

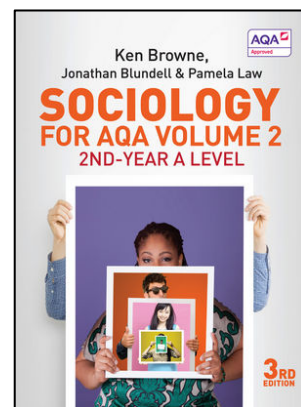
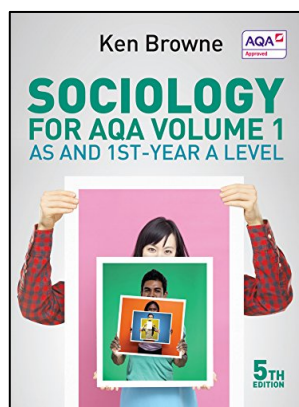
SOCIOLOGY // SUBJECT PREPERATION

Sociology refers to the study of the development, structure and functioning of society. We are interested in all aspects of society; education, healthcare, employment, crime and deviant behaviour, and religion - to name a few. We are interested in how all of these aspects of society work together (or not) and how they contribute to the benefit - or to the detriment, of society.

Sociology is an incredible subject, and a lot of the time what we are discussing and learning about has a very current presence in the media and society. In terms of how best to prepare yourself for the course, we have put together a series of activities, resources, and videos which you can engage with, as well as some general information about the course. We are more than happy to answer any questions you may have in regard to the course itself via email, however hopefully a lot should be answered here!

THE TEXTBOOK

We work with the AQA specification for the course, using the textbook on the right. A copy of this will be provided to you at the start of next year, so there is no need to go out and buy your own copy - unless you really want to that is!



WHAT YOU WILL BE STUDYING

TOPICS

YEAR 1	Education SPD	Health TRW	Research Methods SPD & TRW
YEAR 2	Crime & Deviance SPD	Beliefs in Society TRW	Theory & Methods SPD & TRW

During the course, we will look at areas such as educational inequality and stereotyping, inequalities in health and pharmaceutical companies involvement in the creation of diseases, the criminal justice system and patterns of criminal behaviour, as well as religious organisations such as churches, denominations, sects, cults, New Religious Movements, and New Age Movements!



QUESTIONS TO FIND ANSWERS TO

Below is a table showing **some** of the themes we look at on the course - as well as some "bigger picture" areas we as sociologists consider. Here are some questions for you to think about - or research! At the very least, they'll make for some interesting dinner table discussion!

GENDER	Are some genders more likely to experience illness than others?	Are some genders more likely to commit crime than others?	Are some genders more likely to be diagnosed with a mental illness?
ETHNICITY	Are some ethnicities more likely to experience prejudice in education?	Is all ethnic stereotyping negative in education?	Why are some ethnicities discriminated against in regard to crime?
CLASS	Are some classes more likely to experience illness than others?	Are some classes more likely to experience prejudice in education?	Are some classes more religious than others? Why?
CRIME & DEVIANCE	What makes something criminal? What makes something deviant?	Why do people commit crime?	Can something that is criminal not be seen as deviant? What examples can you think of?
HEALTH	What does it mean to be "healthy"? Is this idea universal?	Are all "physical" illnesses real?	Do we view all illnesses the same way?
RELIGION	Are we really becoming less religious?	Why are sects and cults so attractive to some people?	Is religion a positive or negative force in society?
MENTAL ILLNESS	Are all mental illnesses real?	Are there gender, ethnic and class specific disorders?	How easy is it to convince a doctor that you have schizophrenia?
EDUCATION	Are students labelled? Is this label always negative?	What are subcultures, and what types exist in education amongst pupils?	Why is there a significant difference in educational achievement between groups?

Below are some activities, videos, Netflix shows, books, and websites to visit to entertain yourself, as well as learn more about Sociology!



YOUTUBE VIDEOS

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The Jonestown Massacre: Paradise Lost (Cult Documentary) | Real Stories
Real Stories • 1.2M views • 2 years ago
This feature-length docudrama tracks the final build-up to a horrific doomsday: the infamous mass murder and suicides of Jim ...

Too Posh To Pay (White-Collar Crime Documentary) | Real Stories
Real Stories • 921K views • 2 years ago
Revealing documentary that uncovers the so-called respectable members of the middle classes who cheat, fiddle and steal their ...

Educating Yorkshire - Episode 1 (Documentary) | Yearbook
Yearbook • 588K views • 4 months ago
With a student population that is almost exactly half white-British and half British-Asian, Thornhill Academy near Dewsbury offers a ...

Killed in Hospital - BBC Panorama
BBCPanorama • 71K views • 1 year ago
An official inquiry has found that more than 450 patients had their lives cut short at an NHS hospital. Many were given fatal doses ...

There are hundreds of videos on every aspect of sociology on YouTube, but to give you some of our favourites...



