Sociology

Year 12

Half Term 1

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| Number of Hours | Topic |
| 4 | What is sociology? |
| 6 | Perspectives on education |
| 5 | Differential achievement by class |
| 6 | Differential achievement by ethnicity |
| 8 | Differential achievement by gender |
| Reasons behind order of topic in this half term | |
| The first topic that the students study sets the basics in place: we look at initial concepts like socialisation, agency, action and structure and how these will apply to future topics. The Y12 course begins with Education after a general introduction: we work on a basis of familiarity and difficulty, saving the more difficult sections of the course for Y13 where the challenge is more significant. In terms of familiarity, year 12 works well as it looks at both education and families & households – both areas where the students will be able to relate most closely in their current position.  We introduce the overall ideas: functionalism, marxism, feminism and this helps to ease the transition into specific ‘factors’ that also need introducing (class, eth, gen). | |

Sociology

Year 12

Half Term 2

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| Number of Hours | Topic |
| 6 | How has compulsory education changed over time? |
| 3 | Introduction to methods in context |
| 3 | Characteristics of research: who, where, how |
| 12 | Primary methods of research |
| 5 | Secondary methods of research |
| 2 | Research characteristics of specific issues |
| Reasons behind order of topic in this half term | |
| How has compulsory education changed over time is left till last as this is the most challenging, requires the most complex ideas to be explained, it makes sense to do this last within education.  We then move on to methods in context (MiC), where the context is education. We have already referenced ideas from MiC within the education topic and it would be impossible to do MiC prior to education as the students would lack sufficient knowledge. We complete this topic prior to studying families & households as the ideas within education are directly applicable and some crossover between the topics is planned within the department to help ease the transition into MiC. | |

Sociology

Year 12

Half Term 3

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| Number of Hours | Topic |
| 2 | Introduction to families and households |
| 6 | Couples |
| 6 | Changing family patterns |
| 6 | Demographic change |
| 7 | Theories on the family |
| 3 | Is childhood a social construct? |
| Reasons behind order of topic in this half term | |
| We naturally begin with the introduction to families, and then have planned around the more complex, harder to condense subjects being dispersed throughout the year rather than being all taught one after another towards the end (such as Childhood, social policy and demographics) as they were in the past. This helps to ensure that students have the foundational knowledge, are building in confidence from education and MiC and are beginning to move into less familiar territory. So a mixture of familiar and unfamiliar content is taught in this half term to ensure interest and comprehension is maintained. | |

Sociology

Year 12

Half term 4

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| Number of Hours | Topic |
| 6 | How has childhood changed over time? |
| 6 | Families and social policy |
| 8 | Family diversity |
| 10 | Revision work, exam skills, revisiting previous content |
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| Reasons behind order of topic in this half term | |
| Continuing theme of the previous half term: a mixture of familiar and complex topics to ensure that all of the difficult content within families and households does not arrive at once.  As students will end their Y12 course and sit their mock exams prior to the end of the year, there is plenty of time to begin the year 13 content as it is assumed that all students will continue their student into the second year of the course. We end the two most familiar topics and move onto year 13 in ascending order of difficulty: Beliefs in society is taught first as this is the most familiar in terms of content and assessment, the questions follow the same assessment pattern as Families and Households. | |

Sociology

Year 12

Half Term 5

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| Number of Hours | Topic |
| 3 | Year 13 intro |
| 8 | Theories of religion |
| 6 | Science and ideology |
| 6 | Religious as a conservative force |
| 6 | Religion as a force for social change |
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| Reasons behind order of topic in this half term | |
| Beginning with the most familiar: the theories that were also taught in Year 13 and are applied to a new topic. Again, a mixture of the more complex and more familiar topics to aid comprehension, retention of earlier ideas and ensure that students do not feel overwhelmed by increasingly difficult content. Beliefs in Society follows same assessment guidelines as previous topic, preparing them in Year 13 intro for the jump to 30 marks in Crime & Deviance. | |

Sociology

Year 12

Half Term 6

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| Number of Hours | Topic |
| 7 | Religious organisations |
| 8 | Secularisation: arguments for |
| 8 | Secularisation: arguments against |
| 5 | Religion and renewal |
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| Reasons behind order of topic in this half term | |
| Development of Beliefs topics - a mixture of the more complex and more familiar topics to aid comprehension, retention of earlier ideas and ensure that students do not feel overwhelmed by increasingly difficult content. | |