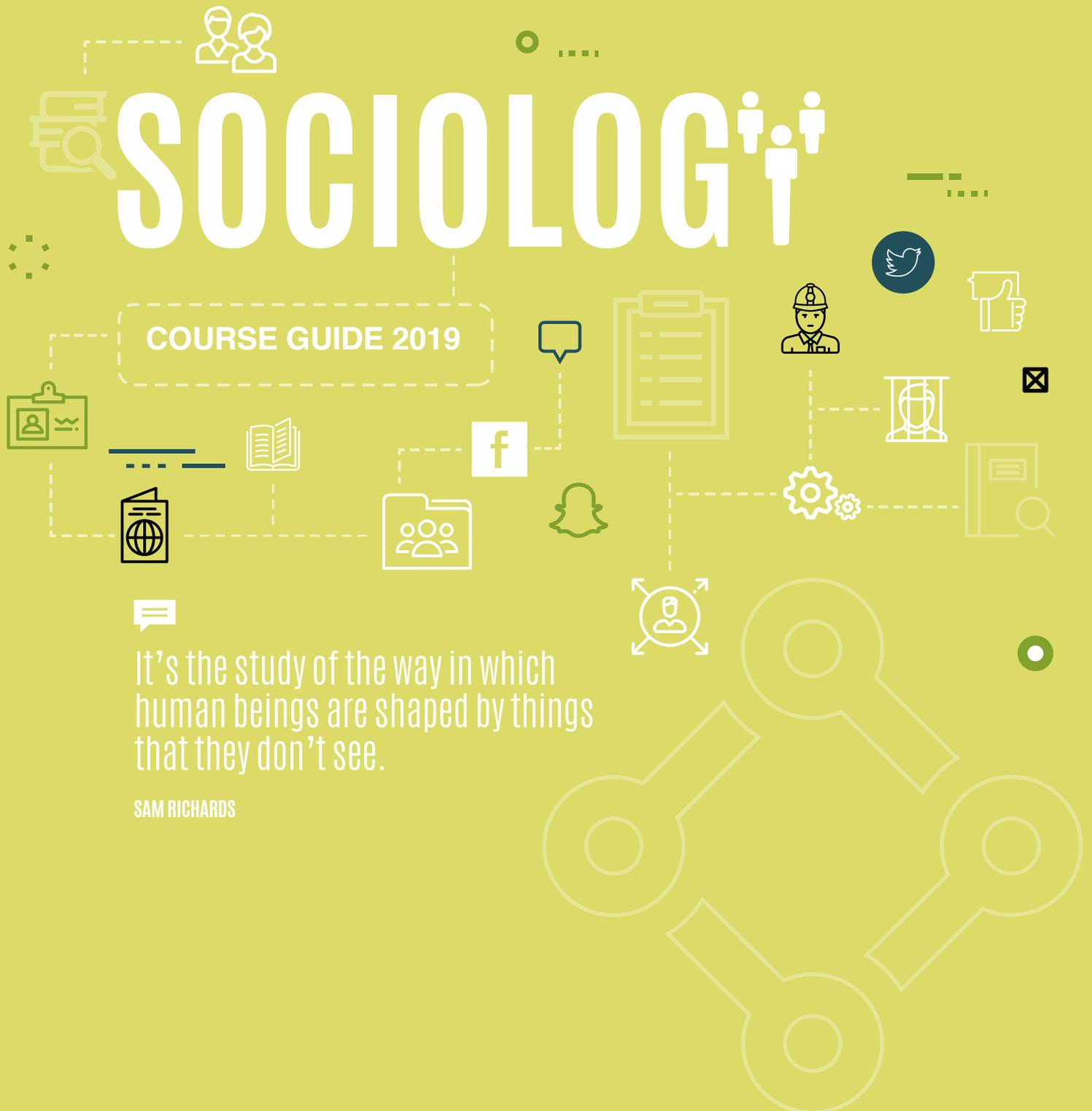


SOCIOLOGY

COURSE GUIDE 2019

It's the study of the way in which
human beings are shaped by things
that they don't see.

SAM RICHARDS



Sociology

Linear A Level
Exam Board: OCR



OUR STUDENTS SAY...

College is a big step up from school and although there is a lot more work expected, the friendly atmosphere at Carmel helps my motivation and confidence.

For me, it's easy to enjoy being at Carmel because of the mature environment and supportive teachers. Sociology was a new subject for me and I enjoy it immensely because I now reflect on the world and social events from different perspectives. Also, my teacher is inspiring and approachable which encourages me to engage further with the curriculum. During my time at Carmel I have been supported in finding work experience in a local primary school and my goal is to go to university and train as a teacher so that I too can inspire young people on their educational journey.

Holly Fenn St Edmund Arrowsmith, Whiston
Studying: Sociology, English Literature,
Psychology



What is Sociology?

Are you interested in contemporary, modern Britain? Do you want to acquire knowledge and a critical understanding of the social world in which you live? Then choose Sociology and learn to develop your skills in organising and presenting information, ideas, descriptions and arguments.

The Sociology department at Carmel is a successful and lively one. We offer a range of teaching styles and learning experiences and aim to broaden your understanding of the social and political world around you, as well as enabling you to achieve exam success.

What will I study?

