

Social Sciences Faculty

The Faculty, which boasts an experienced and hardworking staff, is a forward looking, successful and thriving part of Rainhill Media Arts College

Faculty Aims

The Social Sciences Faculty aims to:-

- Promote an enjoyment of learning, where pupils are encouraged to become independent, multi-skilled learners that achieve highly.
- Develop in students an appreciation of the multi-cultural society in which we now live based on their study of different social science subjects.
- Employ a range of teaching techniques providing equal opportunities to all students.
- Ensure all pupils reach their full potential and to foster a lifelong interest in these subjects.
- Enable young people to make sense of the modern world, 'the global village', helping them to become valuable citizens and provide the context and background for all other human activity. That Social Science subjects are vital to any student's education.

Facilities

The Social Sciences faculty is housed in the Sixth Form block with dedicated specialist classrooms for Sociology, Psychology and Business Studies/Economics and Law. All classrooms have interactive Smart-Boards and there are PC's in one of the Business Studies classrooms. Laptops and I-pad banks are available for student use in the Sixth Form.

Staffing

Vacancy

David Barrigan	Head of Faculty, teacher of Business Studies/Economics
Anthony Cunningham	Head of Sociology
Tom Reilly	Deputy Head Teacher, teacher of Law and Business Studies
Faye Mitchell	Year Progress Leader for Year 9, Teacher of Business Studies and Economics
Pru Goss	Teacher of Psychology
	Teacher of Law, Business Studies and Politics

The Faculty structure is led by the Head of Faculty, supported by the Head of Sociology. The Head of Faculty reports to Deputy Head Teacher, Director of Studies.

Curriculum

Key Stage 4

The Faculty offers Business Studies and Sociology as full course GCSE's. In year 9 pupils who have opted for Business or Sociology are taught the bridging skills and knowledge that are required for the GCSE course that starts in Year 10. Both subjects are popular at GCSE and are delivered by subject specialists.

Key Stage 5

The Faculty offers a wide range of A-level courses which include Business Studies, Economics, Law, Psychology and Sociology. In addition a Level 3 BTEC is offered in Business Studies. The Sixth Form has over 250 students and the Social Science Faculty makes a significant contribution in the courses that are offered post-16.

2015 Examination Performance

	GCSE		AS		ALPS	A2		ALPS
Business Studies	A/A*	7.1%	A-B	15.8%	8	A*-B	0%	7
	A*-C	71.4%	A-C	21.1%		A*-C	60%	
Economics			A-B	12.5%	6	A*-B	80%	2
			A-C	25%		A*-C	100%	
Law			A-B	15.4%	5	A*-B	50%	2
			A-C	53.8%		A*-C	100%	
Psychology			A-B	27.6%	4	A*-B	38.5%	4
			A-C	48.3%		A*-C	61.5%	
Sociology	A/A*	26.7%	A-B	8.7%	8	A*-B	21.4%	7
	A*-C	100%	A-C	30.4%		A*-C	85.7%	

Examinations Specifications

GCSE

Course – OCR Business Studies

Course – AQA Sociology

Rainhill has an above average intake and approximately 250 students in each year group.

	Y9 2015/16	Y10 2015/16	Y11 2015/16
Business Studies	34	46	56
Sociology	26	20	24

A Level courses studied:

OCR Business Studies

AQA Economics

WJEC (EDUCAS) Law

AQA Psychology

AQA Sociology

BTEC L3 Business Studies

Extra-Curricular Activities

Social Science visits are frequent and popular. Examples from recent academic years are:-

GCSE Business Studies trip to Cadbury's World, Birmingham

A-Level trips to Chester Zoo (Psychology), Manchester Buddhist centre (Sociology), Liverpool Crown Court (Law), the Houses of Parliament and Courts of Justice, London (Law).

Anthony Cunningham

Deputy Head Teacher – Director of Studies