

Sociology - Year 12 to 13

Summer Independent Learning 2026

Introduction

You are currently studying the topic of Crime, which is examined in Paper 3. In July, you covered an introduction to crime and deviance, including key concepts and issues within the topic. You will now begin exploring a range of sociological perspectives and their explanations of crime and deviance. This will build on the knowledge and understanding you have already developed from studying sociological theories in the Family and Education units, as well as the research methods used by sociologists.

The specification detail- Crime & Deviance:

3.3.1 Crime and Deviance

Students are expected to be familiar with sociological explanations of the following content:

- crime, deviance, social order and social control
- the social distribution of crime and deviance by ethnicity, gender and social class, including recent patterns and trends in crime
- globalisation and crime in contemporary society; the media and crime; green crime; human rights and state crimes
- crime control, surveillance, prevention and punishment, victims, and the role of the criminal justice system and other agencies.

The theories of crime booklet are in the DIL booklet you have been using recently.

Tasks

Complete 1 - 7 C&D for your SIL. For each C&D you need to:

- Read and annotate each C&D in the booklet.
- Complete a detailed A3 knowledge organiser for theories & crime, outlining each key thinker for each perspective, key concepts & evaluation. A completed example has been shown in class, you can use the template attached to this booklet or create your own.
- Complete the research task on social distribution of crime & deviance, which will support you in the upcoming topic.
- Bring all completed work and both booklets to your first lesson in September.

The Theory	Key Concepts- what the theory believes in + focuses on	Key Thinkers/ Studies	Similarities to other Theories	Criticisms from other Theories
Functionalist				
Strain				
Subcultural				
Interactionalist/ Labelling				
Marxist				
Neo-Marxist				
Left Realism				
Right Realism				

Social Distribution of Crime Research Task

Investigate how crime patterns vary by social class, gender and ethnicity. Use the QR codes below to access official statistics and research.



ONSCrime Statistics



Home Office Crime Data



Ethnicity Facts & Figures



Ministry of Justice Statistics

On lined paper complete the following:

AO1: Patterns and Trends

For each social group (social class, gender, ethnicity):

- Identify key crime patterns and trends.
- Record at least 3 statistics.
- Explain what the statistics show.

AO2: Application of Evidence

- Find at least 2 sociological studies or research findings.
- Use statistics to support sociological explanations.
- Explain how the evidence links to crime patterns.

AO3: Evaluation

- Are official statistics reliable?
- Have patterns changed over time?
- Are there alternative explanations?
- Could criminal justice bias affect the data?

Extension

Which factor appears to have the strongest relationship with crime: social class, gender or ethnicity? Justify your answer using evidence.