

Course  
Transition

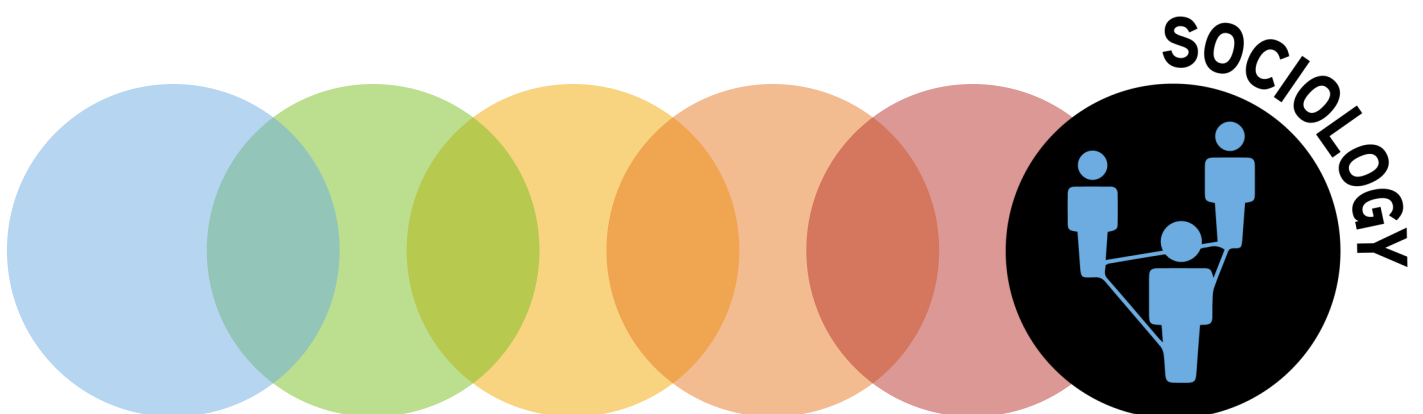


**Bridging the Gap**  
*from School to College*













**Warlingham**  
Sixth Form College

**Year 11 > Year 12 Transition**  
**Summer Term**  
**A Level Sociology**



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# COURSE OVERVIEW

## Paper 1: Education with Theory and Research Methods

Sample of topics covered:

- The relationships and processes within schools, with particular reference to teacher/pupil relationships, pupil identities and subcultures, the hidden curriculum, and the organisation of teaching and learning.

Final Assessment

2 hour written exam (80 marks)

33.3% of A Level

## Paper 2: Topics in Sociology

Sample of topics covered:

Section A: Families and Households

- The changing patterns of marriage, cohabitation, separation, divorce, childbearing and the life course, including the sociology of personal life, and the diversity of contemporary family and household structures.

Section B: The Media

- The new media and their significance for an understanding of the role of the media in contemporary society. The relationship between ownership and control of the media. The media, globalisation and popular culture.

Final Assessment

2 hour written exam (80 marks)

33.3% of A Level

## Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Research Methods

Sample of topics covered:

- The social distribution of crime and deviance by ethnicity, gender and social class, including recent patterns and trends in crime.
- Globalisation and crime in contemporary society; the media and crime; green crime; human rights and state crimes.
- Crime control, surveillance, prevention and punishment, victims, and the role of the criminal justice system and other agencies.

Final Assessment

2 hour written exam (80 marks)

33.3% of A Level



# OUR EXPECTATIONS

## College Expectations for Academic Success

The College will work closely with all students and parents to create a purposeful, creative and stimulating environment in which students are encouraged to fully develop - both academically and personally.

