



Student Achievement 2016

Pass rate: 99% • A*-C Grades: 75%

Sociology is about explaining the reasons for human behavior and why people act in different ways to others; for example, why do some people commit crime or become terrorists? You will also be asked to think about how the media influences society, how those closest to us help develop and influence our personalities and whether education is as positive as we are led to believe.

You will be expected to discuss sensitive topics like race, sexuality, crime, religion, suicide, gender and politics and how all of these influence our lives.

Level: Level 3

College entry (please refer to the Entry Requirements section page 24 for further details).

Exam Board: AQA

What will I study?

During the course you will develop your understanding of Crime and Deviance, Education, Beliefs in Society and the Family. The Criminology module will ask you to consider if crimes like drug use and prostitution actually serve a positive function in society: does the government lie, cheat, kill, steal and then cover up their crimes as they have the power, control and wealth? Statistically, why do certain ethnic minorities commit more crime and why do women commit less? In Education, you will look at the purpose of the system we have in the UK: why girls always do better than boys and why working class people are potentially disadvantaged by the education system. Beliefs in Society will ask you to look at how religion has changed in contemporary life: why are more people joining cults and sects like Scientology? Can rave music and social media be considered religious? Can terrorists use religion to justify their acts? Finally, you will consider how the family has changed over time, how the increase in single parent and homosexual families has changed society and how increasing globalisation means a change in the structure of families.

It is expected that you will undertake additional reading as part of your home study, keeping up to date with current events and developing news stories that can be used to bring classical sociology to life. You should be prepared to discuss and debate ideas within lessons in order to learn and experience how events can be interpreted in a variety of ways.

How will I be assessed?

100% Examination.

Where will this course lead me?

Sociology is an excellent course to study for a wide range of careers and universities welcome applicants who have studied Sociology as they have developed their awareness and understanding of the processes operating within modern British society. Related careers include Journalism, Politics, Education, Social Care, Health, Police, Armed Forces, Business, Law and Media.

What support will I receive?

Staff in the department are always willing to give extra help to students. From informal 'drop in' sessions to regular revision sessions at lunch-time and after college, learners have the chance to get extra help for their class and home work and prepare for their examinations. One on one sessions can be arranged and supplementary sessions are timetabled throughout the AS year to help with subject knowledge.

What is the department like?

There are 3 staff members in the department who contribute to the course. We aim to offer our students as much help as they need achieve to their full potential. We also aim to create positive working relationships with our students where they feel they can voice their own opinions and ideas about the society they live in.

Enrichment opportunities

Sociology students will be visited by an Amnesty International speaker as part of the course and are given the chance to take part in charity fund raising.

Two proposed trips for the coming academic year to Scientology in Manchester and China are currently being organised where students will be able to put their Sociology into action and apply what they have learned.

Head of Department

Elliott Hine

Tutors

Thomas Clapson
Dean Colasurdo
Christopher Peacock





St John Rigby College

01942 214797 enquiries@sjr.ac.uk www.sjr.ac.uk

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