

# Sociology BA (Hons)

## COURSE DETAILS

- A level requirements: [BBB](#)
- UCAS code: L302
- Study mode: Full-time
- Length: 3 years

## KEY DATES

- Apply by: [25 January 2023](#)
- Starts: 25 September 2023

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## Course overview

Our approach to sociology engages you in a critical study of society. You will learn to make sense of what drives change in the social world and the possible directions this change may take.

## INTRODUCTION

The effect of new ideas, technologies, government programmes and social conflict on everyday life is explored through your study of a broad range of subjects that take in local, national and global social relationships. The aim is to give you a comprehensive grasp of the sociological imagination and the real world issues it speaks to.

The core modules in year one provide you with a firm foundation for future study. How can sociology help us address social change and divisions? Where best can our sociological imagination apply itself? In year two, you will increase your understanding of social theory and research methods and broaden your knowledge of society through a range of options. By year three you will have the

choice to study specialist subjects in-depth and develop your independent learning.

You may opt for a dissertation and pursue a topic of your choice. Alternatively, you can gain valuable employability skills and opt for our social policy project and combine work experience with your studies, by carrying out a piece of research commissioned by a local agency.

Our programmes are based on cutting edge research and are ideal preparation for careers or further study where clear, creative thinking is valued. From the historical foundations of crime and punishment to the implications of digitisation in social, political, economic and cultural life.

## WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

- Qualitative and quantitative research methods
  - Data analysis
  - Report writing
  - Presentation
  - Appreciating the complexity and diversity of social situations
  - Applying sociological theory to society's organisations including schools, hospitals and offices
  - Researching, judging and evaluating complex information
  - Making reasoned arguments
  - Developing opinions and new ideas on social issues
  - The ability to understand, scrutinise and re-assess common perceptions of the social world
  - Relating sociological knowledge to social, public and civic policy
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# Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

## YEAR ONE

In year one, students are introduced to the classic works of Marx, Weber and Durkheim before exploring a range of 20th century social theorists, thus laying a strong foundation for future study. On the practical side, there are two linked modules (social change and social policy in contemporary society I and II), which look at issues such as the family, social class, gender and 'race'. A further introductory module,

studying society, looks at the use of social science research methods and ensures that by the second year all students are fully acquainted with all the skills they need to progress in their studies.

\*Some modules may not be available depending on your selected programme of study.

## COMPULSORY MODULES

### CONTROLLING CRIME - AN INTRODUCTION (SOC1108)

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module provides a critical introduction to the criminal justice system. With SOC1107, it provides an essential foundation for your studies in criminology at Liverpool. Key criminal justice concepts, institutions- including the police, the courts, prisons – and processes are introduced and their roles and functions are subject to critical appraisal.

### INTRODUCTION TO CRIME AND SOCIETY (SOC1107)

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module introduces you to the subject matter of sociological criminology. It provides an essential foundation for your studies in criminology at Liverpool. You will acquire an understanding of key issues and debates in the sociology of 'crime' and subject contemporary talk about 'the crime problem' to critical analysis.

### SOCIAL CHANGE AND SOCIAL POLICY IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY 1 (SOC1102)

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module examines continuity and change in social, cultural, political and economic life in Britain over the twentieth and into the twenty-first century, particularly in the period after 1945. The module will examine areas of British life like politics, the economy, the family, social and cultural relations, and the role of social policy in responding to and encouraging wider forms of change.

### SOCIAL CHANGE AND SOCIAL POLICY IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY 2: CHANGING

## **INEQUALITIES (SOC1103)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module examines some of the main social changes that have taken place in British society since 1945. It draws upon sociological studies to discuss the inter-relationship between 'race', ethnicity, class and gender to understand the influence of these on society.

## **SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY (SOC1101)**

**Credits: 30 / Semester: whole session**

This module provides a comprehensive introduction to classical and contemporary sociological theory. Tracing sociological analysis from its origins in the nineteenth century through to major present-day thinkers, the module addresses some of the discipline's landmark studies and theories, in the process equipping you with understanding of the major frameworks for thinking sociologically.

## **STUDYING SOCIETY (SOC1106)**

**Credits: 30 / Semester: whole session**

'Studying Society' is designed to provide students with a comprehensive introduction to the field of social enquiry. What is 'the social'? Why would we study it? What would that involve? These are questions with which this module is concerned. It offers an introduction to the proper objects of social enquiry, relevant modes of thinking and questioning, strategies for finding, accessing, and evaluating sources of information, methods and techniques for generating and analysing data, as well as skills in communicating information and ideas effectively. In doing so, the module aims to equip students with a range of skills for the study of society at degree level and beyond. The module provides students with opportunities to both study and practice these skills.

*Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.*

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## **YEAR TWO**

Having established a firm grounding, second year students begin to increase their in-depth understanding of social theory and research methods, and broaden their knowledge of different topics in the discipline through a wide range of options.

\*Some modules may not be available depending on your selected programme of study.

## **COMPULSORY MODULES**

### **QUANTITATIVE SOCIAL RESEARCH METHODS (SOC1247)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module examines how quantitative data can be used to investigate the social world. It considers how such data is gathered, the increasing prevalence of 'statistics' in making claims about the nature of social reality, how to go about assessing the accuracy of these claims, and how to practically analyse quantitative data to gain a better understanding of society.

### **QUALITATIVE SOCIAL RESEARCH METHODS (SOC1248)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module is designed to provide students with an introduction to the theory and practice of social research using qualitative methods. The module covers qualitative research principles and design, ethics and reflexivity, data generation, data analysis, and presentation of findings. The module encourages students to develop both a critical understanding of and practical competencies in qualitative social research.

### **THINKING SOCIOLOGICALLY: APPROACHES TO SOCIAL INQUIRY (SOC1242)**

**Credits: 30 / Semester: whole session**

This year long core module provides students with a comprehensive overview of major developments in contemporary social theory, using the themes of structure/agency; culture; gender and knowledge as anchors. The module analyses theoretically informed and empirically grounded sociological theories and approaches and encourages students to apply key frameworks and perspectives to major contemporary social issues. In the course of the module students will be invited to cogitate on the ways in which prominent thinkers have conceptualised underlying social processes and transformations in the contemporary era. The methodological focus will centre on the deployment of diverse methods and competing epistemologies and ontologies. The overall aim of the module is to provide students with a robust understanding of how sociological theorists have interpreted fundamental social and cultural changes and enabled us to understand and scrutinise the modern world.

## **OPTIONAL MODULES**

### **COMPARING WELFARE STATES (SOC1207)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

Based on Esping-Andersen's classic analysis of the 'three worlds of welfare capitalism', this module provides a framework for comparing welfare states, i.e. 'the mixed economy of welfare' in different 'welfare regimes': including the 'liberal' regime in America, the 'conservative' regime in Germany and the 'social democratic' regime in Sweden. It examines the ways in which these different regimes emerged historically, how they organise and deliver welfare, the social, political and economic priorities they embody, the outcomes they have for different social groups, including their role in the production of inequalities, and their prospects for the future.

### **CULTURE, POWER AND SOCIAL CHANGE (SOC1256)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module introduces you to the key sociological debates into social change, culture and power and their relationship to maintaining social order. The module explores the role of popular music, subcultural practice and media in order to introduce historical and contemporary case studies into social change and cultural practices.

**DEVIANCE, YOUTH AND CULTURE (SOC1252)****Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

SOCI 252 is a module that introduces students to the core sociological understandings of deviance in both a domestic and international context. The module is designed to provide a critical insight into the concept of deviance, connecting significant past and present issues in the construction of deviants with sociological analyses and broader social, legal and cultural changes.

**SOCIAL EXCLUSION (SOC1205)****Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module is concerned with studying the origins and development of the concept of Social Exclusion. Students will explore and evaluate its theory and practice and will consider a number of case studies around class, 'race' and ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation and gender. You will evaluate policy responses and social action to counter social exclusion; discuss the relationship between exclusion and other forms of social stratification and consider a number of theoretical perspectives that utilise inclusion/exclusion concepts.

**THE BLACK PRESENCE – MIGRATION AND SETTLEMENT IN BRITAIN 1800–1979 (SOC1223)****Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module introduces students to the recent history (circa last 250 years) of black migration and settlement to the UK. It will look at the importance of historical change on contemporary understandings of 'race' and ethnic diversity. Through examining the slave trade, colonialism and post-war migration, students will gain a sense of the resilience of such communities to different forms of racism and discrimination. In addition, the module assesses the neglected contribution that black communities have made to British society.

**UNDERSTANDING DIGITAL CULTURE & SOCIETY (SOC1213)****Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

Digital technologies now permeate our day to day lives, so much so that we have increasingly come to take them for granted in the last 10 years. The significance of this digitisation should not be over looked however. This module involves critical exploration of the place and role of digital technology in society, engaging theoretically and empirically with important questions regarding the implications of digitisation in social, political, economic and cultural life. As well as engaging with key ideas and debates, students are encouraged to reflect critically on their own digital lives and practice.

