

Unit Overview: Year 13 Research Methods, Methods in Context and Theories							
Half- Term:	AUT 1	AUT 2	SPR 1	SPR 2	SUM 1	SUM 2	No of Lessons:
<p><u>Key Focus for Unit:</u> <i>What is the key knowledge being delivered?</i> <i>What is the intent of this unit?</i></p>							
<p>Students evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of various methods of research and apply them to education. Students assess various theoretical perspectives in sociology.</p> <p>Research Methods and Methods in Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the distinction between primary and secondary data, and between quantitative and qualitative data the theoretical, practical and ethical considerations influencing choice of topic, choice of method(s) and the conduct of research. quantitative and qualitative methods of research; research design the relationship between positivism, interpretivism and sociological methods; the nature of ‘social facts’ sources of data, including questionnaires, interviews, participant and non-participant observation, experiments, documents and official statistics Students must be able to apply sociological research methods to the study of education <p>Theories: Students must examine the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> consensus, conflict, structural and social action theories the concepts of modernity and post-modernity in relation to sociological theory the nature of science and the extent to which Sociology can be regarded as scientific the relationship between theory and methods debates about subjectivity, objectivity and value freedom the relationship between Sociology and social policy. <p>Examination Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The importance of writing exam question responses in the prescribed manner. Students will learn how to organise 10 and 20 markers. Students will also learn how to properly organise a Methods in Context response. 							
<p><u>Key Knowledge and Big Ideas:</u> <i>What Powerful Knowledge and Big Ideas are explored in this Unit?</i> <i>How have these progressed from previous learning?</i></p>							
<p>Research Methods and Methods in Context: There are multiple ways in which sociologists conduct research. The type of research chosen will be determined by their sociological preference (positivist or interpretivist). In responding to a Methods in Context question, students must apply the strengths and weaknesses of the methods to a theme and study in education.</p> <p>Theories: Theories are the bedrock of our study of Sociology and therefore, our study of society. The how and why people do the things they do or think the way they think can be traced back to an already created theory or an indication o the formation of a new one.</p>							
<p><u>Unit Assessment:</u> <i>How will this unit be assessed?</i> <i>What is the frequency of assessments – baselines etc?</i></p>							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homework - 10 mark extended writing questions In class assessments – 10/20 mark essay questions End of Unit Assessment 							

<u>Key Skills Explored</u>	<u>Vocabulary Selected for DVI</u>	<u>Links to Previous Unit</u>
<p>Critical Thinking Extended writing an essay writing skills Presentation skills Group Work Exam writing skills</p>	<p>Research: Primary and secondary data Participant observation Validity in research Reliability in research Qualitative data Quantitative data</p> <p>Theories: Consensus Functionalism Interpretivism Feminism Conflict</p>	<p>KS4 prior knowledge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in Maths (data presentation and interpretation), • in English (layered writing, Tier 2 vocabulary and academic writing) • in Science (conducting social research)
<u>Links to Careers/Employability</u>	<u>How does this unit prepare students for the next unit?</u>	
<p>Link to policy/evaluation of policy + jobs in the civil service</p> <p>Link to evaluation of research findings + jobs in marketing and consumer research.</p>	<p>Students will apply the same approaches (functionalism/Marxism/interactionism/realism) to all the units studied.</p>	