

National curriculum or specification coverage

AQA A Level Sociology 7192

3.1.1 Education

Students are expected to be familiar with sociological explanations of the following content:

- the role and functions of the education system, including its relationship to the economy and to class structure
- differential educational achievement of social groups by social class, gender and ethnicity in contemporary society
- relationships and processes within schools, with reference to teacher/pupil relationships, pupil identities and subcultures, the hidden curriculum, and the organisation of teaching and learning
- the significance of educational policies, including policies of selection, marketisation and privatisation, and policies to achieve greater equality of opportunity or outcome, for an understanding of the structure, role, impact and experience of and access to education; the impact of globalisation on educational policy.

3.1.2 Methods in Context

Students must be able to apply sociological research methods to the study of education.

3.1.3 Theory and Methods

Students must examine the following areas:

- quantitative and qualitative methods of research; research design
- sources of data, including questionnaires, interviews, participant and non-participant observation, experiments, documents and official statistics
- the distinction between primary and secondary data, and between quantitative and qualitative data
- the relationship between positivism, interpretivism and sociological methods; the nature of 'social facts'
- the theoretical, practical and ethical considerations influencing choice of topic, choice of method(s) and the conduct of research
- consensus, conflict, structural and social action theories

Year 12 Long Term Scheme of Learning 2026-2027

Subject: Sociology (Education & Research Methods - MLA)

Date	Exams/ Assessments	Learning Intentions	Core Task/Assessments
31/08/26		EDUCATION Theories and Policy • Functionalist and New Right explanations of the role and functions of the education system • Marxist explanations of the role and functions of the education system • Feminist explanations of the role and functions of the education system The significance of educational policies including policies of; selection, marketisation and privatisation	Core task 1 – 10 Mark Analysis Exam question
07/09/26			
14/09/26			
21/09/26			
28/09/26			
05/10/26			
12/10/26			
19/10/26			
26/10/26		HALF TERM	
02/11/26		Gender patterns in achievement in subject choice • Different sociological explanations of gender differences in educational achievement and subject choice in relation to external and internal factors	Core Task 2 – 10 Mark Analysis Exam question
09/11/26			
16/11/26	Y12		
23/11/26	Y12		
30/11/26			
07/12/26			
14/12/26			
21/12/26		CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY	
28/12/26			
04/01/27		Social class differences in achievement • Different sociological explanations of social class differences in educational achievement in relation to external and internal factors Ethnic differences in achievement • Different sociological explanations of ethnic differences in educational achievement in relation to external and internal factors	Core Task 3 – Timed Essay
11/01/27			
18/01/27			
25/01/27			
01/02/27			
08/02/27			
15/02/27		HALF TERM	
22/02/27		Research Methods • Sources of data including; questionnaires, interviews, participant and non-participant observation, experiments, documents and official statistics • Quantitative and qualitative methods of research; research design	Core Task 4 – Timed Essay
01/03/27			
08/03/27			
15/03/27			

Year 12 Long Term Scheme of Learning 2026-2027

Subject: Sociology (Education & Research Methods - MLA)

22/03/27		• The distinction between primary and secondary data. • The relationship between positivism, interpretivism and sociological methods; the nature of social facts The theoretical, practical and ethical considerations influencing choice of topic, choice of method and conduct of research		
29/03/27	SPRING BREAK			
05/04/27				
12/04/27		Revision	Core Task 5 – Past Paper 2	
19/04/27	Y12			
26/04/27		Methods in Context • Applying sociological research methods to the study of education		
03/05/27				
10/05/27				
17/05/27				
24/05/27				
31/05/27	HALF TERM			
07/06/27		CRIME & DEVIANCE Media and crime • Media representations of crime • The media as a cause of crime Moral panics.		Core Task 6 – timed essay
14/06/27				
21/06/27				
28/06/27				
05/07/27				
12/07/27				