## **UNDERSTANDING CRIME, JUSTICE AND PUNISHMENT (SOC1244)**

**Credits: 30 / Semester: whole session**

This module offers you the opportunity to explore how criminology has developed various perspectives throughout its historical and socio-political development. The key concepts devised and utilised by criminologists are also explored for their impacts upon criminal and social justice. The module is concerned with major controversies within criminological thinking and criminal justice practice.

## **POLICING IN A DIVIDED SOCIETY (SOC1241)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module provides an introduction to the sociology of policing and the police. Using a range of approaches to teaching, learning and assessment this module will equip you with knowledge and skills which will enable you to consider key issues in contemporary policing from an informed and critical perspective. Upon completing the module you should have a solid understanding of key concepts used to understand policing and the police from a sociological perspective, and you should be able to apply these concepts to a range of policing topics.

## **CRITICAL EDUCATION STUDIES (SOC1257)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module identifies and explores a range of empirical sites and critical theoretical perspectives in the study of education. It examines contemporary issues in education, in a cross disciplinary way, through different sociological, social policy and criminological lenses. In particular, the module considers the relationships between education, society, the state and the individual, and considers how forces like globalisation and marketization are impacting education. It pays close attention to educational (in)equalities relating to 'race' and ethnicity, social class, gender, sex and sexuality, dis/ability, and migration. Over the course of the module there is a focus on key debates and bodies of research in critical studies of education that can help us to better understand and respond to pressing educational issues.

## **SEXUALITIES IN SOCIETY (SOC1218)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module will explore the sociology of sexualities, and focus on the debates and experiences surrounding the everyday lives of people who are not heterosexual, and how our construction of sexuality affects their life experiences.

Beginning with a consideration of the way that sociology has looked at sexuality as a social division, from labelling to queer theory, the module focuses on some key concepts such as heteronormativity and homophobia, and the way that ideas such as community, citizenship and social movements help us to understand sexualities. The history and development of the lesbian and gay movement and its campaigns for legal and social equality will give the opportunity to apply some of these concepts.

The second part of the module looks at a range of social policy issues and how people of minority sexualities experience their delivery and construction – for example, health and medicine, education, employment and marriage and personal relationships. Does heterosexism or homophobia continue to influence the experiences of same-sex couples or lesbians and gay men in the workplace?

Finally, the third section of the module looks at contemporary areas of debate and controversy – these may change dependent on social and political developments, but have included a study of the trans rights debate, and the position of ‘gender critical’ radical feminists and those campaigning for trans recognition and equality, and the existence of hate crimes and whether a queer criminology is needed to understand and tackle them.

### **PUNISHMENT, PENALTY AND PRISONS: CRITICAL DEBATES (SOC1254)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

The module is underpinned by three core aims. First to provide a broad overview of the historical, theoretical and political foundations of punishment, penalty and prisons internationally but in the UK in particular. Second to examine the experiences and outcomes of imprisonment for identifiable groups of prisoners including: Children and young people; women; black and minoritised people; older people, LGBTQAI+. Third, to introduce a range of key debates and controversies surrounding the questions of punishment, penalty and prisons in ‘modern’ societies and to subject them to social scientific interrogation and critical analysis.

### **UNDERSTANDING VIOLENCE (SOC1296)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module will provide students with a critical introduction to sociological perspectives on violence. Different conceptual appreciations of violence will be presented and students will be expected to interrogate what is considered ‘violent’, the contexts in which violence occurs, who is assumed to engage in violence and who becomes a victim of it. Students will also be encouraged to consider where violence is said to occur the most, where it is obscured from view and how violence impacts upon society.

### **URBAN SOCIOLOGY (SOC1236)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

The majority of the world’s population can now be said to be urban and the most acute social challenges of the age to centre on cities. This module provides a comprehensive introduction to classical and contemporary social scientific studies of urban contexts. Tracing the development of theories of urban life – and the empirical studies that have accompanied them – this module is concerned with the variety of ways in which social scientists have sought to understand the complex and contested social spaces of cities.

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## YEAR THREE

By year three, students will have the choice to study specialist subjects in-depth and develop their independent learning. Those who opt for a dissertation are given freedom to pursue their interest in a topic of their own choice, whilst those opting for our applied social research or social policy project get a chance to combine work

experience with academic rigour. We have considerable expertise in combining your research interests with the needs and aims of local agencies.

\*Some modules may not be available depending on your selected programme of study.

