

SOCIOLOGY

Qualification Level	A Level
Exam Board/ Specification	OCR
Contact	Mr Kennewell
Contact email address	paul.kennewell@ewsacademy.org.uk

Why study this course?

Sociology is a subject that requires you to think beyond the obvious and examine how everyday life can be influenced by the society in which we live. You will look at the impact of class, gender, ethnicity and age on our identity and life chances and examine how society is always in process of change. You will also look at how sociologists carry out their research.

Course content

In Sociology you will study a number of topics which look at contemporary issues and how sociologists interpret their development and impact.

These include:

- Social identity in areas such as gender, ethnicity, class and age
- The family: contemporary patterns in the family and how it is changing
- The nature and cause of inequalities in society: class, gender, age and ethnicity
- The societal impact of global technology and social media
- Educational change, the attainment of different groups and remaining inequalities
- Sociological research methods – how sociologists carry out research

In studying these areas of society through the academic study of sociology you will gain a critical understanding of key issues in contemporary society and how sociologists have examined and debated these areas.

Exam/ Assessment structure

The assessment consists of three written examinations externally assessed by OCR. Each Unit has a mixture of shorter answers as well as more extended essays.

Unit	Time	% of A level
Socialisation, culture and identity	1½ hours	30%
Researching and understanding social inequalities	2¼ hours	35%
Debates in contemporary society	2¼ hours	35%

Higher education/ career links

Sociology develops your skills of discussion, analysis and evaluation; these skills are valuable in a wide range of occupational areas. This includes careers such as social research, law, journalism, teaching, business and public services. Sociology may lead directly to studying the subject at university or to a broad range of related degree areas such as politics, international relations, social sciences, journalism etc

Entry requirements

Candidates will require English at grade 5