

Sociology reading and watching list – 2021

Here is a list of suggested Sociology related Films/Documentaries/books/podcasts and articles. Some of them are referenced in your packs or power points and others you may actually look over in class if you have time. All of them are really good for stretching and challenging and adding knowledge and evidence to your study of Sociology topics.

Why not write a report on what you read/watch/listen to or you could create a poster summary or simply take some notes pulling out key evidence that you could use in exam responses.

List by topic area

Colour Key for topic areas.

- Gender
- Ethnicity
- Class
- Family
- Education
- Global development
- Crime and deviance
- Theory

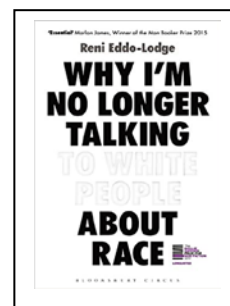
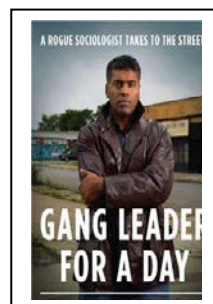
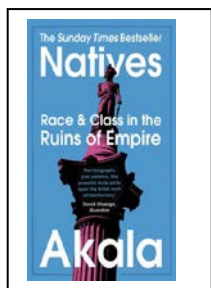
Good Sociological films

FILMS	PLOT	TOPIC LINKS
Black Mirror (2011-)	An anthology series exploring a twisted, high-tech world where humanity's greatest innovations and darkest instincts collide.	Postmodernism/ Crime/Marxism
On the Basis of Sex (2018)	The true story of Ruth Bader Ginsburg, her struggles for equal rights, and the early cases of a historic career that lead to her nomination and confirmation as U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice.	Class /Gender/ Sexuality/Family
The Circle (2017)	A woman lands a dream job at a powerful tech company called the Circle, only to uncover an agenda that will affect the lives of all of humanity.	Postmodernism/ Crime/Marxism
Hidden Figures (2016)	The story of a team of female African-American mathematicians who served a vital role in NASA during the early years of the U.S. space program.	Gender/ Ethnicity
Manchester by the Sea (2016)	A depressed uncle is asked to take care of his teenage nephew after the boy's father dies.	Class/ Age/ Family
Moonlight (2016)	A chronicle of the childhood, adolescence and burgeoning adulthood of a young, African-American, gay man growing up in a rough neighbourhood of Miami.	Class/ Age/ Family/ Sexuality
Nerve (2016)	A high school senior finds herself immersed in an online game of truth or dare, where her every move starts to become manipulated by an anonymous community of "watchers."	Postmodernism/ Crime

Pride (2014)	U.K. gay activists work to help miners during their lengthy strike of the National Union of Mineworkers in the summer of 1984.	Class/ Gender / Sexuality/Family
Blood Diamond (2006)	A political thriller set against the backdrop of civil war and chaos in 1990's Sierra Leone, "Blood Diamond" is an emotive story including some upsetting scenes of child soldiers, women as weapons of war.	Global development.
City of god.	In the slums of Rio, two kids' paths diverge as one struggles to become a photographer and the other a kingpin. Gripping and hard hitting.	Crime/Global development
Argo (2012)	Acting under the cover of a Hollywood producer scouting a location for a science fiction film, a CIA agent launches a dangerous operation to rescue six Americans in Tehran during the U.S. hostage crisis in Iran in 1979.	Crime/Religion
My Brother the Devil (2012)	Two teenage brothers must face their own prejudices head on if they are to survive the perils of being British Arabs growing up on the streets of gangland London.	Ethnicity /Crime/ Religion/Age/ Family
The Help (2011)	An aspiring author during the civil rights movement of the 1960s decides to write a book detailing the African American maids' point of view on the white families for which they work, and the hardships they go through on a daily basis.	Ethnicity / Family/ Age
The Social Network (2010)	Harvard student Mark Zuckerberg creates the social networking site that would become known as Facebook, but is later sued by two brothers who claimed he stole their idea, and the co-founder who was later squeezed out of the business.	Postmodernism/ Crime/ Gender
Fish Tank (2009)	The life of a hot-tempered teen outcast takes an unexpected turn when her mother brings home a handsome boyfriend.	Age/Class/ Family
Precious (2009)	In New York City's Harlem circa 1987, an overweight, abused, illiterate teen who is pregnant with her second child is invited to enrol in an alternative school in hopes that her life can head in a new direction.	Education/Class/ Gender
Brick Lane (2007)	A young Bangladeshi woman arrives in 1980s London, leaving behind her beloved sister and home, for an arranged marriage and a new life.	Ethnicity Immigration
Freedom Writers (2007)	A young teacher inspires her class of at-risk students to learn tolerance, apply themselves, and pursue education beyond high school	Class/ Ethnicity /Education
The History Boys (2006)	An unruly class of gifted and charming teenage boys are taught by two eccentric and innovative teachers, as their headmaster pushes for them all to get accepted into Oxford or Cambridge.	Education/Class/ Gender

