

## A2 Sociology G673: *Power and Control*

### **Sociology of Crime and Deviance:**

In this option, candidates explore issues of power and control through a detailed study of crime and deviance. The social construction of crime and deviance are emphasized and the role of agencies of social control and the law are explored. It aims to give an overview of different theoretical approaches to the study of crime and deviance.



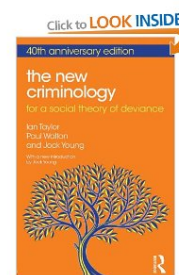
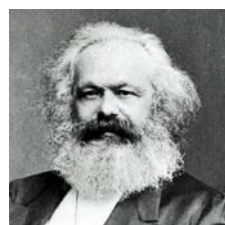
#### **It explores the following five key issues:**

1. The definition and measurement of crime and deviance.
2. Trends, patterns and explanations of crime and deviance.
3. Patterns and explanations of victimisation.
4. The role of agents of social control in the construction of crime and deviance.
5. Solutions to the problem of crime.

<b>1. The definition and measurement of crime and deviance</b>			
<b>Unit Content</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>G</b>
Definition of <b>crime</b>			
Definition of <b>deviance</b>			
The <b>relativity</b> of crime and deviance over time and between cultures			
The <b>social construction</b> of crime and deviance			
Overview of <b>official statistics</b> as a method for measuring crime			
<b>Examples</b> of official statistics			
The <b>advantages</b> of official statistics for measuring crime			
The <b>disadvantages</b> of official statistics for measuring crime			
Overview of <b>victim surveys</b> as a method for measuring crime			
<b>Examples</b> of victim surveys			
The <b>advantages</b> of victim surveys for measuring crime			
The <b>disadvantages</b> of victim surveys for measuring crime			
Overview of <b>self-report studies</b> as a method for measuring crime			
<b>Examples</b> of self-report studies			
The <b>advantages</b> of self-report studies for measuring crime			
The <b>disadvantages</b> of self-report studies for measuring crime			
Theoretical views on statistics such as: <b>Functionalism, Marxism, left realism, interactionism, feminism.</b>			

## 2. Trends, patterns and explanations of crime and deviance

Unit Content	R	A	G
Trends and patterns related to crime: <b>gender</b>			
Trends and patterns related to crime: <b>ethnicity</b>			
Trends and patterns related to crime: <b>social class</b>			
Trends and patterns related to crime: <b>geographical location</b>			
Trends and patterns related to crime: <b>age</b>			
Trends and patterns related to crime <b>over the last 25-30 years</b>			
<b>Functionalist</b> explanations of crime (including all relevant concepts and studies)			
An <b>evaluation</b> of functionalist explanations of crime			
<b>Subculturalist</b> explanations of crime (including all relevant concepts and studies)			
An <b>evaluation</b> of subculturalist explanations of crime			
<b>Marxist</b> explanations of crime (including all relevant concepts and studies)			
An <b>evaluation</b> of Marxist explanations of crime			
<b>New criminologist (neo-Marxist)</b> explanations of crime (incl. concepts and studies)			
An <b>evaluation</b> of new criminologist explanations of crime			
<b>Interactionist</b> explanations of crime (including all relevant concepts and studies)			
An <b>evaluation</b> of interactionist explanations of crime			
<b>Left realist</b> explanations of crime (including all relevant concepts and studies)			
An <b>evaluation</b> of left realist explanations of crime			
<b>Right realist (New Right)</b> explanations of crime (incl. concepts and studies)			
An <b>evaluation</b> of right realist explanations of crime			
<b>Feminist</b> explanations of crime (including all relevant concepts and studies)			
An <b>evaluation</b> of feminist explanations of crime			



## 3. Patterns and explanations of victimisation

Unit Content	R	A	G
Patterns of <b>victimisation</b> (the individuals and social groups most likely to be victims)			
<b>Left realist</b> explanations of victimisation			
<b>Feminist</b> explanations of victimisation			
Victimisation and the work of <b>victim surveys</b>			
The importance of victims within <b>Government policy</b>			



## 4. The role of agents of social control in the construction of crime and deviance

Unit Content	R	A	G
The role of the <b>police</b> in the social construction of crime and deviance			
The role of the <b>courts</b> in the social construction of crime and deviance			
The role of the <b>media</b> in the social construction of crime and deviance			
Issues of <b>power and control</b> and how these are exercised by each institution			



## 5. Solutions to the problem of crime

Unit Content	R	A	G
Key concept: <b>crime prevention</b>			
Key concept: <b>retributive justice</b>			
Key concept: <b>restorative justice</b>			
Key concept: <b>incarceration</b>			
Key concept: <b>rehabilitation</b>			
<b>Left realist</b> solutions to crime			
<b>Examples</b> of left realist solutions to crime			
<b>Evaluation</b> of left realist solutions to crime			
<b>Right realist</b> solutions to crime			
<b>Examples</b> of right realist solutions to crime			
<b>Evaluation</b> of right realist solutions to crime			
<b>Feminist</b> solutions to crime			
<b>Examples</b> of feminist solutions to crime			
<b>Evaluation</b> of feminist solutions to crime			

G673 Exam Technique			
	R	A	G
Structuring and writing G673 essays			
Writing in <b>timed conditions</b>			
Understanding what the question is asking			
Writing introductions that unpack the question and set the debate			
Writing evaluative conclusions that don't just sum up the main ideas of the essay			
<b>AO1:</b> Defining key terms			
<b>AO1:</b> Explaining sociological concepts/theories/research methods in enough detail			
<b>AO1:</b> Explaining sociological concepts/theories/research methods clearly			
<b>AO1:</b> Using a range of sociological evidence			
<b>AO1:</b> Including relevant crime statistics			
<b>AO2a:</b> Linking back to the specific question throughout			
<b>AO2a:</b> Using the most relevant and appropriate sociological evidence			
<b>AO2a:</b> Applying sociological evidence to the question			
<b>AO2a:</b> Interpreting sociological evidence (exploring what evidence <i>means</i> or <i>shows</i> )			
<b>AO2b:</b> Evaluating sociological evidence			
<b>AO2b:</b> Exploring differences <i>within</i> sociological theories			
<b>AO2b:</b> Considering alternative explanations to sociological views			
<b>AO2b:</b> Including evaluation throughout (question 4)			
<b>AO2b:</b> Using an evaluative conclusion that directly relates to the question			



### Using the Specification Check:

**Revised (Red):** Look through books and notes for all key terms, contemporary examples, explanations and sociologists relevant to the aspect of the specification.

**Checked (Amber):** Can answer part *a* and part *b* questions based on these topics (ideally in timed conditions).

**Confident (Green):** Happy that you are secure in both your knowledge of the subject content and applying it to different exam questions.