

Frequently Asked Questions A Level (including AS Level) Sociology (9699)

Has the new syllabus come into effect?

Yes. The exams for the new syllabus were first held in June 2002.

Can students take the AS examination at the end of their first year and then retake it at the end of the second year, along with the A level components?

Yes, a candidate's best AS Level result can count towards their A Level in unitised syllabuses and will apply from the first unitised A Level results, for the June 2002 session.

Can students take dictionaries into the examination?

Candidates are allowed a simple translation dictionary.

What support materials are available?

- Syllabus
 - Specimen Question Papers and Mark Schemes
 - AS and A level Standards Booklet - this contains examples of marked student answers to AS and A level questions and has a commentary from senior examiners
 - Question Papers and Mark Schemes
- All the above are available from CIE Publications

Is International A level equivalent to UK A level and how do universities regard International A level?

Yes, the International A level is equivalent to an UK A level. Similarly International AS and UK AS are of equivalent standard. The best place to find out about acceptability of CIE examinations by British universities is the UCAS website at <http://www.ucas.com/candq/inter/misc/appenda.html>. In general there is direct equivalence between UK A and AS Level Sociology and CIE A and AS Level Sociology.

How many hours contact time do you recommend for AS /A level?

Over a two year A level course approximately 5 hours per week of teaching time would be sufficient. Students will be expected to do individual work outside of this time.

Can you suggest any web-sites that could be used as teaching aids?

- <http://www.le.ac.uk/education/centres/ATSS/atss.html> The Association for the Teaching of the Social Sciences (ATSS)
- <http://www.oneworld.org/ni/index4.html> New Internationalist One World Almanac
- <http://www.philipallan.co.uk> Sociology Review

I am having problems in getting hold of the recommended textbooks. Can you help?

Most of the texts can be obtained over the Internet. The following web-sites may be of interest:

www.amazon.co.uk
www.heffers.co.uk