

# **AQA AS & A Level Sociology**

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**Sixth Form  
Induction**

# What is Sociology?

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- Study of society. Became popular in Britain in 60s. Why?
- Society is made up of social groups. What is a social group?
- [http://www.youtube.com/watch\\_popup?v=2HiUMIOz4UQ&vq=large#](http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=2HiUMIOz4UQ&vq=large#)
- How do you think this relates to sociology?

# *Topics Covered*

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- Family
- Education
- Culture
- Gender
- Class
- Ethnicity
- Mass Media
- Crime & Deviance
- Research Methods



# How is it taught?

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- Text books
- Homework on a two week rotation
- Discussion and note-taking
- Five periods a week – lessons in September are with LAW and RLR (Ms Williams & Mrs Richardson)

# Course Details

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The specification is with AQA.  
There are three examinations  
(no coursework) for A2. One  
examination for AS.

The AS exam will be in May  
2016 and the A2 exams will be  
in June 2017.

# Expectations

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- Reading
- Homework in on time
- Attendance – less than 95% problematic
- Respect views of other students
- Awareness of what is happening around you

# Famous Sociology Graduates

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■ Guess who they are.....





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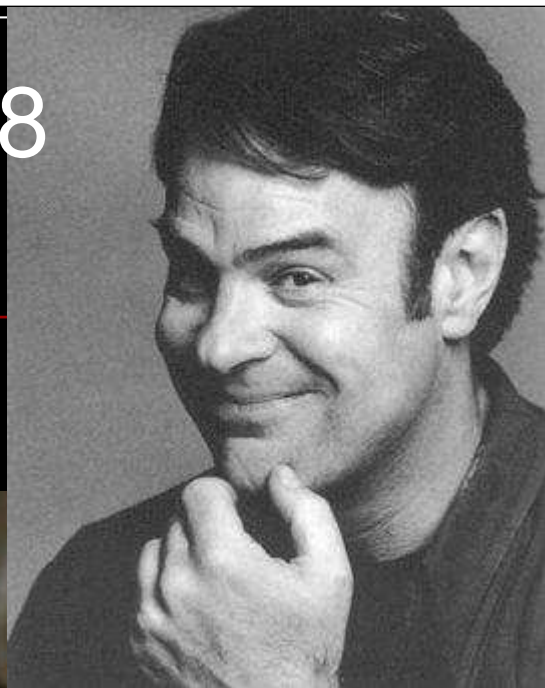
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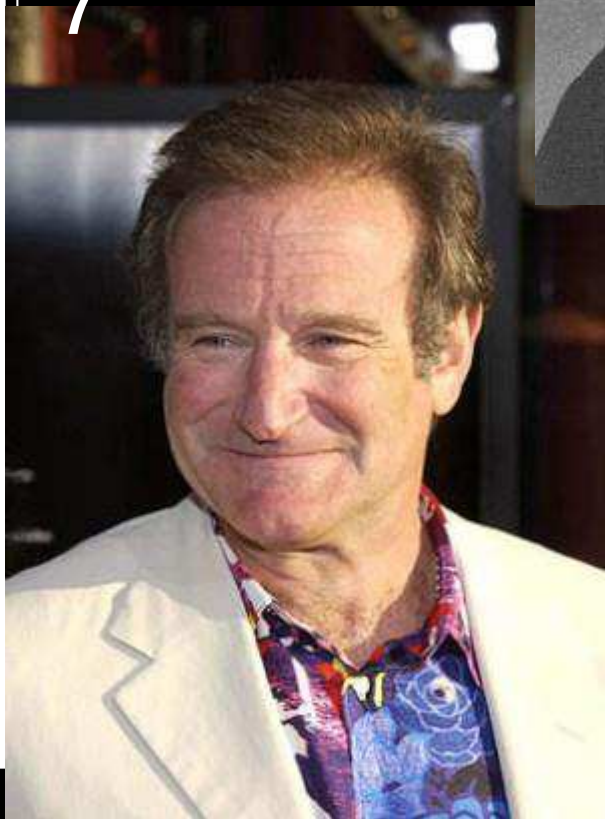
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# Famous Sociology Graduates

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- Martin Luther King
- Michelle Obama
- Jesse Jackson
- Jeremy Kyle
- Ronald Reagan
- James Blunt
- Robin Williams
- Dan Ackroyd
- Nicky Wire – Manic Street Preachers bass player

# Nature Vs Nurture

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The nature versus nurture debate concentrates on the question of how far our ability is fixed at birth by our inborn nature. Nature refers to a person's genetic inheritance or inherited characteristics. Nurture refers to the way in which upbringing and environment influence our development as individuals.

# Nature Vs Nurture

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It is sometimes difficult to separate the two e.g. if the child of musically talented parents is also gifted musically, then is this down to genetic inheritance (nature) or because they grew up in a musical environment (nurture)?

# Nature V Nurture

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- Are little boys born inherently boisterous, instinctively wanting to play with cars?
- Are little girls inherently calm, instinctively wanting to play with dolls?

# Nature V Nurture

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- Or does society create them, by guiding them towards these toys e.g. blue for boys and pink for girls, separate pages in magazines for 'boys' toys and 'girls' toys, separate clothes, even as very small babies. You could probably tell from just looking at the 'Congratulations' cards in a maternity hospital what sex each mother had given birth to!



# Nature V Nurture

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- Watch these clips – did they get this behaviour/language from nature or nurture?
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R-sv5mtcKMM>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0kaoqmiK5cc>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z6ScGl4ClI>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O9onh3A9Z50>

# Culture

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- The way we behave in a society is linked to our norms.
- Norms are what we see as being normal.
- Other societies have different ideas about what is normal and acceptable behaviour.
- Watch the clip and discuss what is similar/different to our society
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eEbibwjm3eI>

# Extra Questions

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- **Sociology is often accused of producing militant and radical students. Why?**
- **Sociology is accepted for any degree at any university – it is a flexible subject – why?**
- **Any questions from the students....**