

## O Level Sociology (2251) Overview

### Recommended Prior Knowledge

This course provides a general introduction to the study of sociology and no specific prior knowledge is required.

### Context

The content of this course is organised into eight study units, which explore the nature of social relationships, processes and structures. The first unit is compulsory and provides a foundation for the other units in the syllabus by considering methods and procedures employed in sociological research. Knowledge and understanding of research methods and their strengths and limitations is a key component of the syllabus which underpins each of the other study units.

### Outline

The eight study units are:

- Unit 1 : Methodology
- Unit 2 : Culture and Socialisation
- Unit 3 : Social Stratification and Inequality
- Unit 4 : Power and Authority
- Unit 5 : Family
- Unit 6 : Education
- Unit 7: Crime, Deviance and Social control
- Unit 8 : The Mass Media

### Learning resources

- Syllabus
- IGCSE Sociology Standards Booklet
- Past question papers and mark schemes

### Reading list

Blundell, J. Active Sociology for GCSE. Longman (2001). ISBN 0-582-43443-2

Browne, K. An Introduction to Sociology (3<sup>rd</sup> Ed). Polity (2005). ISBN 0745632580

Kirby M et al, Sociology in Perspective. Heinemann (1997). ISBN 0435331566

O'Donnell G, Mastering Sociology, 4th Ed, Palgrave (2002). ISBN 9780333919569

Wilson ,P and Kidd, A. Sociology for GCSE. Collins Educational (1998). ISBN 0003224449

### **Websites**

UK National Statistics  
[www.statistics.gov.uk](http://www.statistics.gov.uk)

US Census Bureau  
[www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

Sociology Learning Support  
[www.chrisgardner.cadcol.ac.uk](http://www.chrisgardner.cadcol.ac.uk)

Association for the Teaching of the Social Sciences  
[www.atss.org.uk](http://www.atss.org.uk)

New Internationalist  
[www.newint.org](http://www.newint.org)

Revision Guides, Sociology Review  
[www.philipallan.co.uk](http://www.philipallan.co.uk)

Sociology Online  
[www.sociologyonline.co.uk](http://www.sociologyonline.co.uk)

Sixth Sense Resources  
<http://sixthsense.osfc.ac.uk/sociology/index.asp>

tutor2u – GCSE revision  
<http://www.tutor2u.net/sociology/default.html>

UK government  
[www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk)

Video / DVD and other resources  
[www.sociology.org.uk/rload.htm](http://www.sociology.org.uk/rload.htm)