5

# Programme Specification

# **International Social Policy (2019-20)**

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 Teaching Institution Mode of Study Duration in years Accreditation details Final award	University of Southampton University of Southampton Full-time 1 None Master of Science in the Social Sciences (MSc SocSci)
Name of Award	International Social Policy Ageing Societies pathway Development pathway General pathway Research Methods pathway Social Enterprise pathway
Interim Exit awards	Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Education
FHEQ level of final award UCAS code	Level 7
Programme Code	6102
QAA Subject Benchmark or other external reference	ESRC Postgraduate Training & Development Guidelines 201
Programme Lead	Traute Meyer (tmeyer)
Pathway Lead	Traute Meyer (tmeyer)

# **Programme Overview**

## Brief outline of the programme

The International Social Policy programme aims to provide you with an understanding of international debates about the conceptualisation and measurement of human wellbeing; of the main national and international drivers of social policy; the differences in social policy development between nation/states; the programme explores explanations for these differences and debates about the balance between public and private welfare provision. It will provide you with a training in international social policy analysis and evaluation; a choice of training in quantitative and/or qualitative research methods; and an applied understanding of policy development and evaluation worldwide. It will also allow you to focus your study, through option choices, on research methods or on particular pathways associated with major issues in social policy development (e.g. ageing societies, development agendas, social enterprise); and to specialise as part of your dissertation study in any part of the academic and policy literature relating to international social policy. As part of the Social Enterprise pathway your dissertation component will involve hands-on experience in establishing a social enterprise.

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

The programme will employ a variety of teaching and learning methods, including lectures, student-led seminars, computer workshops, problem-solving workshops, library sessions, supervised independent research and independent study. The majority of our modules are taught in small-group seminars and workshops, which provide excellent opportunities for discussion. You will sometimes be expected to prepare oral presentations and to lead discussions, thereby developing your skills in written and oral presentation. Our assessment methods include essays, oral presentations, group work exercises, research reports and the dissertation. All programme modules have their own page on Blackboard, and you will be able to access materials (lecture slides and recordings of live lectures, coursework details, references and module updates) to supplement classroom teaching.

#### Assessment

Assessment methods are designed to encourage you to reflect on your learning, and to assess your understanding of taught material. For example, you will be expected to complete essays and critical reviews of literature, and to prepare short oral presentations which address specific research questions. Only one option module included in the programme has an exam.

## Special Features of the programme

The Social Enterprise pathway includes an opportunity to gain hands-on experience in setting up and seeking funding for the establishment of a Social Enterprise and an internship with a local third sector organisation.

**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 <u>Disclaimer</u> 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 <u>programme validation</u> <u>process</u> which is described in the University's <u>Quality handbook</u>.

# **Educational Aims of the Programme**

The aims of the International Social Policy programme are to train you in the theories and concepts relevant to the analysis of social policy in its national, international and global context; engage you in the key debates about international social policy; enhance your knowledge of - and skills in - research methods and their application such that you are prepared for a career in the field of International Social Policy. The various pathways of the programme allow you, if you wish to specialise your study on particular areas. The research methods pathway also aims to provide you with a more specialised training in social science research methods including both quantitative and qualitative skills, such as survey, design and analysis, bivariate and multi-variate analysis. This is the pathway you will take as part of a DTC 1+3 award. Pathways are also available in Ageing Societies, Development and Social Enterprise.

The aim of the International Social Policy programme is to provide you with:

1.1 Critical appreciation of the key theoretical perspectives within International Social Policy and their application in the analysis of specific issues concerning social policy development at a national, international and global level.

1.2 Knowledge and understanding of contemporary debates within International Social Policy concerning the conceptualisation of human welfare and the most appropriate means for increasing it.

1.3 The ability to evaluate policies and initiatives concerning human well-being, assessing in particular their suitability in relation to their national and international context

1.4 Knowledge of qualitative and/or quantitative research methods and the ability to apply them appropriately to investigate key research questions.

1.3 The choice of gaining specialised knowledge of research methods or a major current issue associated with social policy development (i.e. ageing societies, development agendas, social enterprise).

1.5 The ability to design and conduct independent research within International Social Policy using appropriate research methods. The Social Enterprise pathway will also provide students with experience of designing and seeking to establish a Social Enterprise.

