

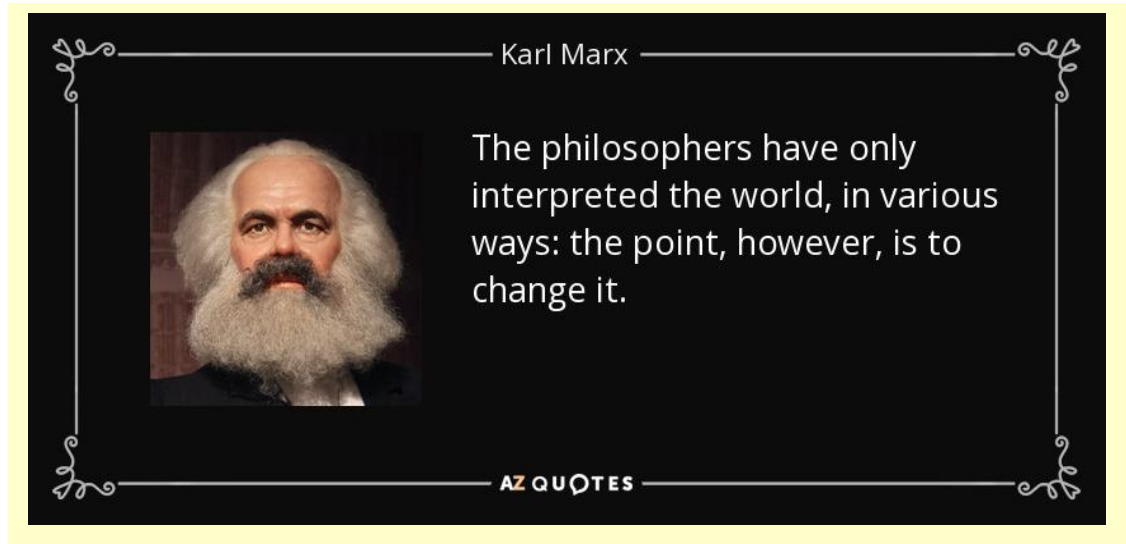


Subject

Sociology

Curriculum Lead

George Irwin



Curriculum Intent Summary:

The study of A level Sociology focuses on contemporary society. Studying Sociology fosters the development of critical and reflective thinking with a respect for social diversity. It also provides an awareness of the importance of social structure and social action in explaining social issues. Learners are encouraged to develop their own sociological awareness through active engagement with the contemporary social world. The AQA A level in Sociology encourages learners to:

- acquire knowledge and a critical understanding of contemporary social processes and social changes
- appreciate the significance of theoretical and conceptual issues in sociological debate
- understand and evaluate sociological methodology and a range of research methods through active involvement in the research process
- develop skills that enable individuals to focus on their personal identity, roles and responsibilities within society
- develop a lifelong interest in social issues.

This specification guides teachers and learners towards the acquisition of knowledge and understanding of key sociological issues and debates. It is designed to encourage the development of higher order skills such as analysis and evaluation. Learners will be challenged to demonstrate their ability to use their sociological knowledge appropriately in the context of the demands of the questions. The emphasis on skills makes this specification an excellent vehicle for the development of transferrable capabilities which could be utilised by the learner in both academic and professional arenas alike. Questions will allow learners to respond in nonprescriptive ways, to develop and demonstrate their "sociological imagination" through their commentary on sociological theories and evidence. At points in the course students will be asked to reflect on the connections between Catholic Social Teaching and areas of sociological study.