

Getting Started with... A Level Sociology

Welcome!

We have created a resource bank which you can draw on as preparation for the Sociology course which begins in the Autumn term. Our advice would be to be inquisitive and follow your interests, Sociology is an academic discipline which spans a wide variety of topics. So, if you are interested in 'chavs' there is something there for; if you are interested in gender issues and the LGBT community there is something there for you; if you are interested in the sociological impact of Coronavirus there is plenty there for you, and so on. Work through the resources at your leisure, follow any leads, ignite your interests, and make the most of having this time to really broaden your knowledge before we begin the A Level course in September.

There is one pre-requisite for entry on the course (besides the set GCSE grades of course) and that is that you come in with an open mind and be prepared to question everything and accept nothing!

A good place to start is with 'Introduction to Sociology' YouTube clips. Here are a couple of decent ones you could take a look at:

1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YnCJU6PaCio> with the enthusiastically wonderful Nicole Sweeney
2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TFdUtCAXAUM> two minute clip to give you an idea of what Sociology is.

If you want to prepare yourself for the first couple of weeks these clips are worth a peek:

1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=STn3bpTTU6c> A 9 minute exploration of feral children
2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UkX47t2QaRs> An ever popular clip about the extraordinary Oxana Malaya
3. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NVaShWV79PU> Superb clip exploring the cultural practices of the Wodaabe people

There are a host of podcasts available detailing sociological research and exploring contemporary issues; the first one looks at the Coronavirus and what the impact it is having on society:

<https://anchor.fm/allsociology/episodes/11-Sociology-and-the-Coronavirus-eboh00>

<http://www.thesocialbreakdown.com/>

<https://soundcloud.com/thesociologicalreview>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qy05>

(Thinking Allowed is a weekly Radio 4 Sociology programme)

Next are a selection of **Sociology websites** worth exploring:

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/sociology>

<https://www.nytimes.com/topic/subject/sociology>

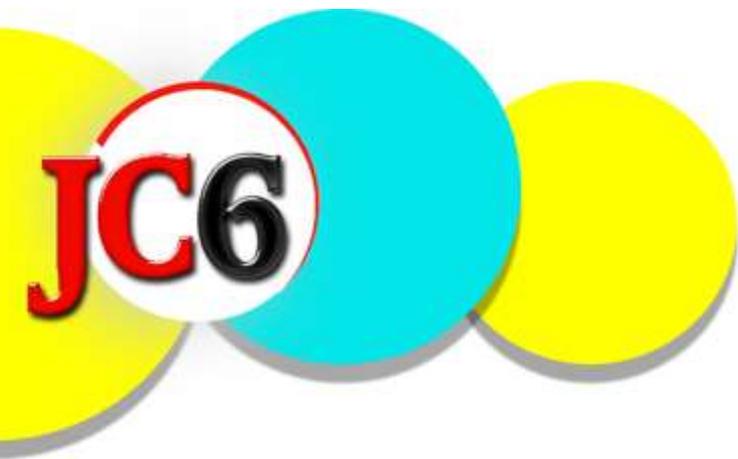
<https://www.tutor2u.net/sociology/blog>

<https://sociologysal.blogspot.com/>

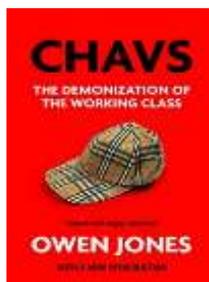
<https://gendersociety.wordpress.com/>

<https://creativesociology.blogspot.com/>

<http://www.sociologylens.net/>

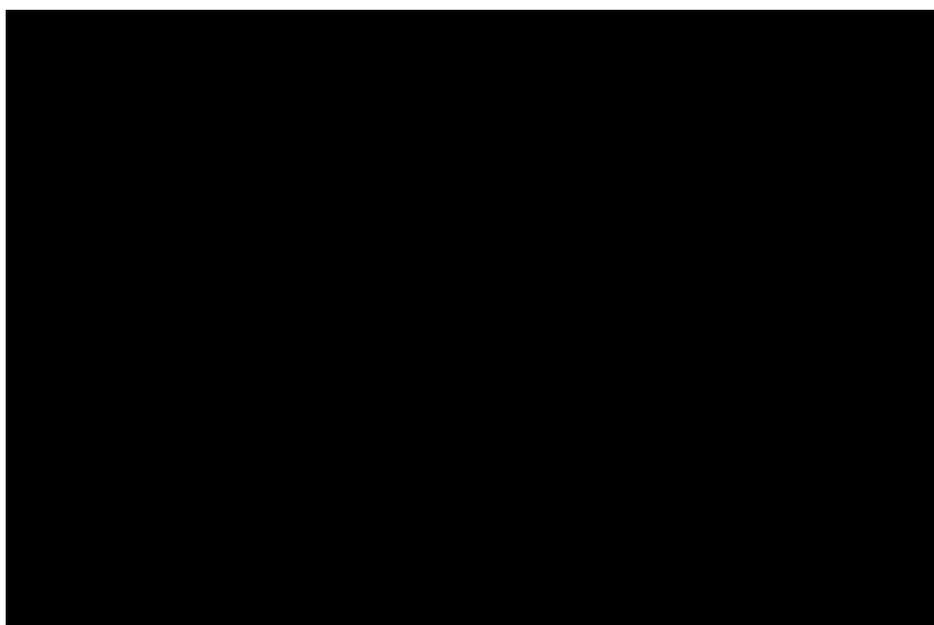


If you like reading here are a couple of books which might fire your interest over the summer:



And a YouTube clip to go with 'Chavs' <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D3iu16tS-0g> (Owen Jones interviewed about his book 'Chavs: the demonization of the working class')

If you want to see **Hinckley Academy in a Sociology film** watch this clip about doing participant observation research and see if you can spot our school.



There is one compulsory task...

At some point over the summer create your own **alphabetical glossary** of 20 Sociological key terms (either word-processed or hand-written). This can then go into your folders and will be an excellent point of reference for your studies. You must hand this in (name at top please) when you come to your first Sociology lesson in the Autumn term.

Find your definitions on the internet or from library books. Make them precise, concise and written in language that you understand (usually somewhere between a line and two sentences of writing). Here are the key terms:

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|-----------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Culture | Ethnicity | Feral Children | Functionalism |
| Gender | Identity | Labelling | Marxism |
| Norms | Patriarchy | Postmodernism | Self-fulfilling prophecy |
| Sexuality | Social class | Social Mobility | Socialisation |
| Status | Stratification | Subculture | Values |

Email me at any time if you are struggling to find definitions on MParry@hajc.leics.sch.uk

See you in September.
Kind Regards, Matt Parry.