### DISSERTATION ROUTES

Students must choose **SOCI301** or **SOCI303** or **SOCI347** or **SOCI311** (semester one only)

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## COMPULSORY MODULES

### DISSERTATION 2 (SOCI301)

**Credits: 30 / Semester: whole session**

Running across two semesters, the dissertation is a major part of the final year of study and completes their "apprenticeship" in social science. It allows students to revisit, consolidate and apply what they have learnt in the course of their degree studies by focusing in on an independent research project of their own choosing and which they must systematically complete and present as an original social science dissertation.

### INTERCHANGE PORTFOLIO: WORK-BASED LEARNING (SOCI303)

**Credits: 30 / Semester: whole session**

The module gives you the opportunity to engage in either an applied social research project or a distinct work project in collaboration with a local Voluntary Community Organisation (VCO). This is organised through the charity 'Interchange', based in the SLSJ.

### CREATIVE CONSULTANT: DISSERTATION BY PORTFOLIO (SOCI347)

**Credits: 30 / Semester: whole session**

This module offers an alternative approach to the traditional dissertation also offered to third year students and to the Interchange modules.

Students will be given the opportunity to work cross-faculty with engineering students on MECH327.

It will draw upon on the same skills and will test the same outcomes: subject knowledge in sociology, social policy, or criminology or interdisciplinarity as relevant to the chosen topic; desk top research skills; analytic skills and awareness of the limitations of knowledge; and presentation of findings.

Students will be guided through the research process by a supervisor who will have nominated a topic to investigate prior to each academic year (related to supervisors' areas of specialism). This module will assist students who are unsure of a research topic themselves but wish to develop key transferable skills for employability purposes and provides the opportunity to work closely with an academic expert and fellow students working on similar topics.

The assessment is based on a portfolio comprising different elements. Students will be expected to evidence collaborative working in sharing resources, giving and receiving feedback, and critically reflecting on their delivery and/or preparations for delivery.

The module is an 'alternative dissertation' in that it requires group discussion, presentation of findings through a visual or other creative medium and will culminate in a portfolio of 8,000-10,000 words inclusive of appendices.

### **SHORT INTERCHANGE PROJECT (SOCI311)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

The module gives you the opportunity to engage in an in-depth investigation of benefit to a local Voluntary Community Organisation (VCO). This module may involve use of anonymised secondary data analysis, or literature review, or policy analysis, and does not involve the collection of new data. The engagement with the VCO is organised through the charity Interchange, based in the SLSJ.

## **OPTIONAL MODULES**

### **SOCIOLOGIES OF CLASS AND INEQUALITY (SOCI335)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module focuses on social class. It takes 'class' as a conceptual term and unpacks its meaning, and material reality in society. Students are introduced to a range of classical and contemporary class theory, where they will critically consider historical debates in class-based analysis, and how these are connected to wider changes in political, economic, social, and cultural realms. Students will also analyse class manifestations in a range of sites such as, education, (social) media, sport and leisure, fashion, work, and, health.

### **COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN CRIME AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE (SOCI369)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module examines how 'communities' and members of the general public interact with and are 'involved' in crime control and criminal justice institutions. You will explore how the lay public are involved, who is involved and the effects of public involvement in different settings. The module is taught via lectures, seminars and independent study.

### **COMMUNITY AND THE PROBLEM OF CRIME (SOCI341)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

The problem of crime has been seen as a major issue of concern to the media, politicians and policy-makers over the last thirty years. This module critically examines responses to 'crime' and, more recently, 'disorder' in Britain over this period, and examines the ways in which these responses have impacted upon different sections of society. The module provides an introduction to the relationship between crime and community as this has been developed within the discipline of criminology in Western societies.

### **GENDER AND CRIME (SOCI308)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module explores issues concerning the gendered nature of work related to deviance. It considers arguments concerning women's relation to deviance, explores the links between masculinities and crime, studies the experiences of female offenders and explores experiences of women as victims of crime. Teaching is based on current research and practice in this key area of policy.

### **GENDER, THE BODY AND IDENTITY (SOCI315)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module introduces students to key issues in contemporary feminist theory. Centering on the controversies and debates surrounding gender and identity the course examines the ways in which feminist theorists have developed, contested and expanded the concept of gender. To do so the module explores a wide range of contemporary issues on the body and power.

### **HEALTH, LIFECOURSE & SOCIETY (SOCI307)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

The aims of this module are to develop a broad range of sociological understandings of issues relevant to health, illness and the life course. This will involve critically examining new developments in theoretical and methodological approaches as well as a variety of empirical studies on the social and cultural aspects of health, illness and the lifecourse.

