

University of Birmingham School Curriculum Outline: SOCIOLOGY

Term 1a	Term 1b PPE 1 (in class)	Term 2a	Term 2b	Term 3a PPE 2 (Main Hall)	Term 3b
Year 12 – two teacher model (4:6 lessons over 2 weeks) JWI (4) - 2 lessons a week on families MSP (6) - 2 lessons a week on education, 1 lesson a week on research methods.					
Introduction to Sociology Introduction to key themes and perspectives Family (4.2.2) Theories of the families: Functionalism, New Right, Marxism; Feminism; Postmodernism; Personal Life Perspective.	Family (4.2.2) Social policy: Traditionalist and Modernist policies; impact of policies on the family; theoretical views of family policy. Couples: Domestic division of labour; resources and decision making; domestic violence.	Family (4.2.2) Childhood: Social construction on childhood; position of childhood; future of childhood. Demography: Birth rates; death rates.	Family (4.2.2) Demography: Ageing population; migration; globalisation. Changing Family Patterns: Marriage; divorce.	Family (4.2.2) Changing Family Patterns: Cohabiting; chosen families; living alone together; one-person households; childbearing; lone-parent families; ethnic differences in families; extended families.	Family (4.2.2) Family diversity: Modernist theories of family diversity; Postmodernist theories of family diversity; Personal life perspective of family diversity Crime (4.3.1) Theories of crime: Functionalist theories of crime; Strain theory.
1 lesson per week: Theories and Methods					
Positivism and Interpretivism; Sampling; Practical, Ethical and Theoretical, & Questionnaires.	Lab experiments; Field experiments; Structured interviews; semi-structured interviews; unstructured interviews.	Observations (overt, covert, participant and non-participant); official statistics; & secondary documents.	Theories and Methods comprehensive essay writing i.e. evaluate the view that practical factors are more important when picking a research method than...	Methods in Context (3.1.2)	Quantitative and Qualitative (year 13 content).
Education (4.1.1) Introduction to the education system. Roles and functions of the education system: Functionalist, New Right, Marxist and Feminist.	Education (4.1.1) Differential educational achievement by social class, plus pupil identities and relationships and processes within schools.	Education (4.1.1) Differential educational achievement by ethnicity plus pupil identities and relationships and processes within schools.	Education (4.1.1) Differential educational achievement by gender plus pupil identities and relationships and processes within schools.	Education (4.1.1) Educational policies, including marketization and the impact of globalisation.	Education (4.1.1) Educational policies, including marketization and the impact of globalisation.

Term 1a		Term 2a			
PPE 1 (in class)	Term 1b	PPE 2 (Main Hall)	Term 2b	Term 3a	Term 3b
Year 13 – two teacher model (6:4 lessons over two weeks) JWI (4) – Crime twice a week – once finished media twice a week. MSP (6)– Crime twice a week – once finished media twice a week. Theory and methods once a week.					
Crime (4.3.1) Theories of crime: Functionalism and crime; Subcultural Strain theory; Institutional anomie. Labelling theory; social construction of crime; social construction of official statistics; effects of labelling; labelling and the criminal justice system Class differences in crime; (Marxism, Neo-Marxism, crimes of the powerful i.e. corporate crime) Right and Left Realism; causes and solutions.	Crime (4.3.1) Theories of crime: Postmodernism; globalisation; transgressive approach to crime; edgework. Crime and globalisation; increase in opportunities/types of crime; increased inequalities; increase risk. Green crime; definitions of green crime; types of crime green crime; explanations of green crime; controlling green crime. State crimes; definitions of state crime; types of state crime; explanations of state crime; controlling state crime.	The Media (4.2.7) Ownership and control: power of the media; formal controls; governmental influence; media concentration; theoretical views of ownership. Selection and presentation of the news: social construction of the news.	The Media (4.2.7) Selection and presentation of the news; factors influencing the news; moral panics; churnalism; new media and citizen journalism. Media representations: gender; ethnicity; class; sexuality; age; disability; theoretical explanations of representations; impact of representations on audiences.	Finishing off Media/ Revision & exam practice: Families; crime, media; theory and methods.	
Theory and Methods (4.3.2)					
Theory and Methods (4.3.2) Objectivity and values; Sociology and science	Theory and Methods (4.3.2) Functionalism; Marxism; Feminism	Theory and Methods (4.3.2) Social action theories	Theory and Methods (4.3.2) Globalisation; modernity; postmodernity.	Theory and Methods (4.3.2) Sociology and social policy.	

Term 1a		Term 2a			
PPE 1 (in class)	Term 1b	PPE 2 (Main Hall)	Term 2b	Term 3a	Term 3b
Crime (4.3.1) Gender and crime: patterns of crime by gender. Explanations of patterns; sex role theory; patriarchal control; liberation thesis; hegemonic masculinity; assertion of masculinity. Ethnicity and crime; patterns of crime by ethnicity. Explanations of patterns; institutional racism in the criminal justice system; Left Realism; Neo-Marxism. Crime and the media; representations of crime; media as a cause of crime; moral panic; links to labelling explanations of crime.	Crime (4.3.1) Controlling and preventing crime; role of the criminal justice system; Left and Right Realist solutions; Surveillance theories; the role of punishment. Victims of crime; patterns of victimisation; explanations of victimology (critical and positivist).	The Media (4.2.7) The new media: features of the new media; effects of new media on old media; stratification in the new media (inequalities); significance of the new media in contemporary society; cultural pessimistic and neophiliacs views. Globalisation and popular culture: different types of culture in the media.	The Media (4.2.7) Globalisation and popular culture: cultural homogenisation; cultural imperialism; postmodernist views of global popular culture. Audience models: methodological issues of researching audience effects; violence and the media; passive and active models.	Finishing off Media/ Revision & exam practice: Education, MIC, crime, media.	

Core Substantive Content

Threshold Concepts

Specification reference <https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/sociology/specifications/AQA-7191-7192-SP-2015.PDF>

Integral elements

All the following must be an integral part of the study of each topic area:

- sociological theories, perspectives and methods
- the design of the research used to obtain the data under consideration, including its strengths and limitations.

Core themes

Students must study the following two core themes:

- socialisation, culture and identity
- social differentiation, power and stratification.

The themes should be understood and applied to particular substantive areas of Sociology. These themes are to be interpreted broadly as threads running through many areas of social life and should not therefore be regarded as discrete topics.

In addition, students must understand the significance of conflict and consensus, social structure and social action, and the role of values.