We will expect you to take responsibility for your own behaviour and learning. The current College Committee along with the student body have discussed and agreed that students should commit to:

- Ensuring academic success through regular attendance and punctuality at all required registrations, lessons, supervised study lessons and Inspire Periods. Attendance which drops below 95% reduces Key Stage 5 performance by at least one grade, so it is taken very seriously.
- Completing all set tasks on time to the best of your ability, making full use of study periods and homework to enable you to meet all deadlines.
- Using study time effectively by bringing all required equipment and resources with you and making full and regular use of the College study rooms and LRC, respecting the need for silent studying conditions.
- Working closely with all your teachers to develop an effective working relationship based on mutual respect and discussing your work with them on a regular basis and meeting targets set.
- Developing your skills as an independent, self-evaluative learner and work closely with your tutor in monitoring and discussing your academic progress. As an independent learner, if you miss a lesson, it is your own responsibility to find the teacher and catch up with the work missed.
- Organising your work efficiently and effectively into folders for each subject, making full use of individual subject expectations and using Cornell Notes daily to ensure work in your folders is relevant and meaningful.
- Keeping mobile phones out-of-sight in all classrooms and during assemblies so that lessons are not disturbed and/or important information is missed.
- Attending all parents' evenings and arrange appointments with your teachers to discuss your progress and work.

## Course-specific Expectations for Academic Success

- An open mind
- Willingness to ask questions, share your opinions and ideas
- Enthusiasm for learning new ideas
- Openness to having personal beliefs and values challenged
- Strong interest in reading around the subject and learning how to write a great essay



# USING CORNELL NOTES

The Cornell Notes system is a note-taking system devised by Walter Pauk, an education professor at Cornell University. It is a proven method that establishes a more effective learning process.

It is designed to help the user think and reflect upon the notes they have made as well as making them more useful for revision purposes.

Please [click here](#) to watch a video that explains how to take Cornell Notes properly.

	DATE	MODULE/CLASS	TOPIC
<h2>CUES</h2> <p>(reduce &amp; recall)</p> <p>AIM</p> <p>reduce notes to essential ideas to practice recall</p> <p>WRITE SOON AFTER CLASS</p> <p><u>Step 1.</u> Review NOTES column + pull out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- key words</li><li>- key concepts</li><li>- authors</li><li>- dates</li><li>- facts</li></ul> <p><u>Step 2.</u> Formulate questions based on your NOTES e.g. what are Pascal's 4 principles of complexity theory?</p> <p><u>Step 3.</u> Write these cues and questions in this column alongside the corresponding NOTES</p>	<h2>NOTES (record)</h2> <p>AIM</p> <p>record as many key points as possible</p> <p>TAKE DURING CLASS</p> <p>What do I write here?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- key words and ideas</li><li>- important dates/people/places</li><li>- diagrams/charts</li><li>- formulas</li><li>- examples/case studies</li><li>- critique - strengths/limitations</li></ul> <p>Top tips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- use bullet points instead of full sentences</li><li>- use symbols and abbreviations</li><li>- leave a line between ideas</li><li>- don't mindlessly copy from the slides or textbook - write in your own words where possible</li><li>- use a method that works for you. Take notes in a format that you understand so you can make sense of them later.</li></ul>		
<h2>SUMMARY (reflect &amp; review)</h2> <p>AIM</p> <p>review the main ideas + reflect on their importance</p> <p>WRITTEN AFTER CLASS</p> <p>Briefly summarise the main points from your notes. This section is useful when searching for info later.</p> <p>Think about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- why is this info important?</li><li>- what conclusions can I draw?</li></ul>			



# REVIEW / REVISE

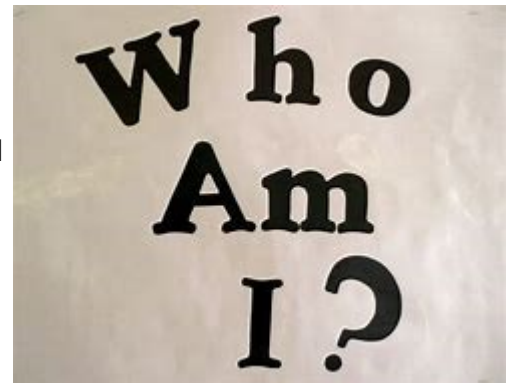
Sociology asks many questions. Below are a range of fundamental questions sociologists ask about the world we live in. These topics are known as 'sociology basics', and will feature throughout the A Level course.

Carry out your own independent research and try to answer as many of the following questions as you can. Be sure to support your answers with evidence. You can use a range of resources such as the internet, podcasts, videos and news reports to find the answers.

