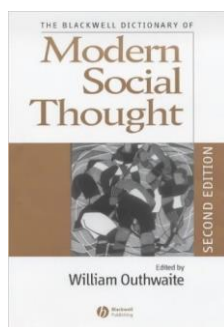


Thank you for choosing to study Sociology. We are looking forward to welcoming you to the Social Sciences department. The next two years will challenge you, fascinate you and give you a real insight into the most current topics in our society such as crime, education and media.

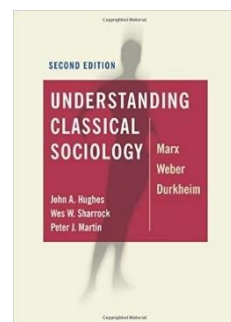
The bridging work is designed to give you a taster of the next two years, hope you enjoy it and find it interesting. Mrs Dakovic m.dakovic@holt.wokingham.sch.uk

Book Recommendations

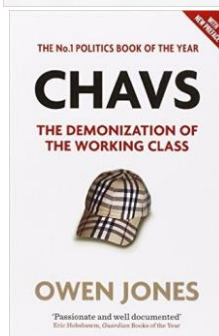
It is vital that you are accustomed to completing wider reading around topics you will cover during your A levels. As starting point, we recommend the following titles:



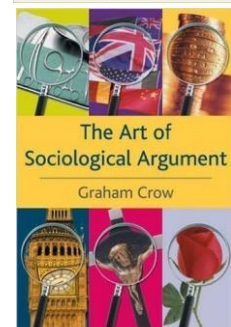
Understanding Classical Sociology, J.A. Hughes, W.W. Sharrock, and P.J. Martin (2003)
ISBN-10: 0761954678



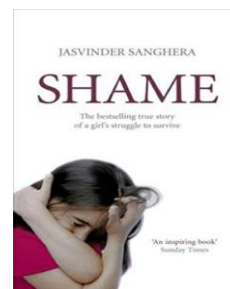
The Blackwell Dictionary of Modern Social Thought, W. Outhwaite (2003)
ISBN-10: 0631221646



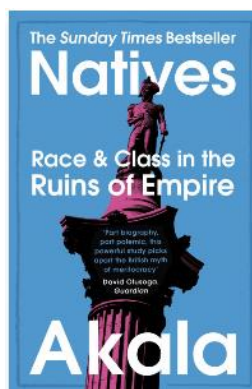
The Art of Sociological Argument, Graham Crow (2005)
ASIN: B017OLMW0I



Chavs: The demonization of the working class by Owen Jones
ISBN-10: 1844678644

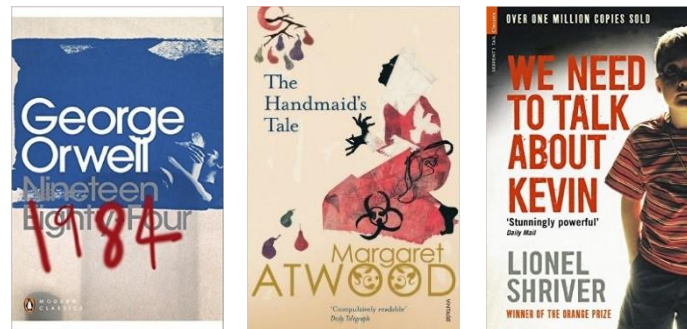


Shame, Jasvinder Sanghera
ISBN: 9781473631335



Natives; Race and class in the ruins of empire By Akala
ISBN-13: 9781473661240

Sociology in fiction:



1984 by George Orwell
The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood
We need to talk about Kevin by Lionel Shriver

Film/Documentary Recommendations

There are a number of useful films and documentaries that will develop your wider understanding of the topics covered.

