Programme Specification

Sociology (2018-19)

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

Awarding Institution	University of Southampton
Teaching Institution	University of Southampton
Mode of Study	Full-time
Duration in years	3
Accreditation details	None
Final award	Bachelor of Science with Honours (BSc (Hons))
Name of award	Sociology
Interim Exit awards	Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE)
	Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE)
FHEQ level of final award	Level 6
UCAS code	L300
Programme code	5255
QAA Subject Benchmark or other external reference	Sociology 2007
Programme Lead	Paul Bridgen (pdb1)

Programme Overview

Brief outline of the programme

How do we make sense of the society around us, of how we shape it and how it shapes us? Sociology offers a critical understanding of how society works, and the relationships between individuals, families and groups such as “races” and “classes”. It asks critical questions about recent changes, which have transformed our social lives, such as the advent of the cyber-age, globalisation, inequality and migration.

Sociology questions assumptions about our social life and challenge you to interrogate these with the help of research. It also examines how societies around the world change in different ways, and how these relate to questions of politics and economy. As a BSc Sociology student you will develop the reading, writing and oral communication skills needed to engage with these questions and be encouraged to identify your own.

You will be taught by experts who are active researchers and passionate about their subjects. They are also experienced teachers who enjoy engaging students. Moreover, we emphasise employability and practical

applicability throughout the degree. A range of specialist options from other disciplines enables you to create a tailor made degree that is geared towards a variety of professional careers.

Your contact hours will vary depending on your module/option choices. Full information about contact hours is provided in individual module profiles.

Learning and teaching

Teaching takes place during two semesters, the first running from October to February and the second from February through to May. Eight subject modules (compulsory and option) are taken per year – four per semester.

Teaching comprises both lectures (one to three per week, depending on the module) and weekly or fortnightly small-group classes. Towards the final year modules become more student-led, and some in the third year are based on student presentations and group projects. In a typical semester you would spend about 12 hours per week attending lectures and classes. In addition, we expect about 28 hours of self-study (preparing for classes, writing essays and so on), bringing the weekly total to 40 hours.

Assessment

Assessment in year one is primarily by examination and essay.

Most year two modules are also assessed by examination, but in combination with other methods of assessment, such as short essays, group and individual presentations, or poster presentations.

In year three, most modules are assessed either by a single long essay or by a shorter essay in combination with individual or group presentations, poster presentations or some other method of assessment.

Special Features of the programme

· The Faculty of Social Sciences has several established links to Universities around the world as part of the ERASMUS exchange programme. This allows for a specific semester to be spent at a partner University engaging in study of a similar nature to that presented at Southampton.

Other special features include:

· A research based curriculum designed and delivered by staff who are internationally acknowledged as leading researchers in their field.
· Wide range of learning and teaching resources.
· Fostering an independent approach to formulating research design and implementation
· Opportunities for progressively more specialised and advanced work.
· Students graduate with the key skills and knowledge necessary to gain employment in many different careers and/or pursue postgraduate studies.

Please note: As a research-led University, we undertake a continuous review of our programmes to ensure quality enhancement and to manage our resources. As a result, this programme may be revised during a student's period of registration; however, any revision will be balanced against the requirement that the student should receive the educational service expected. Please read our Disclaimer to see why, when and how changes may be made to a student's programme.

Programmes and major changes to programmes are approved through the University's programme validation process which is described in the University's Quality handbook.

Educational Aims of the Programme

The aims of the programme are:

· To provide you with a knowledge of central theoretical and methodological issues in the study of sociology.
· To provide you with a detailed knowledge of selected areas of social life, and of patterns of stability and change within these areas.
· To develop your capacity for the critical evaluation of theoretical perspectives and empirical evidence in the field of sociology, and for the application of such perspectives and evidence in your own work.
· To develop your capacity to undertake independent enquiry into aspects of social life, using appropriate methodologies.
· To develop your skills in written and oral communication, the use of information technology, the analysis of quantitative and qualitative information, and in working co-operatively in groups to achieve designated outcomes.
· To develop your ability to work independently in identifying and analysing the subject of your enquiry.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding

On successful completion of this programme you will have knowledge and understanding of:

A1. Theoretical approaches and perspectives in sociology;

A2. Sociological methodologies and their application;

A3. Research design, evaluation and application;

A4. Patterns of diversity and inequality in selected areas of social life;

A5. The relationship between individuals, groups and institutions in selected areas of social life;

A6. The role of comparative analysis in sociology.

