

Psychology and Sociology

Year 12

SOCIOLOGY

A Level teachers: Mr M Oldfield

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Mrs Tomlinson

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Mr Richardson

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PSYCHOLOGY

A Level teachers: Mrs Jones
(Head of Psychology and KS5 Sociology)

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Mrs Burton

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Mrs Clark

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PLC - Personalised Learning Checklists

Students are given PLC's for each topic that they study.

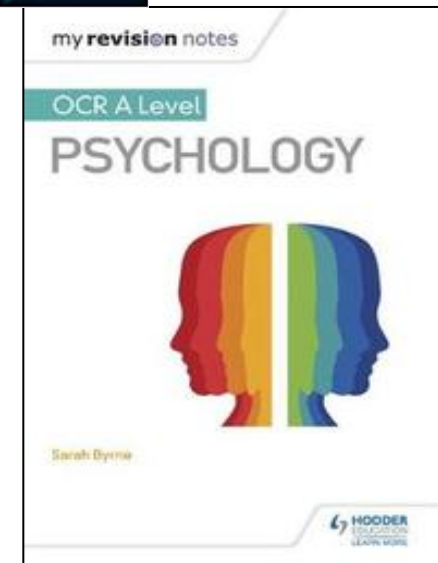
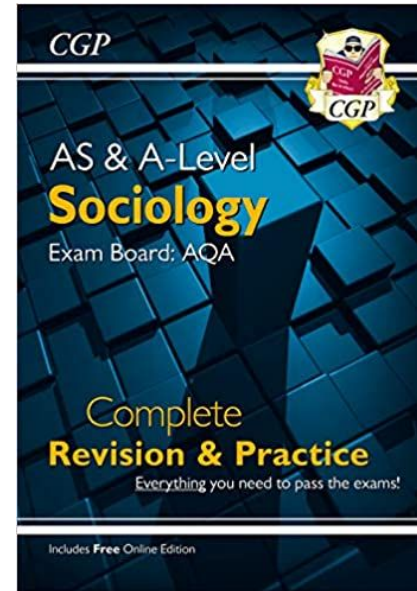
This allows them to reflect on content and things they need to know for a specific unit.

By colour coding or ticking the PLC to rate how confident they feel allows them to set themselves targets for revision and additional reading.



Revision Guides

We recommend the following revision guides that cover the two year course in detail. It can be bought relatively cheaply from Amazon or other stores.



Sociology

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Assessments

Paper 1: Education with Theory and Methods	Paper 2: Topics in Sociology	Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods
What's assessed Compulsory content 4.1.1, 4.1.2, 4.1.3	What's assessed Section A: one from option 1: 4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.2.3 or 4.2.4 Section B: one from option 2: 4.2.5, 4.2.6, 4.2.7 or 4.2.8	What's assessed Compulsory content 4.3.1, 4.3.2
Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 hour written exam• 80 marks• 33.3% of A-level	Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 hour written exam• 80 marks• 33.3% of A-level	Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 hour written exam• 80 marks• 33.3% of A-level
Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Education: short answer and extended writing, 50 marks• Methods in Context: extended writing, 20 marks• Theory and Methods: extended writing, 10 marks	Questions Section A: extended writing, 40 marks Section B: extended writing, 40 marks	Questions Crime and Deviance: short answer and extended writing, 50 marks Theory and Methods: extended writing, 30 marks

4.2.2 Families and Households

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

- the relationship of the family to the social structure and social change, with particular reference to the economy and to state policies
- 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
- gender roles, domestic labour and power relationships within the family in contemporary society
- the nature of childhood, and changes in the status of children in the family and society
- demographic trends in the United Kingdom since 1900: birth rates, death rates, family size, life expectancy, ageing population, and migration and globalisation.

4.2.5 Beliefs in Society

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

- ideology, science and religion, including both Christian and non-Christian religious traditions
- the relationship between social change and social stability, and religious beliefs, practices and organisations
- religious organisations, including cults, sects, denominations, churches and New Age movements, and their relationship to religious and spiritual belief and practice
- the relationship between different social groups and religious/spiritual organisations and movements, beliefs and practices
- the significance of religion and religiosity in the contemporary world, including the nature and extent of secularisation in a global context, and globalisation and the spread of religions.

How are the papers weighted with marks?

Weighting of assessment objectives for A-level Sociology

Assessment objectives (AOs)	Component weightings (approx %)			Overall weighting (approx %)
	Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 3	
AO1	15	13	16	44
AO2	11	11	9	31
AO3	8	9	8	25
Overall weighting of components	33.33	33.33	33.33	100

AO1: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:
sociological theories, concepts and evidence
sociological research methods

AO2: Apply sociological theories, concepts, evidence and research methods to a range of issues

AO3: Analyse and evaluate sociological theories, concepts, evidence and research methods in order to: present arguments, make judgements, draw conclusions.