TED TALKS

sociology

Topics Languages Duration Less

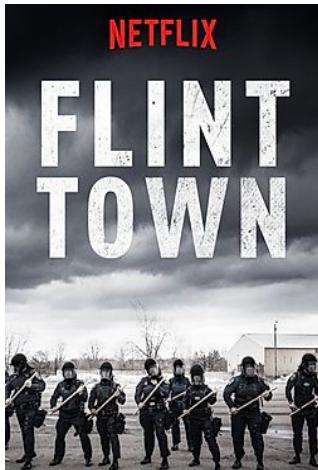
Events Find a speaker ▶

- | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|
| <p>Sherry Turkle
Connected, but alone?
Posted Apr 2012</p> | <p>Georgette Mulheir
The tragedy of orphanages
Posted Nov 2012</p> | <p>Zeynep Tufekci
Online social change: easy to organize, hard to win
Posted Feb 2015</p> | <p>Leslie Perlow
Thriving in an overconnected world
Posted Jan 2014</p> | <p>Steven Pinker
The surprising decline in violence
Posted Sep 2007</p> | <p>Bethany Rickwald and Hayley Levitt
Would you opt for a life with no pain?
Posted Nov 2015</p> |
| <p>David Dunning
Why incompetent people think they're amazing
Posted Nov 2017</p> | <p>Noah Zandan
The language of lying
Posted Sep 2018</p> | <p>Sam Richards
A radical experiment in empathy
Posted Apr 2011</p> | <p>Anindya Kundu
The boost students need to overcome obstacles
Posted Sep 2017</p> | <p>Alex Gendler
Can you outsmart this logical fallacy?
Posted Nov 2019</p> | <p>Ewandro Magalhaes
How interpreters juggle two languages at once
Posted Jun 2016</p> |

TED Talks are a fantastic resource for you to access - and it's entirely free. They are presentations/lectures given by experts in their field, across a whole variety of topics. If you find one that you think is interesting - email it to us!

N**NETFLIX**

I'm sure that for some of you - some of these shows will already be on your radar. If you haven't already checked them out, it's worth having a gander!



A police-eye view of a town in America in serious crisis.

A town which was booming 50 years ago, has now become plague by disinvestment, depopulation, urban decay, drugs, poverty, health crises and a heck of a lot of serious crime.

Looks at why crime occurs, and methods of dealing with it - including a zero-tolerance approach to crime.



A bizarre, but terribly interesting documentary series about some people suffering from some strange illnesses and conditions. Allergies to electricity and dust, chronic fatigue, microwave sensitivity.

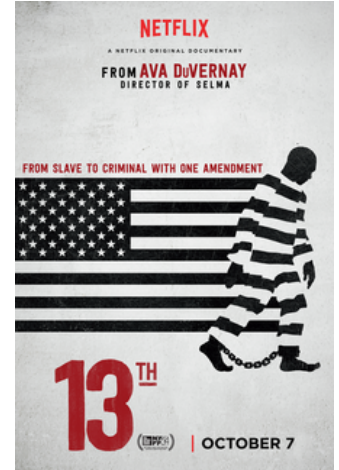
Are their conditions real - or are they all in their heads? You decide! Touches upon societies reaction to different illnesses, and how accepting we are of bizarre conditions.



A slightly scary look into the world of when healthcare goes wrong - particularly with surgeries.

Surgical gloves, instruments, sponges left inside bodies, as well as malpractice in hospitals.

We place our trust and faith into healthcare professionals...but they make mistakes too. And sometimes, in some places, more frequently than we would like...



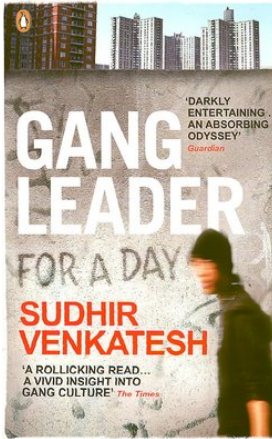
A fantastic documentary looking at the historical, societal, political and cultural development of criminalisation and racism towards African Americans.

Offers an interesting explanation as to why there are greater numbers of African Americans incarcerated than other ethnic groups.



BOOKS

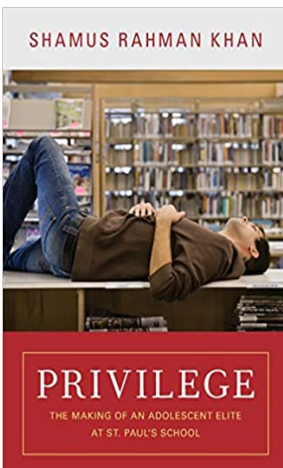
Here are our book recommendations! Some may be easier to find than others, however summaries and extracts can be found online for free!



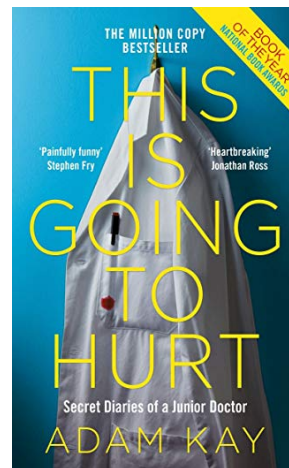
We look at this research quite closely later in the course but focuses around one researcher's participation and observation of a Chicago based gang. Discusses ideas of crime and identity!



Deals with masculine identity, and the violent world of working as a bouncer in the 70's, as means of expressing masculinity. Tough to get a hold of - but worth it!



A fascinating insight into a prestigious and elite high school, and how the members of the new elite face the opening of society, while still preserving the advantages that allow them to rule.



A must read for anyone interested in working within a healthcare - a first-hand account of working as a junior doctor, discussing issues of inequality, and issues facing the NHS.

Any questions regarding the course, or anything you have seen/read that you want to share, send us an email!

Hoping you and your families are well and safe, and looking forward to seeing you all for Sociology next year!

- Mrs Shepherd & Mr Walker