Teaching and Learning Methods

Please refer to the list of the Teaching and Learning Methods below, under Transferable and Generic Skills.

Assessment Methods

Please refer to the list of the Teaching and Learning Methods below, under Transferable and Generic Skills.

Subject Specific Intellectual and Research Skills

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

B1. Obtain, summarise and synthesise material from a range of appropriate sources;

B2. Assess the merits of competing explanations and interpretations of social events and phenomena, using appropriate conceptual and theoretical perspectives and relevant evidence;

B3. Produce reasoned arguments, justifying conclusions by reference to appropriate theoretical frameworks and supporting evidence;

B4. Understand and formulate sociologically informed questions;

B5. Report and explain research findings, assessing the theoretical and methodological frameworks used to produce these;

B6. Select and use appropriate research methodologies to answer sociologically informed questions;

B7. Analyse the ethical implications of your own research and that of others;

B8. Present scholarly work using appropriate formats and conventions.

Teaching and Learning Methods

Please refer to the list of the Teaching and Learning Methods below, under Transferable and Generic Skills.

Assessment Methods

Please refer to the list of the Teaching and Learning Methods below, under Transferable and Generic Skills.

Transferable and Generic Skills

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

C1. Communicate ideas and arguments in a variety of written formats;

C2. Communicate ideas and arguments orally and in the context of formal presentations;

C3. Use statistical techniques and associated software packages to analyse and evaluate evidence;

C4. Identify, select and draw upon a range of sources of printed, electronic and other material as a means to the development and presentation of arguments and evidence;

C5. Work with others in the investigation of problems, and in the presentation of arguments and evidence.

Teaching and Learning Methods

- Lectures.

- Seminars designed to facilitate group discussions of issues, concepts and theories associated with social sciences.
- Small group discussions based around case study material.
- Group discussions and practical exercises which enable you to reflect on your accumulation of appropriate knowledge and skills.
- Practical workshops which provide hands-on experience of using a range of methods of collecting and analysing data and enable you to assess these methods based on your own and others' use of them.
- Statistical workshops which enable you to understand statistical techniques and the use of statistics in the social sciences through practical examples.
- Computer workshops which give you practical experience of how to process, store and analyse data using appropriate software.
- Research skills workshops which facilitate discussion, peer review and support, and self-reflection on the appropriateness of your own research (dissertation) proposal and intended methodological and theoretical approaches.
- Dissertation workshops designed to promote discussion, peer review and support, and reflection on your dissertation at different stages in the research process.
- Dissertation tutorials which allow tailored discussion with your dissertation supervisor on issues connected with your research.
- Individual or small group presentations.
- Independent study.

Assessment Methods

- Essays.
- Review papers (in which you are required to critically review one chapter-long article of relevance to the module using a range of additional sources).
- Formal, unseen end of module examinations.
- Statistical exercises (to assess your understanding of statistical concepts and practical techniques).
- Dissertation proposal (which will assess your ability to formulate an appropriate research question, identify appropriate method(s) of data collection and present a short literature review of selected sources likely to be relevant to the research topic).
- Dissertation (which assesses your ability to undertake independent, in-depth study of an area of criminology).
- Group research projects (which assess your ability to work with others in the production of a shared output).
- Case study review (in which you are asked to interpret or critically comment on the material contained in the case study).

Programme Structure

The programme structure table is below:

Information about pre and co-requisites is included in individual module profiles.

