



Sociology

One year AS/Two year A level.

Sociology could change your life! It allows students to debate, discuss and research the very society in which they live. It seeks to encourage students to learn about social issues that affect their lives and those of others. Sociology aims to challenge conventional ways of thinking and to present alternative ideas and lifestyles.

Requirements:

The College minimum to start an advanced level course is one grade B and four grade Cs at GCSE. Students wishing to undertake this course require grade C or above in GCSE English Language, or grade C in a similar written subject. The student will also be expected to meet the Average Points Score for this subject. It is not necessary to have studied GCSE Sociology to qualify for this course.

This subject will focus on:

- education - the history of education, and achievement according to social class, race and gender;
- family - its role in society and the division of labour in the home;
- crime and deviance - the increase in crime rates, solutions to crime, examples of deviance and suicide;
- research methodology - an understanding of different techniques for the purposes of investigation; and
- religion and belief systems – their roles and impact on society.

You can expect to:

- develop and understand key terms and concepts;
- acquire a knowledge of sociological theories and studies; and
- experience a variety of teaching and learning styles, including discussion, IT, video work and group work.

Method of assessment:

Assessment is by examination.

Progression:

This is a general qualification and therefore allows students to progress into a wide variety of occupations including journalism, law, the police force, teaching, nursing, health, media and accountancy, management and public relations. In addition, students have combined Sociology with a range of subjects including Biology, French, Psychology, History, Religious Studies, Law, English and Business Studies.

Other information:

Laura Payne (ex Hall Mead) who achieved a grade A at AS Level said, "Since studying A Level Sociology, I have become more aware of different cultures in society. It has made me appreciate the views of others and that there is no one explanation about how we live."

Student Success at Havering Sixth Form College:

Sociology has had a 100% pass rate at A Level for the past four years. In January 2010, a number of students achieved 100% in Sociology AS and A Level units including: Claire Caston (ex Sanders Draper), Rebecca Ayisire (ex Frances Bardsley) and Gabrielle Downer (ex Sarah Bonnell).

Oluwakemi Quadri (ex Bower Park) achieved an A grade at AS together with an A grade in her January A2 unit. In two units she obtained full marks. She said of the course "Sociology is a really interesting and enjoyable course. It allows you to explore reality and the world around us. It is interactive, with a strong element of discussion and supportive teachers!"