

why choose

SCIENCE IN A Level SOCIETY

AQA
STUDENT GUIDE



JOINING UP THE DOTS

If you like to know why things happen, you'll find Science in Society a fascinating course. During the course you'll unearth information on a diverse range of issues, like infectious diseases, evolution, the universe, climate change and much more. It all results in a greater understanding of nature and scientific issues.

By covering such an incredible range of issues, Science in Society gives you a strong overview of the world around us. It also helps you hone personal skills, such as researching and evaluating information. But most importantly it lets you join up the dots by appreciating science's contribution to our society and the developments we have made.



SUPPORT OR COUNTERBALANCE?

At A Level, students often split into one of two streams: those who study the arts and humanities, and those who study technical and scientific subjects.

But Science in Society has an invigorating mix of technical and artistic thinkers. Those doing the arts like the way that

this course keeps them grounded in the world around us and is a counterbalance to their artistic studies, whilst those doing scientific subjects enjoy understanding how science works in the real world.

YOUR KEY LEARNING TOPICS

At AS you'll have two main strands: 'Exploring scientific issues' and 'Reading and writing about science'. The first of those takes you through 11 fascinating issues. Infectious diseases, evolution and the universe we've already mentioned. But there's also



transport issues, medicine, radiation, lifestyle and health... so you get a very rounded perspective. The 'Reading and writing' strand gives you the opportunity to research and report on a topical issue and also to review some popular scientific literature and then write about it.

If continuing to complete the A Level course, you'll explore a number of different issues, such as the nature/nurture debate, how the brain works, global climate change, energy and sustainability. Then in a case study you will analyse a new scientific issue.

ON YOUR MARKS ...

At AS and A2 you'll be assessed by taking a paper that will cover the skills and knowledge you have explored through various issues. Each paper accounts for 60% of your marks for the year. At AS, your research report and account of reading is assessed by your teacher, at A2 you will do a case study in an exam paper. These parts will account for 40% of your marks for the year.

WHERE WILL SUCCESS TAKE ME?

This subject is definitely for scientists and non-scientists, so think of it as supporting your ambition. Media, journalism, science, medicine, engineering, management, politics ... they're just some of the careers which students taking this course aspire to.



WHAT SKILLS WILL I LEARN?

Science in Society helps students develop a number of skills:

- How to research information and evaluate it
- How to investigate facts and use deduction
- How to argue your point of view fluently
- How to take responsibility for your own learning.

WILL IT FIT IN MY LIFE?

Science in Society is a versatile course. For example, students who also take Media Studies might want a career as science correspondents. Those taking Economics might find they apply their numeracy skills in the medical field. Whilst students taking subjects like Biology or Chemistry will appreciate the broader perspective this course gives.

CAN'T WAIT TO GET STARTED?

Your tutor and career adviser will be the best people to help you decide whether this course is the right choice for you. They will be as passionate as you to find the best subject to develop your talents!

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT:

[HTTP://WWW.AQA.ORG.UK/QUAL/GCE/SCIENCE_SOCIETY_NEW.PHP](http://www.aqa.org.uk/qual/gce/science_society_new.php)

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