

Description of Possible Research Topics in the Field of **SOCIOLOGY**

SOCIOLOGY

1. Candidates may compete only as individuals (one candidate presents one paper).
 - The research paper may be either theoretical or empirical.
 - The used literature must be cited by writing the name of the author(s), the publication year and the relevant pages in brackets.
 - Each topic may be formulated and approached in different ways. Candidates may structure their research around theoretical explorations of certain phenomena or examine it empirically.
 - Sociological research is any research conducted by sociologists in accordance with a detailed plan. Methods of sociological research may be classified as quantitative and qualitative. The choice of methods will largely depend on the researcher's aims and focus.
 - Although research methods may be classified as quantitative and qualitative, the majority of approaches will include both. For instance, qualitative analysis will often include a well-organised approach to encoding raw data into systematic information and quantifying the reliability if the intercoders.
 - Sociologists employ a number of methods when analysing the immense breadth of social phenomena: from administering surveys to millions to the thorough analysis of a single participant, from observing the modern streets to studying ancient historical documents. Methods rooted in classic sociology and statistics are the basis of research for other disciplines too, such as political science, media studies, programme evaluation and market research.