1.6 Preparation for a career in the field of International Social Policy, either as a practitioner or as a researcher.

## **Programme Learning Outcomes**

## **Knowledge and Understanding**

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

- A1. Knowledge and understanding of debates about the conceptualisation and measurement of human welfare.
- A2. Knowledge and understanding of the key theoretical and conceptual approaches to the study of social policy in an international context.
- A3. Knowledge and understanding of the key areas of contemporary debate about social policies in their various settings.
- A4. An understanding of the principles of research design and strategy and the appropriate choice of research method.
- A5. Specialised knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research methods or an understanding of the issues associated with social policy development studied in the pathway options.
- A6. Specialised knowledge of an individual topic in the field of International Social Policy on the basis of independent research or, if following the Social Enterprise pathway, knowledge of and skills in the process for establishing social enterprise organisations.

#### **Teaching and Learning Methods**

Lectures, student-led seminars, computer workshops, research methods tutorials, problem- solving workshops, supervised research.

#### **Assessment Methods**

Coursework and dissertation.

## Subject Specific Intellectual and Research Skills

On successful completion of this programme a student will be able to:

- B1. Appreciate the importance of viewing social policy in its international context and comparing social policy development cross-nationally.
- B2. Critically evaluate alternative conceptual and theoretical frameworks used in the analysis of social policy and apply them to selected issues and debates in a variety of settings.
- B3. Critically analyse social policy interventions at national, international and global level.
- B4. Critically compare and evaluate the role of public, private and third sector organisations in the delivery of welfare provision.
- B5. Synthesise key library and internet resources within the field of International Social Policy.

- B6. Identify appropriate methods of research design and data analysis.
- B7. Analyse and interpret data as applied to issues concerning international social policy.

#### **Teaching and Learning Methods**

Lectures, student-led seminars, research methods tutorials, computer workshops, library sessions, supervised research.

#### Assessment Methods

Coursework and dissertation

## **Transferable and Generic Skills**

On successful completion of this programme a student will be able to:

- C1. Effectively communicate information through Powerpoint and oral presentations using visual aids and hand-outs.
- C2. Contribute confidently and appropriately to group discussions/ online discussion boards.
- C3. Effectively communicate information through written reports.
- C4. Think critically about new and unfamiliar ideas and concepts.
- C5. Manage time and resources in an individual research project.
- C6. Locate and use bibliographic resources for specified research purposes.
- C7. Use various computer software packages useful in undertaking social research.

## **Teaching and Learning Methods**

Lectures, student-led seminars, computer workshops, research methods tutorials, problem- solving workshops, supervised research.

## **Assessment Methods**

Coursework and dissertation.

## **Subject Specific Practical Skills**

On successful completion of this programme a student will be able to:

- D1. Appropriately apply research design and methodology to research questions within International Social Policy
- D2. Undertake the collection, analysis and interpretation of data (qualitative and/or quantitative) to investigate key research issues within International Social Policy
- D3. Access, synthesise and communicate information relevant to the study of social policy at national, international, and global levels from a variety of resources.
- D4. Demonstrate improved computer skills.

#### **Teaching and Learning Methods**

Lectures, student-led seminars, computer workshops, research methods tutorials, problem- solving workshops, supervised research.

#### **Assessment Methods**

Coursework and dissertation.

## Programme Structure

The programme structure table is below:

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

# **Ageing Societies Pathway**

Part I

The programme is normally studied over 12 months full-time.

The taught element of the programme consists of 60 ECTS/120 CATS points plus a dissertation of 30 ECTS/60 CATS. You will have a range of option choices depending on the pathway you chose to take and these include a choice of both substantive and research methods modules. Whichever pathway you have chosen you will need to take modules in research methods which are worth at least 20 ECTS/40 CATS points.

The taught component of the programmes consists of 30 study weeks divided into two semesters during which time students study six modules (60 ECTS/120 CATS). Students also undertake a three-month period of supervised research for a Master's dissertation at a value of 30 ECTS/60 CATS).

#### Pathways

You can chose if you wish to specialise your study through your options choices, you can specialise on Research Methods or a specific contemporary issue (Ageing Societies, Development and Social Enterprise) in social policy development. The Research Methods pathway incorporates a more substantial compulsory research methods training element (30 ECTS/60 CATS). The MSc (SocSci) International Social Policy Research Methods pathway is recognised by the Economic and Social Research Council Doctoral Training Centre, which offers funding opportunities for students wishing to progress to MPhil/PhD postgraduate training. The Social Enterprise pathway includes a project instead of a dissertation allowing you to have hands on experience of setting up a social enterprise.