### **'RACE', COMMUNITY AND IDENTITY (SOCI346)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module looks at the impact of colonialism on patterns of migration to Britain in the post war period. It examines the changing nature of racism as an ideology by exploring and contextualising scientific and institutional forms of racisms. You will look at the conflictual relationship between the state and minority ethnic communities through an examination of various struggles including anti-immigration ones. The module will also seek to unpack constructions of ethnic and national identity in the context of post-colonial Britain

### **THE PANOPTICON AND THE PEOPLE: DIGITAL APPROACHES TO THE HISTORY OF CRIME AND PUNISHMENT (SOCI328)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

Panopticon and the People examines how contemporary issues in criminology and criminal justice policy, including offending and the life course, persistence and desistance, race, gender, violence, youth crime, and gang crime, have been treated historically from the eighteenth century to the present.

Students will utilise online data archives and data visualisation techniques to interrogate criminological concepts including Michel Foucault's disciplinary gaze and Stanley Cohen's moral panic. Students will gain knowledge of historical methods and debates and gain transferrable digital skills.

**THE RISK SOCIETY: CRIME, SECURITY AND PUBLIC POLICY (SOCI320)****Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module examines the place of risk in the modern world. Students will be invited to explore the social impacts of various security risks and to examine the ways in which individuals produce, consume and manage risks in everyday life.

**YOUTH CRIME, YOUTH CULTURE AND SOCIAL CONTROL (SOCI323)****Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

The module is underpinned by four core aims. First, to explore criminological and sociological conceptualisations of 'youth', 'crime' and 'criminalisation', and to engage with criminological theories of youth crime and youth justice. Second, to investigate cultural approaches to youth crime and violence, and the role of youth culture and subculture in understanding crime and transgression. Third, to analyse the control of, and responses to, youth crime by institutions and state agencies, and the management of youth crime and the regulation and governance of young people. Fourth, to look at the experiences of practitioners working in areas such as youth crime prevention, youth welfare, and the youth criminal justice system.

**POLITICS, SOCIETY AND THE STATE: CLASSIC AND CONTEMPORARY ETHNOGRAPHIES (SOCI325)****Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

The overall aim of this module is to explore how particular ways of doing ethnography help us to analyse politics, policy, government and the state as social phenomena. Rather than provide a single 'tool kit', the lectures will highlight the diversity of ethnographic techniques and analytical practices that researchers actually employ. Based on this, and along with the small-scale exercise in observational research, the module provides ideas about how we might pursue politics and political actors through society for ourselves and in a variety of ways.

**CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES IN DESISTANCE FROM CRIME (SOCI331)****Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module provides an introduction to the study of desistance from crime with a particular focus on critical approaches and new developments in the field. Using a range of teaching, learning and assessment methods this module will equip students with knowledge and skills which will enable the consideration of key issues in desistance research and the impact on policy and practice from an informed and critical perspective. The aim will be to challenge the more traditional theory, research, policy and practice in this area and examine new and emergent areas of study that advocate for an approach that looks beyond the criminal justice system for reducing re-offending. Upon completing the module, students should have a solid understanding of desistance theory, new empirical developments, the role of punishment and resettlement in desistance from crime, issues around gender and the ability to critically interpret desistance research and the impact it has had on both policy and practice.

### **GENDER AND THE WELFARE STATE (SOCI332)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

The course investigates the different ways in which gender is incorporated into national welfare states and the impact of national structures on the patterns and prevalence's of gender inequalities. The course covers the theory and methodology of comparative studies and their applicability to the analysis of gender, especially how well existing typologies of welfare states fare when gender is the focus of analysis. A number of key patterns of inequality and policy areas will be studied and we will look at the political economy of neoliberalisation and austerity and its effect on gendered welfare state provision. By looking at these aspects of welfare states students will be encouraged to contrast approaches of different welfare systems and consider the particularism of national approaches.

### **DRUGS, CRIME AND SOCIETY (SOCI339)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module seeks to enable students to develop a deeper critical understanding of societal issues concerning illegal drugs and crime, and to appraise how policy and practice have developed to try to alleviate them. Students will look at how issues of drug use, supply and associated criminal behaviour are socially constructed. Through these understandings, students will develop their own knowledge as to how policy responses to such 'problems' are interpreted and translated into practice. Students will be encouraged to consider how some people's drug use is disproportionately framed as problematic, with reference to age, gender and class, as well as consider the spatial distribution of drug-related crime, violence, harm and links to wider social-structural processes. Due attention will be given to a range of criminological and multi-disciplinary perspectives in this module.