## The Fundamental Questions in Sociology

### Socialisation - learning the norms and values of society

1. Is our behaviour in our genes or the result of our upbringing?
2. Can we choose our behaviour? Or is it actually determined by our socialisation?
3. Are we socialised by society as a whole? Or do the powerful get to decide how we are socialised?



### Culture - whole way of life

1. Is one culture better than another?
2. What cultures do you belong to?
3. What is a subculture?

### Identity - how we see ourselves and how others see us

Which of these do you feel matter most to you?

- Your class (i.e. your parents' income/education/wealth)
- Your age
- Your gender
- Your ethnicity (which is what cultural group you belong to – but you might also consider your race which is the colour of your skin)





# REVIEW / REVISE

## Social Stratification - how society is organised

1. Are people equal in society?
2. Do they have the same opportunities?
3. Do some groups exploit others?
4. Do rich people oppress poor people?
5. Do men oppress women?
6. Do white people oppress ethnic minorities?

## Power - who is in control?

1. Who has power in society?
2. How do they use that power?
3. How do people control other people?
4. How do powerful people get others to do things they don't want to do?

**POWER**



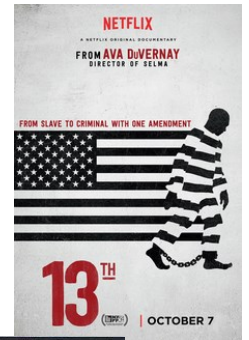


# WATCH

## 1. 13th (Netflix and Youtube)

Are black people more criminal?

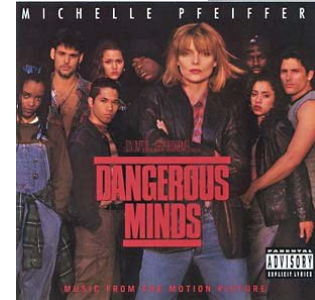
An amazing documentary about the relationship of crime to ethnicity. The racism of the state and the police and the prison system are put under the microscope in a mesmerising way.



## 2. Dangerous Minds

Are schools against poor people?

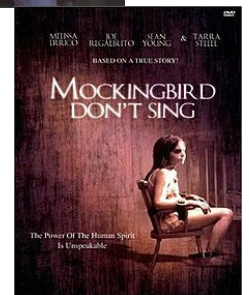
This is an easy-going film that highlights the main sociological theories about why some people don't achieve in education: family background, deprivation, and teacher labelling are all explored in a straightforward Hollywood manner.



## 3. Mockingbird Don't Sing

Is our behaviour created by nature or nurture?

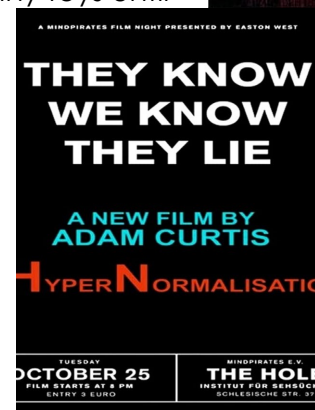
Not an aspect of the A Level course, as such, but it provides a great and shocking introduction to the idea of socialisation. It follows the true story of the abuse of a young girl who was deprived of human contact, in darkness, without any toys until her teenage years.



## 4. Hypernormalisation

Is our idea of reality constructed by the media?

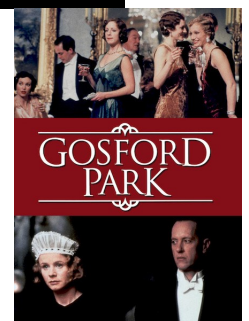
This is an Adam Curtis documentary that is not for the faint hearted. If you liked the other films you still may find this tough going. It explores how what we think is really happening in the world is invented by the media and the powerful figures behind it.



## 5. Gosford Park

Is class or gender more important in deciding our behaviour?

An exploration of life in the beginning of the 20th century - this is a great exploration of the class and gender divides that mark our history.







# LISTEN TO



Here are a range of podcasts and radio shows for you to listen to. They will help broaden your subject knowledge and get you thinking about the society in which we live.