#### Programme details

The structure of the programmes 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.

#### Part I Compulsory

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Туре
SOCI6046	International Social Policy	10	Compulsory
SOCI6047	International Social Welfare	10	Compulsory
GERO6018	Perspectives in Gerontology	10	Compulsory
RESM6001	Philosophy of Social Science Research	5	Compulsory
RESM6002	Research Design and Practice	5	Compulsory

#### Part I Optional

Module Title	ECTS	Туре
Ageing, Health and Well-being	10	Optional
Demographic Change, Ageing &	10	Optional
Globalisation		
Population, Poverty & Policy	5	Optional
Qualitative Methods 1	5	Optional
Qualitative Methods 2	5	Optional
Quantitative Methods 1	5	Optional
Quantitative Methods II A	5	Optional
Researching Ageing Societies	10	Optional
Survey Design	5	Optional
Understanding Population Change	5	Optional
	Ageing, Health and Well-being Demographic Change, Ageing & Globalisation Population, Poverty & Policy Qualitative Methods 1 Qualitative Methods 2 Quantitative Methods 1 Quantitative Methods II A Researching Ageing Societies Survey Design	Ageing, Health and Well-being10Demographic Change, Ageing & Globalisation10Population, Poverty & Policy5Qualitative Methods 15Qualitative Methods 25Quantitative Methods 15Quantitative Methods 15Quantitative Methods 15Quantitative Methods 15Quantitative Methods 15Quantitative Methods 15Quantitative Methods 15Survey Design5

#### Part II

Part II Core

	Code	Module Title	ECTS	Туре	
	SOCI6010	Dissertation	30	Core	
The	The programme structure table is below:				

The programme structure table is below:

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

## **Development Pathway**

Part I

The programme is normally studied over 12 months full-time.

The taught element of the programme consists of 60 ECTS/120 CATS points plus a dissertation of 30 ECTS/60 CATS. You will have a range of option choices depending on the pathway you chose to take and these include a choice of both substantive and research methods modules. Whichever pathway you have chosen you will need to take modules in research methods which are worth at least 20 ECTS/40 CATS points.

The taught component of the programmes consists of 30 study weeks divided into two semesters during which time students study six modules (60 ECTS/120 CATS). Students also undertake a three-month period of supervised research for a Master's dissertation at a value of 30 ECTS/60 CATS).

#### Pathways

You can chose if you wish to specialise your study through your options choices, you can specialise on Research Methods or a specific contemporary issue (Ageing Societies, Development and Social Enterprise) in social policy development. The Research Methods pathway incorporates a more substantial compulsory research methods training element (30 ECTS/60 CATS). The MSc (SocSci) International Social Policy Research Methods pathway is recognised by the Economic and Social Research Council Doctoral Training Centre, which offers funding opportunities for students wishing to progress to MPhil/PhD postgraduate training. The Social Enterprise pathway includes a project instead of a dissertation allowing you to have hands on experience of setting up a social enterprise.

#### Programme details

The structure of the programmes 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.

#### Part I Compulsory

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Туре
SOCI6045	Development and Migration	10	Compulsory
SOCI6046	International Social Policy	10	Compulsory
SOCI6047	International Social Welfare	10	Compulsory
RESM6001	Philosophy of Social Science Research	5	Compulsory
RESM6002	Research Design and Practice	5	Compulsory

#### Part I Optional

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Туре
RESM6003	Qualitative Methods 1	5	Optional
RESM6004	Quantitative Methods 1	5	Optional

#### Part II

#### Part II Core

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Туре
SOCI6010	Dissertation	30	Core

The programme structure table is below:

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

# **General Pathway**

Part I

The programme is normally studied over 12 months full-time.

The taught element of the programme consists of 60 ECTS/120 CATS points plus a dissertation of 30 ECTS/60 CATS. You will have a range of option choices depending on the pathway you chose to take and these include a choice of both substantive and research methods modules. Whichever pathway you have chosen you will need to take modules in research methods which are worth at least 20 ECTS/40 CATS points.

The taught component of the programmes consists of 30 study weeks divided into two semesters during which time students study six modules (60 ECTS/120 CATS). Students also undertake a three-month period of supervised research for a Master's dissertation at a value of 30 ECTS/60 CATS).