### **CULTURAL CRIMINOLOGY (SOCI340)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

Culture, or the 'symbolic environment' in and through which individuals and groups make sense of their being, their actions, and the social and material world, shapes our understandings of crime and its control. Definitions and meanings of crime and transgression are constantly negotiated, and contested, in everyday life, global politics and media. In this module, students will engage with the interdisciplinary theoretical and methodological approaches of cultural criminology. Students will explore how transgression and control are intertwined with various cultural phenomena and processes of meaning-making in order to develop an understanding of crime as a culturally mediated concept. Module topics include (virtual) subcultures, media representation in a multi-mediated age, consumerism, cultural and political resistance, green cultural criminology and feminist cultural criminology.

### **MILITARY, MILITARISM, IDENTITY AND PLACE (SOCI345)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

Taking the UK context as its focus this module explores ways to think critically about the role of military institutions and estates, and their associated values, identities and practices, as they are found influencing and impacting upon everyday public life.

### **DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHY AS SOCIAL RESEARCH (SOCI348)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

Photography is becoming increasingly popular amongst the social sciences. Although some disciplines like Anthropology and Geography have long made use of photography as an integral part of the research process, others like Sociology and Criminology are relatively new to the method. In this module students will examine how photography, particularly documentary photography, has been and can be used to understand, analyse, illustrate and communicate the social world. By looking at work by both practitioners and scholars, as well as various theories surrounding the photograph, students will develop a visual literacy and methodology to include within their research and practice repertoire.

### **CRIME, JUSTICE AND THE SEX INDUSTRY (SOCI349)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module aims to critically explore the concept of the 'sex industry' and will examine policy, policing of sex work, stigma, and the global sex worker rights movement.

### **CORPORATE CRIME, LAW AND POWER (SOCI321)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module explores the phenomenon of corporate crime in historical and contemporary contexts. It does so by exploring the ways in which the law acts as a key source of the power to commit corporate crimes that victimise workers, consumers, communities and the ecosystem. This course will explore the development of the corporation as a key institution in capitalist societies and the ways in which the law supports the corporation and can provide a structure of impunity for corporate crimes.

## **CULTURE, ECONOMY AND CITIES (SOCI327)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module considers the links between the rise of urban forms of living, economic change, and the place of 'culture' within society. It asks questions such as why cities are at the heart of cultural development, why culture is seen by some as having a role to play in dealing with urban social problems, how the nature of cultural expression changes as dominant economic forms change, whether cultural and economic values are really opposed, what the role of culture is in a 'new economy', and how governments seek to intervene in this area.

## **ALCOHOL, CRIME AND SOCIETY (SOCI337)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module seeks to enable students with a deeper critical understanding of societal issues concerning alcohol and crime, and to appraise how social policy has been developed to try to alleviate them. Students will look at how issues of alcohol consumption and associated criminal behaviour are socially constructed. Through these understandings, students will develop their own knowledge as to how policy responses to such 'problems' are interpreted and translated into practice. Students will be encouraged to consider how some people's drinking is disproportionately framed as problematic, with reference to age, gender and class, as well as consider the spatial distribution of alcohol-related crime/violence/harm and links to wider social-structural processes. Due attention will be given to a range of criminological and multi-disciplinary perspectives in the lectures.

## **GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES AND JUSTICE (SOCI344)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module looks at how criminology has tried to understand the effects on crime and criminal justice of climate change and other processes of social change associated environmental insecurity. The module will provide a comprehensive introduction to, and look in detail at, crimes which harm the environment, and which can be committed, organized or coordinated across national borders, involving groups or networks of individuals working in or than one country. The module will also explore the global effort to prevent such crimes, together with the challenges of applying ordinary instruments of criminal justice to environmental matters. Here, specific examples will include: Illegal logging and deforestation, illegal undeclared and unregulated fishing or depletion of fish species which are endangered; illegal dumping of toxic waste, especially in the developing countries; Illegal Transboundary waste shipment; Toxic waste and pollution; Money laundering and transfer of the proceeds of environmental crimes; poaching and trade in wildlife species and wildlife parts, criminological environmental theories; UN Conventions, protocols and offices related to the environment, among other things.

## **DEATH, SPIRITS AND SPIRITUALITY (SOCI352)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module looks at the sociology of death and spirituality. In the first part of the module, rather than seeing death as simply a biological process, we unpack the various social processes and forces that influence how we see, understand, experience and cope with death. In the second part, we look at how groups and individuals engage with, imagine and construct relationships with spirits. From conversations with the dead in spiritualist churches, to faith healing, to Chinese spirit mediums and Hungry Ghosts, students will take a global perspective on the socio-spiritual world.

