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# SPRINGBOARD



## A-level Sociology

### OUR COURSE DETAILS

Studying sociology encourages us to look at the world in a more critical way and question why society functions in the way it does. AQA A Level Sociology focusses on the UK today and looks back to how society has arrived at its current position and suggests how it may continue to evolve. The study of A Level sociology develops an understanding of wider structural theories of society, alongside the experience of the individual within it, encouraging us to consider how we may influence positive change in the future.



### PREPARING FOR STUDY

The core text for Sociology in Year One at Bilborough is “**AQA A Level Sociology Book One**” by Webb, Westergaard, Trobe & Townend ISBN-10: 0954007913

If you want to read ahead there are many websites that offer the “Look Inside” option, allowing you to read small sections online for free



### OUR TOP READS

**GANG LEADER FOR A DAY**, Sudhir Ventakesh (2008) Recounts the day-to-day life of the urban poor. Venkatesh’s decade-long research yielded valuable data, revealing the corporation-like workings of the street level drug trade.

**ANIMAL FARM**, George Orwell (1945) – Marxian theory with farm animals!

**THE HANDMAIDS’S TALE**, Margaret Atwood (1985) - Explores themes of subjugated women in a fictional, patriarchal, totalitarian society named Gilead.



### PEOPLE TO RESEARCH

The ideas of **Talcott Parsons**, **Karl Marx** and **Ann Oakley** will introduce you to the Functionalist, Marxist and Feminist perspectives on society respectively.



### EMPLOYABILITY

Sociology can lead you down many career paths, such as **health care**, **the criminal justice system**, **roles in the media**, **charity work** and **social work**.

You could check out a few of them at:

[www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk)



## UNIVERSITY COURSES

There are Sociology courses on offer at almost all Higher Education establishments.

You can look up different courses, modules and university league tables for Sociology degrees here:

[theuniguide.co.uk](http://theuniguide.co.uk)



### USEFUL ONLINE LINKS

**SOCIOLOGY CENTRAL**, a site for A Level Sociology students [www.sociology.org](http://www.sociology.org)

**HAVE YOU HEARD GEORGE'S PODCAST?** Award-winning and critically-acclaimed podcast from George the Poet delivers a fresh take on inner city life [www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)

**END OF DAYS PODCAST** The story of David Koresh: the prophet whose cult in Waco, Texas preached an apocalypse [www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)



### LINKS TO THE SPECIFICATIONS

[www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)



### FILMS

**WHEN THEY SEE US (2019)** 4 part Netflix series outlining the wrongful arrest and convictions of innocent, young black men for an assault they did not commit.

**LOUIS THEROUX'S MY SCIENTOLOGY MOVIE (2015)** Theroux documents his investigation into what goes on behind the scenes at the infamous Church of Scientology.

**QUADROPHENIA (1979)** Tells the tale of a young 1960s London lad against the backdrop of the historic moral panic of the Mod's and Rockers' riots.

**I DANIEL BLAKE (2016)** Award winning film depicting social inequality and lives trapped in Britain's benefits system.

**DETROIT (2017)** Dramatic account of the 60s race riots in Detroit.

**NO MEN BEYOND THIS POINT (2015)** Depicting a world where men have become superfluous due to developments in IVF.