#### Pathways

You can chose if you wish to specialise your study through your options choices, you can specialise on Research Methods or a specific contemporary issue (Ageing Societies, Development and Social Enterprise) in social policy development. The Research Methods pathway incorporates a more substantial compulsory research methods training element (30 ECTS/60 CATS). The MSc (SocSci) International Social Policy Research Methods pathway is recognised by the Economic and Social Research Council Doctoral Training Centre, which offers funding opportunities for students wishing to progress to MPhil/PhD postgraduate training. The Social Enterprise pathway includes a project instead of a dissertation allowing you to have hands on experience of setting up a social enterprise.

#### Programme details

The structure of the programmes 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.

### Part I Compulsory

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Туре
SOCI6046	International Social Policy	10	Compulsory
SOCI6047	International Social Welfare	10	Compulsory
RESM6001	Philosophy of Social Science Research	5	Compulsory
RESM6002	Research Design and Practice	5	Compulsory

### Part I Optional

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Туре
PAIR6036	Advanced Policy Analysis	10	Optional
GERO6020	Ageing, Health and Well-being	10	Optional
GERO6019	Demographic Change, Ageing &	10	Optional
	Globalisation		
PAIR6005	Development and International Politics	10	Optional
SOCI6045	Development and Migration	10	Optional
PAIR6001	International Relations Theories	10	Optional
GERO6018	Perspectives in Gerontology	10	Optional
RESM6003	Qualitative Methods 1	5	Optional
RESM6004	Quantitative Methods 1	5	Optional
GERO6017	Researching Ageing Societies	10	Optional
SOCI6043	Understanding Social Change	10	Optional

#### Part II

#### Part II Core

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Туре	
SOCI6010	Dissertation	30	Core	
The programme struct	ire table is below.			

The programme structure table is below:

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

# **Research Methods Pathway**

Part I

The programme is normally studied over 12 months full-time.

The taught element of the programme consists of 60 ECTS/120 CATS points plus a dissertation of 30 ECTS/60 CATS. You will have a range of option choices depending on the pathway you chose to take and these include a choice of both substantive and research methods modules. Whichever pathway you have chosen you will need to take modules in research methods which are worth at least 20 ECTS/40 CATS points.

The taught component of the programmes consists of 30 study weeks divided into two semesters during which time students study six modules (60 ECTS/120 CATS). Students also undertake a three-month period of supervised research for a Master's dissertation at a value of 30 ECTS/60 CATS).

#### Pathways

You can chose if you wish to specialise your study through your options choices, you can specialise on Research Methods or a specific contemporary issue (Ageing Societies, Development and Social Enterprise) in social policy development. The Research Methods pathway incorporates a more substantial compulsory research methods training element (30 ECTS/60 CATS). The MSc (SocSci) International Social Policy Research Methods pathway is recognised by the Economic and Social Research Council Doctoral Training Centre, which offers funding opportunities for students wishing to progress to MPhil/PhD postgraduate training. The Social Enterprise pathway includes a project instead of a dissertation allowing you to have hands on experience of setting up a social enterprise.

#### Programme details

The structure of the programmes 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.

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Туре
SOCI6046	International Social Policy	10	Compulsory
SOCI6047	International Social Welfare	10	Compulsory
RESM6001	Philosophy of Social Science Research	5	Compulsory
RESM6003	Qualitative Methods 1	5	Compulsory
RESM6004	Quantitative Methods 1	5	Compulsory
RESM6002	Research Design and Practice	5	Compulsory

#### Part I Compulsory

#### Part I Optional

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Туре
GERO6020	Ageing, Health and Well-being	10	Optional
GERO6019	Demographic Change, Ageing &	10	Optional
	Globalisation		
PAIR6005	Development and International Politics	10	Optional
SOCI6045	Development and Migration	10	Optional
PAIR6010	Governance and Policy	10	Optional
GERO6018	Perspectives in Gerontology	10	Optional
DEMO6026	Population and Reproductive Health	5	Optional
DEMO6023	Population, Poverty & Policy	5	Optional
RESM6006	Qualitative Methods 2	5	Optional
RESM6007	Quantitative Methods II A	5	Optional
GERO6017	Researching Ageing Societies	10	Optional
RESM6005	Survey Design	5	Optional
SOCI6035	Understanding Modernity	10	Optional
DEMO6021	Understanding Population Change	5	Optional

#### Part II

#### Part II Core

	Code	Module Title	ECTS	Туре
	SOCI6010	Dissertation	30	Core
<b>TI-</b>				

The programme structure table is below:

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

# Social Enterprise Pathway

#### Part I

The programme is normally studied over 12 months full-time.