### **ARCHITECTURE AND POWER: PARLIAMENTS, PRISONS AND COURTS (SOCI372)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module is based around a comprehensive introduction to social studies of architecture, and focuses on analysis of the architectural spaces of parliaments, prisons, and courts. Introducing sociological frameworks for understanding the relationship between states, architecture and power, the module addresses these three types of political architecture, including as they are put to practical use.

### **DISABILITY STUDIES (SOCI312)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module identifies and explores the social division of disability. The module will be divided into three sections. First, it will draw from both the social model theories of the disability rights movement and sociological theories of chronic health and illness. The module will firstly establish these theoretical perspectives and divides, and the way that they influenced the disability rights movement and the call for equality for disabled people both in the UK and elsewhere. The historical development of the disability rights movement and its contemporary agendas will be a significant focus of this section

The second part of the module will concentrate on social policy – housing, education, social security and benefits, and health and social care. The challenges faced by disabled people in accessing these services and working for adequate provision in the light of austerity will be critically considered.

The third section of the module will focus on debates and controversies related to disability – these will include intersectional matters such as the issue of the sexual politics of disability, hate crime and disabled people, the debate concerning the ethics and values relating to euthanasia, and will also consider mental health and illness and learning/intellectual disabilities and how they relate to theories guided by living with physical impairment. There will be opportunity to cover themes of particular interest to students. The module will also aim to include perspectives from disability rights activists in the local area.

*Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.*

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## **CHOOSING THIS SUBJECT AS A COMBINED DEGREE**

Studying Sociology as 50% of your degree gives you a thorough understanding of the way in which society works. Core modules in year one provide you with a firm foundation for future study.

Sociological theory embraces the classic work of Marx, Weber and Durkheim and a range of 20th century social theorists. A further 30 credits are available within Sociology and you may choose from the following modules. Social change and social policy investigates contemporary controversies around issues such as the family, social class, gender and 'race'. Studying society looks at the basics of social scientific work, including research methods, and an introduction to IT – ensuring you are fully conversant with utilising online resources. Both introduction to crime and society, and controlling crime explore key concepts in the criminology and criminal justice process.

Year two compulsory modules include thinking sociologically: approaches to social inquiry, and social research methods.

In year three, you will have the choice to study specialist subjects in-depth and develop your independent learning. You may opt for a dissertation and pursue a topic of your choice.

Alternatively, you can gain valuable employability skills and opt for our Applied social research module or Social policy project and combine work experience with your studies, by carrying out a piece of research commissioned by a local agency.

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## **HOW YOU'LL LEARN**

You will be taught through a combination of face-to-face teaching in group lectures and small class sessions, tutorials and seminars, which are supplemented by opportunities to get one-to-one guidance from academic staff during their weekly 'open office' hours. The rest of your study time will be spent undertaking directed independent study, making use of our excellent library and IT facilities.

You will also be supported throughout by an individual academic adviser. Learning is delivered in a variety of formats including lectures, seminars, workshops, tutorials, guided independent study, group work and reflective and experiential learning.

The primary purpose of lectures is to provide you with a broad introduction to key areas and debates on a given topic pitched at the appropriate level of study. The lectures aim to facilitate your reading and highlight issues to be explored during independent study time in preparation for seminars and assessment.

Seminars provide opportunities to explore particular issues and debates in greater detail in a way that supplements and builds upon the lectures. Seminars also allow for greater levels of student participation and such participation will be actively encouraged throughout the programme. Workshops frequently follow the format of seminars but they also may be used to develop particular skills in a teaching context. For example, workshops develop skills in data analysis and skills in interviewing.

Guided independent study may also feature in your learning experience. Group work is a feature of all seminar teaching and group work takes place both with and outside of formal scheduled classes.

## **HOW YOU'RE ASSESSED**

Assessment takes many forms, each appropriate to the learning outcomes of the particular module studied. Most modules are assessed by means of a mixture of essays and examinations. Typically, a module in year two might involve a 4,000 word essay or a 2,500 word essay plus a one hour examination. Some modules are assessed wholly or in part by other appropriate means, such as the preparation of projects and individual or group presentations. The final degree class is based on year two and three marks, weighted in favour of year three marks.

## **LIVERPOOL HALLMARKS**

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

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# Careers and employability

We will enable you to develop a range of social scientific, analytic and communication skills and a variety of transferable skills valued by many employers in a range of industries (eg media organisations, local government and charitable organisations, and commercial and financial service sectors).