This is England (2006)	A young boy becomes friends with a gang of skinheads. Friends soon become like family, and relationships will be pushed to the very limit.	Social Class/ Crime/ Family
Crash (2004)	Los Angeles citizens with vastly separate lives collide in interweaving stories of race, loss and redemption.	Racism/Religion/ Inequality/Crime
Dirty Pretty Things (2002)	An illegal Nigerian immigrant discovers the unpalatable side of London life.	Ethnicity / Immigration/ Religion/Crime
Mona Lisa Smile (2003)	A free-thinking art professor teaches conservative 1950s Wellesley girls to question their traditional social roles.	Gender /Class/ Education
City of God (2002)	Two boys growing up in a violent neighbourhood of Rio de Janeiro take different paths: one becomes a photographer, the other a drug dealer.	Crime/ Gender / Family/Global development
Bend it Like Beckham (2002)	The daughter of orthodox Sikh rebels against her parents' traditionalism by running off to Germany with a football team.	Gender / Ethnicity / Nationality/ Family/Religion
Billy Elliot (2000)	A talented young boy becomes torn between his unexpected love of dance and the disintegration of his family.	Class/ Gender / Marxism/New Right
American History X (1998)	A former neo-Nazi skinhead tries to prevent his younger brother from going down the same wrong path that he did.	Ethnicity /Crime/ Family
The Full Monty (1997)	Six unemployed steel workers form a male striptease act. The women cheer them on to go for "the full monty" - total nudity.	Class/Inequality/ Gender /Marxism/ Family
Brassed Off (1996)	The coal mine in a northern English village may be closing, which would also mean the end of the miners' brass band.	Class/ Gender / Age/Marxism/ Family
Malcolm X	Biographical epic of the controversial and influential Black Nationalist leader, from his early life and career as a small-time gangster, to his ministry as a member of the Nation of Islam.	Crime/ Ethnicity / Family/Religion
Made in Dagenham	Based on True events leading to the Equal pay act, a drama charting the fight of female factory workers at the Ford Dagenham plant In 1968,	Feminism/ Gender equality
La Haine (1995)	When a young Arab is arrested and beaten unconscious by police, a riot erupts in the notoriously violent suburbs outside of Paris. Three of the victim's peers, Vinz (Vincent Cassel), Said (Said Taghmaoui) and Hubert (Hubert Koundé), wander aimlessly about their home turf in the aftermath of the violence as they try to come to grips with their outrage over the brutal incident. After one of the men finds a police officer's discarded weapon, their night seems poised to take a bleak turn.	Crime/ Ethnicity / Family/Inequality / Global

Podcasts	Synopsis
No country for young women	Sadia Azmat and Monty Onanuga talk about a variety of topical issues affecting young BAME women.
Yo, is this racist?	Yo, Is This Racist?, hosted by Andrew Ti, creator of the popular blog of the same name , is now a weekly podcast! Every Wednesday, Ti, co-host Tawny Newsome, and their guests answer questions from fan-submitted voicemails and emails about whether or not something is, in fact, racist.
Thinking allowed	Laurie Taylor, professor of Sociology hosts BBC Radio 4's thinking allowed programme has a whole wealth of sociological episodes. Further list of recommended/relevant ones available on Moodle.
About Race with Reni-Eddo Lodge.	
Ways to change the world	Krishnan Guru Murphy hosts this Channel 4 documentary series podcast on a range of interesting topics. The one suggested here looks at the legalization of drugs and the impact on the CJS.
The sociology review podcasts	A journal and series of articles and podcasts on topical sociological issues.
The Sociology show	The Sociology show hosted by Matthew Wilkin conducts interviews with a range of different people within the world of Sociology.



<u>BOOKS</u>	<u>TOPIC LINKS</u>	<u>SYNOPSIS</u>
The flip flop trail - (2014) anthropological study by Professor Caroline Knowles	Globalisation and the global commodity chain.	Following the journey of a pair of plastic sandals this book unpacks the 'lives and landscapes' hidden in the plastic'. Providing new insights in the process of globalisation.
'Hard Work' by Polly Toynbee (2003)	Inequality/Poverty/Class/Marxism	An investigation into the lives of those living below minimum wage in the UK
'Unjust Rewards' by Polly Toynbee	Inequality/Poverty/Class/Marxism	
'A Few Kind Words and a Loaded Gun' by Razor Smith	Crime/Class	

'Brick Lane' by Monica Ali	Ethnicity/Immigration/Religion	
'Bodies' by Susie Orbach	Feminism/Media/Popular Culture	
'The Equality Illusion' by Kat Banyard	Feminism/Gender Inequality	
'Chav: The Demolition of the Working Class' by Owen Jones	Class/Inequality/Marxism/New Right	
'No Logo' by Naomi Klein	Marxism/Consumerism/Postmodernism	
'Shock Doctrine' Naomi Klein	Critique of Neo Liberal approach – global development	
'Hard Time' by Shaun Attwood	Crime	
'Pablo Escobar-beyond Narcos' Shaun Atwood	Crime/Global	
'The Spirit Level' by Richard G. Wilkinson	Inequality/Poverty/Marxism	
'Lads and Laddettes' by Carolyn Jackson	Feminism/Gender Identity/Media	
'Folk Devils and Moral Panics' By Stan Cohen	Subcultures/Youth/Crime/Interactionism	
'One Blood – Inside Britain's Gang Culture' By John Heale	Deviance/Crime	
'White Teeth' by Zadie Smith	Ethnicity/Immigration	
'Teenage: The Creation of Youth Culture' by Jon Savage	Subcultures/Youth/Family/Education	
'Everyday Sexism' by Laura Bates	Feminism/Gender Inequality	
'Girl Up' by Laura Bates	Feminism/Gender Inequality	