Films:

The Butler
12 Years a Slave, Mandela: A long walk to Freedom
Social Network
This is England
Freedom Writers
The History boys
Billy Elliot
Mockingbird Don't Sing
Nell
Made in Dagenham
Black Mirror
East is East & West is West
Brick Lane
Revolutionary Road
12 Years a Slave
The Butler
The Help
Erin Brokovich
Philadelphia
Coach Carter
Green Mile
Hotel Rwanda



USEFUL TV SERIES INCLUDE

Panorama; Cutting Edge; Witness; Horizon, dispatched, Simpsons, Louis Theroux, Donal McIntyre (Undercovered), Stacey Dooley documentaries, Call the Midwife

Documentaries:

No Sex Please, We're Japanese. <https://vimeo.com/80542212>

School Swap – The Class Divide.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wRu0OIQ0JkY>

Hoop Dreams documentary by Steve James

Misrepresentation on Netflix

Research Activity 1

Using the internet and books, complete the following task. You should produce notes using the Cornell Note Taking System (<http://lsc.cornell.edu/study-skills/cornell-note-taking-system/>) on the following topic(s). Make sure you have your notes with you for your first lesson in September.

In the first year of the course, we study the role of education in society but also on a global level. To help you understand the role of education, please mindmap/make notes about your thoughts on the following questions:

- What do you think the key functions of education are? i.e. what do you learn at school other than just key subjects?
- Do you think that the education system in this country is fair to all students? If no, why not? *Think of the experiences of children at home but also when they are at school.*

Look up the following on the internet and make notes about what you find:

- FreeSchools
- Academies
- Faith Schools
- Grammar Schools

Every few years, pupils in this country sit international tests for Maths, reading and Science and we can then see how we compare to countries around the world.

Using the following link <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-38212070>

look up where the UK came in each category in the latest round of PISA tests in 2015 and make a note. To extend yourself, write down the benefits and limitations of comparing our education system to those around the world.

Research Activity 2

Using the internet and books, complete the following task. You could chose to present this via PowerPoint.

The current pandemic is something which would be of great interest to sociologists. Therefore, I want you to think like a sociologist and work on a project which links to many of the topics we will study next year.

This is a great opportunity for you to begin to learn and understand many of the key terms and concepts that will help you think like a sociologist and which will help with your essay writing in the future.

Have look at the link I have attached. This can be used as stimulus for the project. In addition to researching and commenting on this article I want you to research How coronavirus is affecting; education, crime, family etc.

Here are some things for you to think about..

- **Education**- is it affecting everyone eg working from home or are there some social groups who will be more disadvantaged? (digital divide, material deprivation, cultural deprivation etc)
- **Crime**- crime rates for sexual assault and burglary have gone down- the overall crime rate has reduced. Why has this happened? Find official statistics on this. What crimes have increased and why has this happened?
- **Family**- what is happening with domestic violence levels? Death rate statistics, what are the government discussing regarding this? Are the official statistics accurate? Panic buying? Migration- migrants are coming from other countries to help farmers pick their crops.

Media – How accurate has the media's reporting been on the pandemic? Is the media contributing to moral panics? The impact of fake news?

These are just some ideas, feel free to add other questions and answers. Use the internet, include links to news articles, screen shots of statistics etc. You can be really creative with this and there aren't 'right' answers as such just your ideas based on the evidence.

There are some other useful resources from a variety of online sources:

- Canterbury Sociology blog post - [Engaging with the corona generation](#)
- The University of Manchester - School of Social Sciences - [Coronavirus: the social impact](#)
- Everyday Sociology - [Coronavirus: Early Impressions of Sudden Social Change](#)
- Rappler - [Using sociology to make sense of the coronavirus pandemic](#)
- The Conversation - [Will coronavirus be the turning point for globalisation?](#)

Further challenge – Research what functionalists, Marxists, feminists would say about the situation?

Social Media and Websites

A who's who of who to follow on social media.....

Sociology is constantly changing – so reading a newspaper is vital – if you don't get one add a few of these sites to your favourites and browse.

BBC www.bbc.co.uk

The Daily Telegraph www.telegraph.co.uk

The Government (for details of social policies, etc.) www.open.gov.uk The Guardian
www.guardian.co.uk

Market and Opinion Research International (MORI) www.mori.com Office for National
Statistics www.ons.gov.uk

Sunday Times www.sunday-times.co.uk The Times
www.thetimes.co.uk

Sociology Central www.sociology.org.uk