For each episode, practise making Cornell notes, summarising the points being made. Add a section at the end to give your own conclusions, what you think, what you have agreed with and what you have disagreed with and why.



### Marx and Marxism

Marx and Marxism revisited.

BBC Radio 4—Thinking Allowed

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b0b2kpm0>



### White Privilege - Racial Ambiguity

What is white privilege? And what is the evidence that racial binaries are breaking down?

BBC Radio 4—Thinking Allowed

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0000ykk>



### The Class Ceiling

The Class Ceiling: does privilege pay?

BBC Radio 4—Thinking Allowed

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000281t>



Visit the 'Podology' website. They have a range of A Level Sociology podcasts and videos. Feel free to explore the website, but you may want to start with Education, Family, Media and Crime and Deviance as these are the topics we will be studying.

<http://www.podology.org.uk/videos/4556339394>

## Free downloadable Podcasts



### **Socialisation**

An extract from the podcast on socialisation, feral children and Nature Vs Nurture.

[Download in full](#)



### **Misandry**

An extract from the podcast on masculinity and media representations of sexism towards men.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0000ykk>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b0bk1llv>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b0b2kpm0>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qy05/episodes/player> (This is the main link to thinking allowed.)

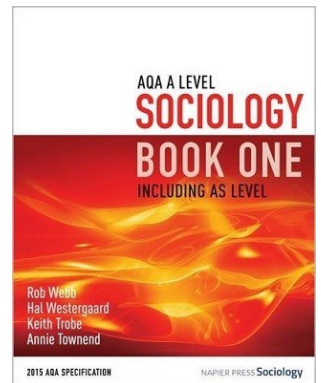


# READ

## **AQA A-Level Sociology Book One, Rob Webb et al**

ISBN: 9780954007911

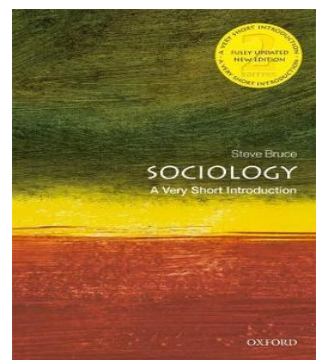
This is the core textbook and you will be using it in the majority of your lessons ,and will also come in very handy for your homework too! Read the introductory chapter on 'what is sociology?'.  
This book will be a great investment.



## **Sociology a very short Introduction, by Steve Bruce**

ISBN: 8601300131009

This book isn't a compulsory read but will provide you with a nice introduction into the key ideas in sociology.

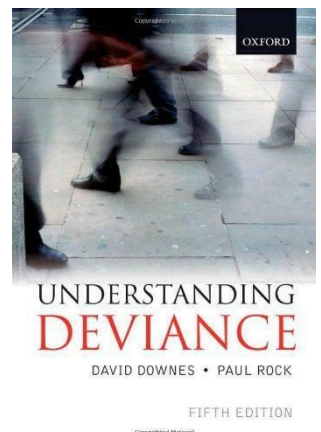


## **Understanding Deviance: A Guide to the Sociology of Crime and Rule-Breaking by David Downes and Paul Rock**

ISBN: 9780198747345

Want to explore crime and deviance more? This insightful read will explore what causes people to commit crime.

It can be cheaply purchased on Ebay for as little as £6.

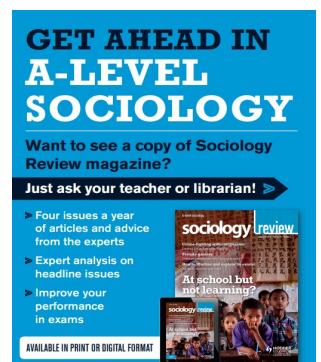


## **Sociology Review, by Hodder**

<https://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/subjects/sociology/products/general/sociology-review-magazine-volume-30,-2020-21>

A subscription to Sociology Review will enhance your subject knowledge and provide you with up-to-date research.

The articles are informative and aimed at A Level students.



ISBN: 9781398309753



# RESEARCH

Compile a fact sheet of the following statistics using the Office for National Statistics Website.

