Completion of Who's Who list of authors of research
- Producing timelines of key events to aid revision
- Watching Question Time, Panorama and the News to keep abreast of contemporary issues.
- Re-reading chapters covered in class
- Completing practice exam questions – lists are supplied for each area.
- Subscribing to and reading Sociology Review – school copies are in the library.
- Visit the school Library and make use of its Sociology resources for wider reading
- Attending Student Sociology Conferences and lectures when available (your teacher will let you know).