The taught element of the programme consists of 60 ECTS/120 CATS points plus a dissertation of 30 ECTS/60 CATS. You will have a range of option choices depending on the pathway you chose to take and these include a choice of both substantive and research methods modules. Whichever pathway you have chosen you will need to take modules in research methods which are worth at least 20 ECTS/40 CATS points.

The taught component of the programmes consists of 30 study weeks divided into two semesters during which time students study six modules (60 ECTS/120 CATS). Students also undertake a three-month period of supervised research for a Master's dissertation at a value of 30 ECTS/60 CATS).

#### Pathways

You can chose if you wish to specialise your study through your options choices, you can specialise on Research Methods or a specific contemporary issue (Ageing Societies, Development and Social Enterprise) in social policy development. The Research Methods pathway incorporates a more substantial compulsory research methods training element (30 ECTS/60 CATS). The MSc (SocSci) International Social Policy Research Methods pathway is recognised by the Economic and Social Research Council Doctoral Training Centre, which offers funding opportunities for students wishing to progress to MPhil/PhD postgraduate training. The Social Enterprise pathway includes a project instead of a dissertation allowing you to have hands on experience of setting up a social enterprise.

#### Programme details

The structure of the programmes 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.

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Туре
SOCI6046	International Social Policy	10	Compulsory
SOCI6047	International Social Welfare	10	Compulsory
RESM6001	Philosophy of Social Science Research	5	Compulsory
RESM6002	Research Design and Practice	5	Compulsory

#### Part I Compulsory

#### Part I Optional

Module Title	ECTS	Туре
Advanced Policy Analysis	10	Optional
Ageing, Health and Well-being	10	Optional
Demographic Change, Ageing &	10	Optional
Globalisation		
Development and International Politics	10	Optional
Development and Migration	10	Optional
International Relations Theories	10	Optional
Perspectives in Gerontology	10	Optional
Qualitative Methods 1	5	Optional
Qualitative Methods 2	5	Optional
Quantitative Methods 1	5	Optional
	Advanced Policy Analysis Ageing, Health and Well-being Demographic Change, Ageing & Globalisation Development and International Politics Development and Migration International Relations Theories Perspectives in Gerontology Qualitative Methods 1 Qualitative Methods 2	Advanced Policy Analysis10Ageing, Health and Well-being10Demographic Change, Ageing &10Globalisation10Development and International Politics10Development and Migration10International Relations Theories10Perspectives in Gerontology10Qualitative Methods 15Qualitative Methods 25

RESM6007	Quantitative Methods II A	5	Optional
GERO6017	Researching Ageing Societies	10	Optional
RESM6005	Survey Design	5	Optional
SOCI6043	Understanding Social Change	10	Optional

Part II

Part II Core

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Туре	
SOCI6010	Dissertation	30	Core	

## **Progression Requirements**

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

# 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-todate; 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 academic tutor. As soon as you register on this programme, you will be allocated a personal academic 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 on employability matters, for example - Should you have any personal issues that affect your study, your personal academic tutor will refer you to the Faculty Senior Tutor who will be able to offer you more specialised pastoral care.

• 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 evaluation questionnaires 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 feedback 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 quality of your programme is checked from inside and outside the University, through

- 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 Assessment Exercise (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**

Our alumni are working in a wide range of sectors related to the delivery and analysis of social policy. For example a number of our students have gone on to work in local or national government. Others have become part of the UK government's statistical team, working for the Office of National Statistics. Our alumni are also working in social policy research, either for independent research bodies, or as part of research degrees, potentially leading to University careers.. Our students are also involved in the delivery of social policy or services which advise on social policy delivery, such as the UK Citizens Advice Bureau.

Career planning is supported through:

Tailor-made postgraduate employability workshop

 $\cdot$  Workshops for Social Sciences students on writing effective CVs and application forms. (These take place throughout the academic year and information about dates will be sent to you by email).

• Interview Skills workshops for Social Sciences students. (These take place throughout the academic year and information about dates will be sent to you by email).

· Career Panels and Talks. (Information about dates will be sent to you by email).

• One-to-one appointments with a Careers Adviser (bookable throughout the year, on a first-come-first-served basis. Information about dates will be sent to you by email).

# External Examiner(s) for the programme

Ageing Societies 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:

Туре	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.
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.
Printing and Photocopying Costs	In the majority of cases, coursework such as essays; projects; dissertations is likely to be submitted on line. However, there are some items where it is not possible to submit on line and 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.