Part I

Programme details
The structure of the programme and the modules currently offered are set out below. Of the modules shown against each year of your programme, some are compulsory (i.e. enrolment is automatic) and others are optional. Against each year, you are directed to which modules are compulsory and which are optional. The option modules shown below constitute an indicative list; there will always be choice but the options might vary between years. A full list of modules and rules will be available to you via the Student Record Self-Service system once you enrol at the University.

The programme comprises three parts, each corresponding to one year of full-time study. You will normally have to take 4 modules (30 ECTS/60 CATS) each semester (i.e. 8 modules (60 ECTS/120 CATS) in each year of the programme. Each CATS credit can be considered as the equivalent of approximately ten hours of study. All the modules offered in this programme (except the dissertation) are 7.5 ECTS/15 CATS modules. This means that each module comprises around 150 hours of study divided into contact time (e.g. lectures, seminars, workshops) and non-contact time when you will be engaged in directed study (preparation for classes) and independent study when you will be involved in producing assignments and preparing and taking examinations.

The dissertation is a 15 ECTS/30 CATS module comprising 300 hours of study divided into contact time (workshops and supervisory tutorials) and a significantly larger portion of hours allocated to non-contact, independent study time. This is because the dissertation is designed to foster independent inquiry and is the culmination of three years of study, enabling you to apply theories and methods explored at all years and to examine one area of the discipline in detail.

Part I Compulsory

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
SOCI1003	Social Problems and Social Policy	7.5	Compulsory

Part I Core

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
SOCI1014	Foundations in Social and Anthropological Theory	7.5	Core
STAT1003	Introduction to Quantitative Methods	7.5	Core
SOCI1002	Transformations of The Modern World	7.5	Core
SOCI1001	Understanding Everyday Life	7.5	Core

Part I Optional

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
CRIM1004	Criminal Justice Studies	7.5	Optional

ANTH1001	Exploring Other Cultures	7.5	Optional
SOCI1015	Human Rights, Wellbeing and Politics	7.5	Optional
CRIM1003	Introduction to Criminology	7.5	Optional

Part II

Part II Compulsory

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
SOCI2020	Qualitative Research: Foundations, Principles and Skills	7.5	Compulsory
STAT2009	Research Methods in The Social Sciences	7.5	Compulsory
SOCI2031	Social Theory	7.5	Compulsory

Part II Optional

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
SOCI2008	Race and Ethnicity in Society	7.5	Optional
SOCI2017	Class Structure and Social Inequality	7.5	Optional
ANTH2001	Cosmology, Ritual and Belief	7.5	Optional
CRIM2002	Crime and Criminal Justice: Historical Perspective	7.5	Optional
CRIM2008	Criminological Psychology	7.5	Optional
CRIM2006	Criminology: Policy & Practice	7.5	Optional
ANTH2002	Culture, Communication and Cognition	7.5	Optional
SOCI2003	Gender & Society	7.5	Optional

SOCI2036	Globalisation, Inequalities & Power	7.5	Optional
CRIM2001	Perspectives in Criminology	7.5	Optional

Part III

Part III Compulsory

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
SOCI3001	Comparative Sociology	7.5	Compulsory

Part III Core

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
SOCI3033	Dissertation	15	Core

Part III Optional

You must choose one pair from either group 1 or group 2.

Group 1
SOCI3074 Collective Action and Social Chance
SOCI3075 Project: Collective Action and Social Change

Group 2
SOCI3008 The Sociology of Youth
SOCI3041 Project: The Sociology of Youth

Please note: You may not take SOCI3082 if you have previously taken SOCI2008.

