

Cambridge International AS/A Level Sociology Syllabus: Notification of changes to the syllabus for examination in June and November 2014

We have recently revised the content and assessment of Cambridge International AS/A Level Sociology (9699) to reflect the changing needs of our schools and candidates and the current developments in the subject. These changes will affect candidates taking the assessments in June 2014, when the first examination of the revised syllabus will take place. Candidates taking the AS/A Level Sociology in 2013 should follow the 2013 syllabus and candidates taking the AS/A Level Sociology in 2014 should follow the 2014 syllabus.

The qualification has been redeveloped in consultation with our customers: The content has been updated and introduces a more global perspective whilst retaining the most popular elements of the existing qualification. The revised assessment structure increases accessibility and the revised syllabus gives a smoother transition from Cambridge IGCSE/O Level to Cambridge International AS/A Level.

Please find a summary of the changes below.

Cambridge International AS Level

Candidates study two units.

Unit 1 – The family

Unit 2 – Theory and methods

The AS Level will be assessed through two written papers, Paper 1 and Paper 2. These papers test units 1 and 2.

In each of Paper 1 and Paper 2, candidates answer one compulsory data-response question and one essay question from a choice of two.

Cambridge International A Level

Candidates study units one and two plus up to four additional units:

Unit 3 – Education

Unit 4 – Global development

Unit 5 – Media

Unit 6 – Religion

The A Level will be assessed through three written papers, Paper 1, 2 and 3. Papers 1 and 2 are the same as for the AS.

In Paper 3, candidates answer three essay style questions from a choice of eight. Paper 3 has four sections, one for each of the units 3 to 6. There are two essay questions in each section and candidates must choose three questions from three different sections.

The amended syllabus as well as specimen papers and mark schemes are available from www.cie.org.uk and the Teacher Support site. Further support materials such as an amended Scheme of Work and a Teaching Guide will be available from September 2012. Options for an amended textbook are currently under discussion with publishers.

University of Cambridge International Examinations