



Coombe Wood Year 12 Bridging Work

SUBJECT: A Level Sociology

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT NAME: MS. COOKE

TEACHER EMAIL: TBC

Introduction to the course

Course overview - Sociology is...

- 1.The study of society, large groups of people and individuals.
- 2.It studies how and why people behave the way they do in society
- 3.Looks at how structures such as family and Government influence human behaviour
- 4.A social science which uses research to investigate and predict human behaviour to help governments improve the lives of its citizens.
- 5.A critical and radical subject, it is about questioning why society is as it is. It is about digging under the surface, looking at what is really going on.

Sociology is the systematic study of human behaviour in society which is a complex system. In order to study the social world, researchers adopt different perspectives and research methods depending on their theoretical approach to understanding society. this is a really exciting A Level. It is current, essential, political, eye opening and can be life changing, I outline the course in the attached pdf.

Specification - Follow this link to the specification as well as examples of exam papers and further resources/course information <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/as-and-a-level/sociology-7191-7192>

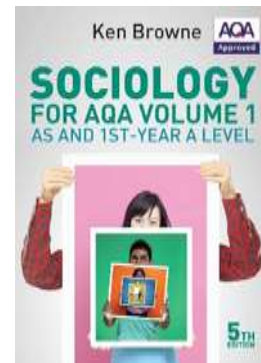
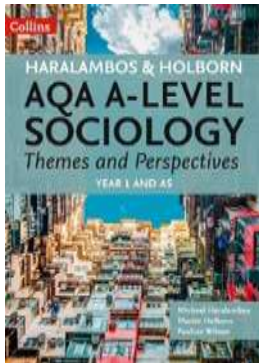
We focus particularly on how certain features of a person's social position (i.e. their gender, social class and ethnicity) might affect their LIFE CHANCES in society. Sociology is regarded as a Social Science, largely because it uses a number of research methods to examine society in more detail. A major part of gaining success in Sociology is by learning the main ideas, concepts and terms used – the language of the subject – and then being able to use this language when you are discussing the topics and issues relevant to the study of society.

Books and Folders – students must keep a file and therefore will need lined paper and dividers for each Topic. Lever arch file
☑ Dividers for each topic, tracker in front.

All bridging work must be completed by 16/9 and forms part of your Pupil Passport at Coombe Wood Sixth Form.

Books

- Text books - We recommend you purchase the following textbook for this subject area:
- <https://amzn.eu/d/jbaiW3y>
- <https://amzn.eu/d/6QehW2o>
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Podcasts

- <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/revise-a-level-sociology-revision/id1459383356?uo=4>
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Websites

Here are a few we have found which link to the course you will be starting.

Education

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2020/mar/17/the-expert-in-socialmobility-who-says-education-cannot-make-it-happen>

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jan/08/black-british-history-shouldbe-in-mainstream-says-campaigner> Education and inequality

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zss7tfr> Private schools and privilege

<https://youtu.be/pN36jVSp1x0>

Families and Households

The family and socialisation <https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/news-andblogs/our-blog/traditional-gender-roles-and-stereotypes-how-it-can-affectchildren>

Who does the Housework?

<https://youtu.be/DQsqAjoZIVQ>

Use the following websites to help you:

- <https://quizlet.com/5561246/sociology-key-words-flash-cards/>
- <https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology>
- <https://revisesociology.com/>
- <https://www.sparknotes.com/sociology/glossary/terms/>

BRIDGING TASKS

Tasks to be completed for the first lesson

1. There are a lot of key terms that you need to know and to make sure you write great essays! These are the basics:

Define the following sociological key terms:

1. Norms
2. Values
3. Status
4. Role
5. Socialisation
6. Primary Socialisation
7. Secondary Socialisation
8. Society
9. Culture
10. Identity
11. Sex
12. Gender
13. Race
14. Ethnicity
15. Social Differentiation
16. Stratification
17. Subculture
18. Cultural Diversity
19. Consensus
20. Conflict

What is sociology?

Task: Devise a colourful mind map (preferably with pictures/illustrations) of what sociology is all about.

Watch the two short clips below to get an idea about some of the core themes and ideas in sociology and do some of your own research

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W-QWeK4wwOw>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=32KG_ba_NJc

2. Researching Sociological theories

Sociologists seek to answer questions and develop theories about the social world.

Their theories usually take the form of explanations of how or why social life follows the patterns that it does. You will need to understand the key theories in sociology:

- Functionalism,
- Marxism,
- Feminist theories
- Action theories.

Task: Briefly summarise each theory (at least 2 paragraphs) with the key ideas and the sociologists involved.

3. Research methods- How do sociologists study society?

Task: Design a concept map with the main research methods used in sociology and a brief explanation of each (experiment, participant observation, interviews, questionnaires, official statistics and documents)

Can you find out what is the difference between positivists and interpretivists?

4. Read this article on 'The Lost Boys':

<https://www.newstatesman.com/politics/2016/09/the-lost-boys-how-the-white-working-class-got-left-behind>

Create a table of all the reasons why white working-class boys are failing at school. One column should be headed 'factors inside school' (e.g. interactions with teachers, peer group etc) and the other 'factors outside school' (e.g. poverty at home, wider community).

5. Watch these two adverts for McCain chips, one from the 1990s and one from 2017:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A9R_QrbLDiw

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJ9fjN_1az9g

Create a similarities and differences chart showing how family life has changed over this time period.

Do some further research to suggest why these changes in family life have taken place. See the list of websites earlier on.