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
SOCI3041	Project:The Sociology of Youth	7.5	Optional
SOCI3082	Race and Ethnicity in Society	7.5	Optional
SOCI3008	The Sociology of Youth	7.5	Optional
CRIM3007	Violent and Sexual Offenders	7.5	Optional
ANTH3003	Anthropology, Film and Representations of the Other	7.5	Optional

SOCI3083	Class Structure and Social Inequality	7.5	Optional
SOCI3074	Collective Action and Social Change	7.5	Optional
SOCI3002	Comparing Welfare States - Evolution, Politics & Impact	7.5	Optional
SOCI3073	Cyber Lives? New Technologies and Social Change	7.5	Optional
CRIM3006	Global Crime and Justice	7.5	Optional
CRIM3002	Issues in Law Enforcement and Social Control	7.5	Optional
CRIM3001	Penology	7.5	Optional
SOCI3075	Project: Collective Action and Social Change	7.5	Optional
ANTH3002	Sexuality and Intimacy	7.5	Optional
CRIM3014	The Deserving and Undeserving: Victims and Scroungers in Criminology and Social Policy	7.5	Optional

Progression Requirements

The programme will follow the University's regulations for ***Progression, Determination and Classification of Results: Undergraduate and Integrated Masters Programmes*** or the University's regulations for ***Progression, Determination and Classification of Results: Standalone Masters Programmes*** as set out in the General Academic Regulations in the University Calendar: http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk/sectionIV/sectIV-index.html

Support for student learning

There are facilities and services to support your learning some of which are accessible to students across the University and some of which will be geared more particularly to students in your particular Faculty or discipline area.

The University provides:

- library resources, including e-books, on-line journals and databases, which are comprehensive and up-to-date; together with assistance from Library staff to enable you to make the best use of these resources
- high speed access to online electronic learning resources on the Internet from dedicated PC Workstations onsite and from your own devices; laptops, smartphones and tablet PCs via the Eduroam wireless network. There is a wide range of application software available from the Student Public Workstations.
- computer accounts which will connect you to a number of learning technologies for example, the Blackboard virtual learning environment (which facilitates online learning and access to specific learning resources)
- standard ICT tools such as Email, secure filestore and calendars.
- access to key information through the MySouthampton Student Mobile Portal which delivers timetables, Module information, Locations, Tutor details, Library account, bus timetables etc. while you are on the move.

- IT support through a comprehensive website, telephone and online ticketed support and a dedicated helpdesk in the Hartley Library.
- Enabling Services offering support services and resources via a triage model to access crisis management, mental health support and counselling. Support includes daily Drop In at Highfield campus at 13.00 – 15.00 (Monday, Wednesday and Friday out of term-time) or via on-line chat on weekdays from 14.00 – 16.00. Arrangements can also be made for meetings via Skype.
- assessment and support (including specialist IT support) facilities if you have a disability, long term health problem or Specific Learning Difficulty (e.g. dyslexia).
- the Student Services Centre (SSC) to assist you with a range of general enquiries including financial matters, accommodation, exams, graduation, student visas, ID cards
- Career and Employability services, advising on job search, applications, interviews, paid work, volunteering and internship opportunities and getting the most out of your extra-curricular activities alongside your degree programme when writing your CV
- Other support that includes health services (GPs), chaplaincy (for all faiths) and 'out of hours' support for students in Halls and in the local community, (18.00-08.00)
- A Centre for Language Study, providing assistance in the development of English language and study skills for non-native speakers.

The Students' Union provides
- an academic student representation system, consisting of Course Representatives, Academic Presidents, Faculty Officers and the Vice-President Education; SUSU provides training and support for all these representatives, whose role is to represent students' views to the University.
- opportunities for extracurricular activities and volunteering
- an Advice Centre offering free and confidential advice including support if you need to make an academic appeal
- Support for student peer-to-peer groups, such as Nightline.

Associated with your programme you will be able to access:
· Module co-ordinators support. Module co-ordinators will be available at designated times during the week to discuss issues related to the particular modules you are studying at the time. This will be in addition to class contact time.
· Academic/personal tutor. As soon as you register on this programme, you will be allocated a personal tutor. S/he is a member of the academic team and will be available to discuss general academic issues related to the programme as well as offer advice and support on any personal issues which may affect your studies.
· Module handbooks/outlines. These will be available at the start of each module (often in online format). The Handbook includes the aims and learning outcomes of the module, the methods of assessment, relevant background material to the module and a session-by-session breakdown of the module together with appropriate reading lists
· Within the Faculty, administrative support is provided by your Student Office which deals with student records and related issues and with queries related to your specific degree programme.