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/>

Include the headline figures and then see if you can find variations based on:

- Class
- Age
- Gender
- Ethnicity
- Region

And then look to see how it has changed over time.

1. Marriage rates in the UK
2. Divorce rates in the UK
3. Cohabitation rates in the UK
4. Life expectancy in the UK
5. Age of marriage and/or childbirth
6. Fertility rates
7. GCSE scores in the UK
8. University entrants in the UK
9. Crime rate in the UK
10. Violent crime rate in the UK
11. Prison population
12. Victim statistics in the UK
13. Newspaper readership
14. Rupert Murdoch's companies
15. Hours spent consuming media types in the UK





# COMPLETE

Use Seneca Learning to get ahead and enhance your Sociological subject knowledge.

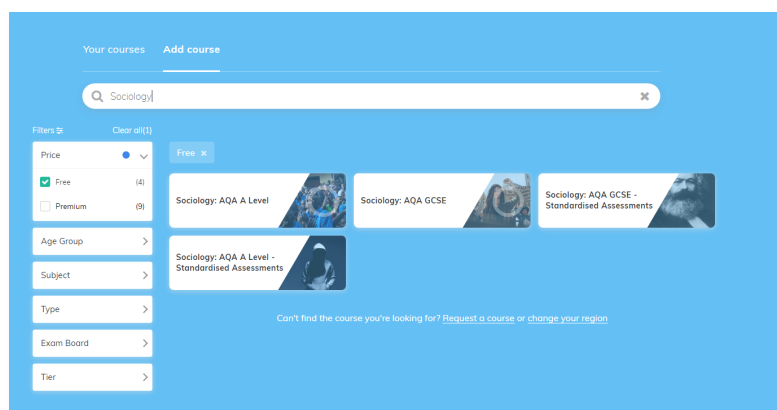
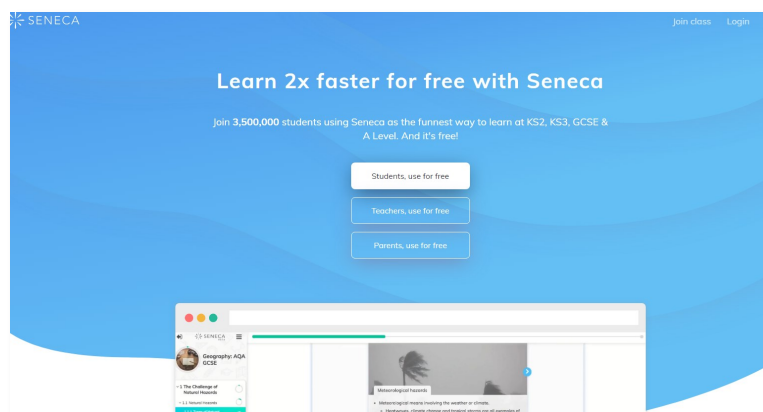
Work through the following AQA A Level Sociology modules and complete the quizzes at the end.

## **Topics include:**

- Theory and Methods
- Education with Methods
- Option 1: Families and Households
- Option 2: The Media
- Crime and Deviance

This is a free website and can be accessed using the link below.

<https://www.senecalearning.com/en-GB/>





# APPENDICES / RESOURCES

AQA A Level Sociology Website

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/as-and-a-level/sociology-7191-7192>

You will find:

- The exam board specification, including the mark scheme so you know how you will be assessed
- Sample assessment material
- Past papers
- Examples of essays written by past students

## AS and A-level Sociology

**Teaching from: September 2015**

Exams from: 2016 (AS), 2017 (A-level)

Specification code: 7191 7192

QAN code: 601/3995/X; 601/3994/8

As the most popular choices for AS and A-level Sociology, our specifications offer an engaging and effective introduction to sociology.

We worked with teachers, higher education and the British Sociological Association to produce clear, up-to-date and stimulating specifications.

We have designed the AS and A-level specifications to cover the core areas of sociology and be fully co-teachable within the first year of study.

A comprehensive range of support is available including face-to-face events, digital resources and continuous professional development training.

[Specification >](#)

[Specification at a glance >](#)

[Past papers and mark schemes >](#)



[Download specification](#)