The course is a 2 year course. You will study modules introducing socialisation, culture and identity (with a particular focus on youth subcultures); research methods and social inequalities; and globalisation and the digital world (with a particular focus on crime and deviance).

What exams do I have to take?

You will sit 3 exams at the end of the second year. The first exam will be 1 hour 30 minutes (30% of the total A level); the second and third exams will be 2 hours and 15 minutes each (each are 35% of the total A level).

Where can Sociology lead?

Sociology students go on to a hugely diverse range of careers and H.E. courses, from jobs in the media, such as researchers and journalists, to teaching, police work, social work, health care – the list is endless!

There is also a wide variety of opportunities in all aspects of social research, such as youth services, criminal justice system, education, etc.



On the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, Washington



Outside The White House, Washington DC



Sociology students with Billy Fury, Liverpool

OUR STUDENTS SAY...

Being a student at Carmel College for the last two years has allowed me to enhance my learning and improve my skills.

It has given me many opportunities and ideas for my future endeavours and has supported me throughout. Studying Sociology has shown me the many different perspectives and theories which demonstrate how society functions, and the factors which have an impact on the smooth-running of society. Learning this subject has given me the opportunity to look at how an individual's age, class, gender and ethnicity can have an effect on how they are perceived and treated by society. Furthermore, it has allowed me to reinforce my essay writing skills which improves my knowledge and vocabulary, and I am able to transfer this to my other subjects.

Tom Smith Knowsley Park
 Studying: English Language & Literature, Law, Sociology



What is the Sociology department like?

Our Sociology department has a range of specialist resources to help you with your knowledge, skills and interest in the subject.

We have multi-media projectors and interactive white boards in each of our teaching bases, specialist journals, an up-to-date and wide ranging collection of books, DVDs and a well-developed dedicated area on the college intranet site.

We tackle contemporary topics in exciting ways and work on developing your research skills for you to become a sociologist in the making. We use a wide variety of teaching and e-learning methods to help you to make sense of your own experiences in society, and to give you the 'tools' which will allow you to become a better informed and more socially aware member of society.

What support will I receive?

In Sociology, you will develop the necessary skills to enable you to assess different views and reach conclusions about society, based on a careful consideration of evidence. As most schools do not offer GCSE Sociology, it is not necessary to have any prior learning in the subject – we help you to develop and understand the elements and skills in Sociology. We have an established and sound tutorial system where you can ask any member of the department for help at any time. In addition, you can ask the Study Support Tutors for specific help, for example, with essay writing.

How can I enrich my Sociology studies?

Along with an immensely challenging and exciting discipline, you will also have the opportunity to experience the social world first hand. We organise visits and speakers in the following areas:

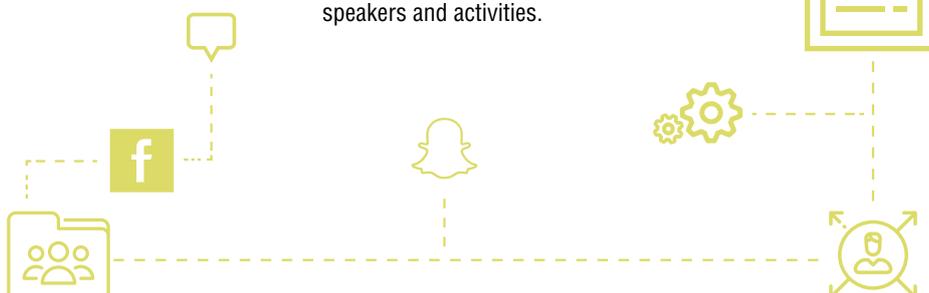
- Visits to the Crown Court where you will meet the staff and sit in the public gallery in a variety of different cases;
- Speakers from different religions who talk about their beliefs and how they affect their lives;
- Revision visits to Manchester University to help with preparation for your exams;
- Visits to the Houses of Parliament and The Old Bailey, Washington DC and New York City;
- Sociology Day with guest speakers and activities.

Meet the Tutors

Andrea Mathews
 Head of Sociology and
 AQA Examiner

Karen Parr
 Sociology Tutor

Asma Ali
 Sociology Tutor





Frequently Asked Questions

What are the entry requirements for Sociology?

You will need **GCSE grade 5 in English Language**.

How successful are Carmel's Sociology students?

We have an excellent and established A Level course. In 2018, 79% of our students achieved A* - C grades. Most of our students have progressed on to a Sociology related degree or career.

Which subjects complement this A Level?

It really depends on your career options, but any of the following work well with Sociology: Government & Politics; Health & Social Care; History; Media Studies; Law; Psychology; Philosophy & Religion.

Can I study Sociology if I haven't taken it at GCSE?

Yes! Most schools do not offer GCSE Sociology, so the course is taught with the assumption that you have no prior knowledge of the subject.

What makes a successful Sociology student?

An interest in social and political issues; a willingness to participate; an ability to write effectively; effort and initiative; keeping up to date with the news, documentaries, etc; respecting and listening to other peoples' views.



A trip to the People's Museum, Manchester



The Rocky Statue, Philadelphia



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Merseyside WA10 3AG
www.carmel.ac.uk

More Information

A course specification is available on the exam board website: www.ocr.org.uk
Contact the Sociology department any time if you want to find out more:
andrea@carmel.ac.uk