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WHAT IS PSYCHOLOGY?

Psychology is the scientific study of behaviour and the mind. It offers a unique educational experience that develops a distinctive and broad set of skills. It's located in scientific method and allows scope for extensive evaluation from a range of perspectives.

Our A Level specification provides students with the exciting opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of psychology. Stimulating content is at the heart of this engaging qualification, which will encourage students to think like psychologists.

2a. Overview of A Level in Psychology (H567)

Learners must complete all components (01, 02 and 03).

Content Overview	Assessment Overview	
<p>Planning, conducting, analysing and reporting psychological research across a range of experimental and non-experimental methodologies and techniques.</p> <p>Introduces some of the central areas of investigation in psychology organised in key themes. Each key theme is represented by a classic and a contemporary core study.</p> <p>Compulsory section on Issues in mental health.</p> <p>Learners will also study two out of the following applied options: Child psychology, Criminal psychology, Environmental psychology, Sports and exercise psychology.</p>	<p>Research methods (01)*</p> <p>90 marks</p> <p>written paper</p> <p>2 hours</p>	<p>30%</p> <p>of total</p> <p>A level</p>
	<p>Psychological themes through core studies (02)*</p> <p>105 marks</p> <p>written paper</p> <p>2 hours</p>	<p>35%</p> <p>of total</p> <p>A level</p>
	<p>Applied psychology (03)</p> <p>105 marks</p> <p>written paper</p> <p>2 hours</p>	<p>35%</p> <p>of total</p> <p>A level</p>

* Indicates synoptic assessment

2b. Content of A Level in Psychology (H567)

Research methods (Component 01)

Learners will need to be familiar with the four main techniques for collecting/analysing data.

These are:

- self-report
- experiment
- observation
- correlation.

Learners will also need to be familiar with the following:

- planning and conducting research
- data recording, analysis and presentation
- report writing
- science in psychology.

Learners will be expected to carry out their own small scale practical activities and reflect on their experiences.

Psychological themes through core studies (Component 02)

Learners will need to be familiar with the ten key themes and the classic and contemporary core study located within each.

Learners will also need to be familiar with the following:

- areas and perspectives in psychology
- methodological issues relating to the core studies
- debates in psychology.

Applied psychology (Component 03)

Learners will need to be familiar with one compulsory section, Issues in mental health, which provides an introduction to the topic of mental health.

Learners will also study two out of the following applied psychology options:

- Child psychology
- Criminal psychology
- Environmental psychology
- Sports and exercise psychology.

Learners will need to be familiar with the issues and debates that run through this component.

3b. Assessment objectives (AO)

There are three assessment objectives in OCR's A Level in Psychology.

These are detailed in the table below. Learners are expected to demonstrate their ability to:

	Assessment Objective
AO1	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of scientific ideas, processes, techniques and procedures.
AO2	Apply knowledge and understanding of scientific ideas, processes, techniques and procedures: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• in a theoretical context• in a practical context• when handling qualitative data• when handling quantitative data.
AO3	Analyse, interpret and evaluate scientific information, ideas and evidence, including in relation to issues, to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• make judgements and reach conclusions• develop and refine practical design and procedures.

AO weightings in OCR A Level in Psychology

The relationship between the assessment objectives and the components are shown in the following table:

Component	% of overall A level		
	AO1	AO2	AO3
Research methods (01)	9–11	12–14	8–9
Psychological themes through core studies (02)	13–15	5–7	15–17
Applied psychology (03)	8–9	13–14	12–14
Total	30–35%	30–35%	35–40%

WHERE CAN IT TAKE ME?

According to [UCAS.com](https://www.ucas.com), there are many clear paths for those with a solid Psychology background. For instance, a Psychology graduate might become a:

- Counselling psychologist
- Educational psychologist
- Forensic psychologist
- Further education teacher
- Health psychologist
- High-intensity therapist
- Occupational psychologist

If you aren't sure what all of these roles will actually look like for you, then go and [visit Prospects](#) for students which offers some great information about courses and possible career paths.

How can you support?

- **Talk to your child about current events** – issues in the news? What is going on locally, nationally and globally?
- **Look over the specification:** We don't expect you to read the whole document but perhaps be familiar with the topics
- **Stay in touch:** If you have concerns or questions we are only ever an e-mail or phone call away.

www.ocr.org.uk
www.wjec.co.uk

Psychology
Sociology

