

# Introduction Module

## What is Sociology?

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Name and date begun:

**Time allocation:**  
4 lessons

### Learning objectives:

- Students should understand that the discipline of sociology is not so much concerned with a body of knowledge but is a training in a certain type of thought.
- There is a clear objective in this class and that is to pass an examination.
- Students should begin to understand what 'taking responsibility for their own learning' means.

### Key Concepts and vocabulary

- Culture
- Sociology
- Society
- Social differentiation
- Social groups
- Social science
- Behaviour
- Objectivity
- Subjectivity

### Additional reading and references

Haralambos and Holbourn (1995) *Sociology: Themes and Perspectives* p 2 - 7

Taylor *et al.* (1996) *Sociology in Focus* p 1 - 10

Jorgensen *et al.* (1997) *Sociology: An interactive approach* Chapter 1

Browne (1998) *An Introduction to Sociology 2<sup>nd</sup> edition* Chapter 1

Giddens (1997) *Sociology 3<sup>rd</sup> edition* p 1 - 6

### Make a note of any additional sources that you have used below:

These could include:

- Dictionaries
- Encyclopaedias
- Internet
- CD Rom
- Other students
- The librarian or LRC Assistant

### **Personal Development ideas**

- Find out where the sociology books are in the LRC.
- Look at the School Website and see what you can discover about the resources and skills.
- Visit other Sociology Websites using the word 'Sociology' as a start, or using the links on the school Website.
- Visit the bookshops in Cardiff and look at the Sociology sections, remembering all the time not to panic, you are a beginner, and it gets easier.
- Find out where some of the Sociology texts are in the Cardiff Library.

### **Overview of the debate**

- Why do we have the discipline of sociology?
- What can you expect from an 'A' level course?
- What ideas do we gain from our society?
- What is society?

### **Revision tips**

- Be sure that you fully understand what you have been told about learning how to learn.
- Make sure that your notes are ordered and legible, right from the start.
- Return to your notes on a regular basis to refresh your understanding.
- Find out as much as you can about the examination process itself
- Settle into a regular routine of work.
- Arrange a study partner with whom you can work as soon as you can.

### **What you should have in your folder when this work has been completed correctly:**

- A clear explanation of each of the glossary terms
- Acceptable lesson notes.
- Evidence that you have looked at least two textbooks and made notes on which you like best.
- Copies of the contract you have with your teacher that explains what is required of you.
- Notes downloaded from the Internet