**79% OF SOCIOLOGY, SOCIAL POLICY AND CRIMINOLOGY STUDENTS FIND THEIR MAIN ACTIVITY AFTER GRADUATION MEANINGFUL.**

*Graduate Outcomes, 2018-19.*

Our graduates have gone onto successful careers in both the public and private sectors; social welfare and criminal justice agencies such as the police and probation services and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) eg working with organisations supporting homeless people, refugees and in social research.

## RECENT EMPLOYERS

- Merseyside Police
- HM Prison Service
- National Probation Service
- Legal Services Commission
- Mencap
- IPSOS Mori
- Shell
- British Council

## WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES

In year two, you may have the choice to work as part of your studies. In year three, you have the opportunity of taking up work placements via our 'Interchange' service. This connects you with a variety of voluntary and charitable organisations in and around the region. These include the Community Voluntary Service, Refugee Action, Liverpool Student Community Action (homelessness

Studying with us also provides a sound basis from which you will be able to pursue postgraduate studies either with a vocational orientation (MA in Social Work, Legal Practice Course, for example) or to further your research skills at masters and doctoral levels.

project, play days and Chinese New Year celebrations), Victim Support, Barnados, and the Citizens Advice Bureau. Through this kind of work you will produce reports to help the organisations develop their services and meet local needs – a great thing to have on your CV!

## POSTGRADUATE OPPORTUNITIES

- Social Research Methods MA
- Criminology Research MRes
- Social Research MRes.

## PREPARING YOU FOR FUTURE SUCCESS

At Liverpool, our goal is to support you to build your intellectual, social, and cultural capital so that you graduate as a socially-conscious global citizen who is prepared for future success. We achieve this by:

- Embedding employability within your curriculum, through the modules you take and the opportunities to gain real-world experience offered by many of our courses.
- Providing you with opportunities to gain experience and develop connections with people and organisations, including

student and graduate employers as well as our global alumni.

- Providing you with the latest tools and skills to thrive in a competitive world, including access to Handshake, a platform which allows you to create your personalised job shortlist and apply with ease.
  - Supporting you through our peer-to-peer led [Careers Studio](#), where our career coaches provide you with tailored advice and support.
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# Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, and other costs to consider.

## TUITION FEES

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support. [Learn more about tuition fees, funding and student finance.](#)

<b>UK fees</b>	
Full-time place, per year	£9,250
Year in industry fee	£1,850
Year abroad fee	£1,385

<b>International fees</b>	
Full-time place, per year	£19,900

*Fees stated are for the 2022-23 academic year and may rise for 2023-24.*

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## ADDITIONAL COSTS

We understand that budgeting for your time at university is important, and we want to make sure you understand any course-related costs that are not covered by your tuition fee. This could include buying a laptop, books, or stationery.

Find out more about the [additional study costs](#) that may apply to this course.

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## SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

We offer a range of scholarships and bursaries to help cover tuition fees and help with living expenses while at university.

[Scholarships and bursaries you can apply for from the United Kingdom](#)

Select your country or region for more scholarships and bursaries.

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# Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

<b>Your qualification</b>	<b>Requirements</b> <a href="#">About our typical entry requirements</a>
A levels	BBB You may automatically qualify for reduced entry requirements through our <a href="#">contextual offers scheme</a> .
GCSE	4/C in English and 4/C in Mathematics
BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma	DDM
International Baccalaureate	30 points with no score less than 4
Irish Leaving Certificate	H2, H2, H2, H3, H3, H3
Scottish Higher/Advanced Higher	BBB in Advanced Highers, combinations of Advanced Highers and Scottish Highers are welcome
Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced	Accepted at grade B.
Access	45 Level 3 credits in graded units in a relevant Diploma, including 27 at Distinction and a further 15 with at least Merit. Relevant Diploma is Humanities/Social Sciences based.

Your qualification	Requirements <a href="#">About our typical entry requirements</a>
International qualifications	<div style="border: 1px solid gray; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">           Select your country or region to view specific entry requirements.         </div> <p>guaranteed a place on your chosen course.</p> <p>Many countries have a different education system to that of the UK, meaning your qualifications may not meet our entry requirements. Completing your Foundation Certificate, such as that offered by the <a href="#">University of Liverpool International College</a>, means you're</p>

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## ALTERNATIVE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- If your qualification isn't listed here, or you're taking a combination of qualifications, [contact us](#) for advice
  - Aged 20+ and without formal qualifications? The one-year [Go Higher diploma](#) qualifies you to apply for University of Liverpool arts, humanities and social sciences programmes
  - [Applications from mature students](#) are welcome.
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**THE ORIGINAL**

**REDBRICK**