'I Call Myself A Feminist: The View from Twenty-Five Women Under Thirty' by Victoria Pepe	Feminism/ Gender Inequality/Family	
'Shattered – Modern Motherhood and the Illusion of Equality' by Rebecca Asher	Family/Feminism/ Gender Inequality	An entertaining and controversial book attempting to expose the inequalities of motherhood and family life.
Invisible women Caroline Criado Perez (2019)	Gender / Feminism /Global development/Family	A book looking at data and evidence that supports the existence of structural inequalities of women, cross glbal comparisons.
'Gang Leader for a Day' by Sudhir Venkatesh	Crime/Class/Ethnicity/Research Methods	
Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls by Ellena Favilli and Francesca Cavallo	Feminism/ Gender Identity/Education	
Why I'm no Longer Talking to white people about Race by Reni Eddo-Lodge	Ethnicity /Systemic Racism/Inequality	
The Bottom Billion, Paul Collier	Global Development	
There ain't no Black in the Union Jack by Paul Gilroy	Ethnicity /Racism/Inequality	
The Good Immigrant by Nikesh Shukla	Ethnicity /Racism/Islamophobia	
Brit(ish): On Race, Identity and Belonging by Afua Hirsch	Ethnicity /Racism/Islamophobia	
Stories for Boys Who Dare to be Different by Ben Brooks	Postmodernism/ Gender Identity/Education	
The Power by Naomi Alderman	Feminism/ Gender Inequality	
Women & Power: A Manifesto by Mary Beard	Feminism/ Gender Inequality	

Revolution by Russell Brand	Marxism/Poverty/Postmodernism	
Un-Making a Murderer: The Framing of Steven Avery and Brendan Dassey by Shaun Attwood	Crime/Interactionism/Labelling	
A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini	Feminism/ Gender Roles/Global development	
The Kite Runner by Khaled Hasseini	Inequality/Global development	
Sold: One woman's true account of modern slavery by Zana Muhsen	Crime/Globalisation/ Gender Inequality	
McMafia: Seriously Organised Crime by Misha Glenny	Crime/Globalisation	
A Glasgow Gang Observed by James Patrick	Crime/Youth/Research Methods	
Breadline Britain: The Rise of Mass Poverty by Stewart Lansley and Joanna Mack	Poverty/Marxism/Social Class	
Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner	Postmodernism Media/Popular Culture	
Selfie: How the West Became Self-Obsessed by Will Storr	Postmodernism Media/Popular Culture	
Celebrity Culture (Key Ideas) by Ellis Cashmore	Postmodernism Media/Popular Culture	
Celebrity And Power: Fame and Contemporary Culture: Fame in Contemporary	Postmodernism Media/Popular Culture	

Culture by David Marshall		
The Circle by Dave Eggers	Postmodernism/Crime/Marxism	
Malorie Blackman Noughts and crosses	Ethnicity /racism	A novel set In a world where black and white are right and wrong. Written for children/young adults to explore themes of racism.
I am Malala, Malala Yousafzai. (2013)	Gender inequality/Global development	An Autobiographical account of the life of Malala ousafzai, the girl from Pakisatan who was shot by the Talioban and fights for the rights of young women to be educated.
The Class Ceiling: Why it Pays to be Privileged (2019) by Sam Friedman and Daniel Laurison	Class	
The equality illusion		

Feminism

Marie Claire recommends [12 must see documentaries that empower women](#), see the [trailers here](#).

Systemic racism- how to 'unlearn racism'

[About Race](#)- Reni Eddo-Lodge

In search of black history- Bonnie Greer

We Need To Talk About the British Empire- Afua Hirsch

[Yo, Is This Racist?](#)- Andrew Ti and Tawny Newsome

[Have You Heard George's Podcast?](#)- George the Poet

[Striking the Empire](#)- Akala and David Olusoga

Documentaries and TV

When they see us (Netflix)

13th (Netflix)

Sitting in Limbo (BBC iPlayer)

Dear White People (Netflix)

Murder to Mercy (Netflix)

Shame in the Game: Racism in Football (BBC iPlayer)

The Colony (BBC iPlayer)

Books

"Me and White Supremacy"

"Why I no longer talk to white people about race" - Reni Eddo-Lodge

"Nations" - Akala

"Me and White Supremacy" - Layla F Saad

"White Fragility" - Robin DiAngelo

"White Privilege: The Myth of a Post-Racial Society" - Kalwant Bhopal