Methods for evaluating the quality of teaching and learning

You will have the opportunity to have your say on the quality of the programme in the following ways:

· Completing student surveys for each module of the programme.
· Acting as a student representative on various committees, e.g. Staff-student liaison committees, faculty. Programmes committee or providing comments to your student representative to feed back on your behalf.
· Serving as a student representative on faculty scrutiny groups for programme validation.
· Taking part in programme validation meetings by joining a panel of students to meet with the faculty scrutiny Group.

The ways in which the quality of your programme is checked, both inside and outside the University, are:

· Regular module and programme reports which are monitored by the Faculty.
· Programme validation, normally every five years.
· External examiners, who produce an annual report.
· A national Research Excellence Framework (our research activity contributes directly to the quality of your learning experience).
· Institutional Review by the Quality Assurance Agency.

Further details on the University's quality assurance processes are given in the *Quality Handbook.*

Career Opportunities

We emphasise employability and practical applicability throughout the degree. A range of specialist options from other disciplines enables you to create a tailor made degree that is geared towards a variety of professional careers.

- Central and local government departments
- Non-governmental organisations
- International organisations
- Social services, youth work and social work
- Teaching
- Media and communications
- Large private sector companies
- Voluntary sector
- Postgraduate research

External Examiner(s) for the programme

Name: Tom Hall - University of Cardiff

Students must not contact External Examiner(s) directly, and external examiners have been advised to refer any such communications back to the University. Students should raise any general queries about the assessment and examination process for the programme with their Course Representative, for consideration through Staff: Student Liaison Committee in the first instance, and Student representatives on Staff: Student Liaison Committees will have the opportunity to consider external examiners' reports as part of the University's quality assurance process.

External examiners do not have a direct role in determining results for individual students, and students wishing to discuss their own performance in assessment should contact their Personal Academic Tutor in the first instance.

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information can be found in the programme handbook.

Appendix 1:

Students are responsible for meeting the cost of essential textbooks, and of producing such essays, assignments, laboratory reports and dissertations as are required to fulfil the academic requirements for each programme of study. In addition to this, students registered for this programme also have to pay for:

Additional Costs

Type	Details
Stationery	You will be expected to provide your own day-to-day stationery items, e.g. pens, pencils, notebooks, etc). Any specialist stationery items will be specified under the Additional Costs tab of the relevant module profile.
Textbooks	Where a module specifies core texts these should generally be available on the reserve list in the library. However due to demand, students may prefer to buy their own copies. These can be purchased from any source. Some modules suggest reading texts as optional background reading. The library may hold copies of such texts, or alternatively you may wish to purchase your own copies. Although not essential reading, you may benefit from the additional reading materials for the module.
Placements (including Study Abroad Programmes)	Social Sciences partners with academic departments in a number of other countries to provide study abroad opportunities. Please contact the International Office for information about the expected costs of participating.
Approved Calculators	Candidates may use calculators in the examination room only as specified by the University and as permitted by the rubric of individual examination papers. The University approved model is Casio FX-570 This may be purchased from any source and no longer needs to carry the University logo.
Optional Visits (e.g. museums, galleries)	Some modules may include optional visits (museums, conferences, prisons [Criminology]). You will normally be expected to cover any costs such as travel and admission, unless otherwise specified in the module profile.
Printing and Photocopying Costs	In some cases, coursework such as essays; projects; dissertations will be submitted online. However, in some cases students will be asked to provide a printed copy. A list of the University printing costs can be found here: http://www.southampton.ac.uk/isolutions/students/printing-for-students.page

In some cases you'll be able to choose modules (which may have different costs associated with that module) which will change the overall cost of a programme to you. Details of such costs will be listed in the Module Profile. Please also ensure you read the section on additional costs in the University's Fees, Charges and Expenses Regulations in the University Calendar available at www.calendar.soton.ac.uk.