Sociology, Social Policy and Criminology
Innovation in teaching and research

Eleanor Rathbone, a renowned social campaigner who fought for a system of family allowances and championed women’s rights, helped to establish our School of Social Science in 1905. Today, our Department of Sociology, Social Policy and Criminology continues to strive for social justice and progressive social change.

Staff research specialisms central to our teaching

Our academics are internationally renowned for their research and share their expertise with international, national and local organisations, including Government and criminal justice agencies, health professionals and a diverse range of cultural industries to assist in influencing and developing policy. As critically engaged social scientists we are constantly looking for ways to innovate our teaching across the range of our undergraduate programmes. Our modules reflect this and look to establish new theoretical ground by drawing on the research strengths of our staff.

Criminology and Security BA (Hons) in Singapore

We partnered with the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) in 2013 to offer Criminology and Security BA (Hons) to students who are interested in a career as a criminologist. Since then, over three hundred students have embarked on the programme which supports the level of professionalism of the safety and security industry in Singapore.
Why choose Sociology, Social Policy and Criminology at Liverpool?

As a Centre of Excellence for sociological and criminological thinking, studying Sociology, Social Policy and Criminology at Liverpool means being taught by recognised experts in their field. As one of the first social science institutes in the UK, we are committed to using social science research to inspire ideas for social reform. Our choice of degrees reflect this; drawing upon the most controversial and talked about issues of our times.

Be part of a department inspiring the next generation of original social thinkers

As one of the world’s first social science departments and UK’s leading centres for sociology, social policy and criminology, we have been actively shaping society and inspiring the next generation of original social thinkers for over one hundred years.

Throughout our history we have continued to influence society with novel research insights in fields such as crime, health, welfare, housing, inequality and the operation of political power – at local, national and global levels. As a Centre of Excellence for sociological and criminological thinking we continue this proud tradition by ensuring that our programmes are relevant to a changing world and match the knowledge and skills required for the increasingly competitive job market.
Develop your expertise
The department is committed to using social science as a critical, evidence-based discipline that inspires constructive suggestions for social reform. We’ll guide you in developing your own expertise in particular areas. During your second and third year we’ll help you to choose modules to build your degree around the topics that interest and concern you the most. You may choose to keep your options open and take a variety of modules or you may for instance, choose to focus upon policing, urban regeneration, gender equality, or the role of corporations in democracies. This opportunity to specialise in certain areas will enable you to gain deeper capabilities and skills in particular areas of social science and prepare you for your professional career.

Strengthen your employability skills through our excellent employer links
To complement your academic studies our programmes offer you the opportunity to gain ‘hands-on’ experience in a relevant social field. This experience will not only develop your understanding of how social science is relevant to the process of work and real world issues but it will help you gain key employability skills to help you prepare for life after graduation. You’ll learn how to think independently, how to collect and analyse data, how to present and communicate information and develop advanced IT skills – all skills we know are highly valued by potential employers. You will also be encouraged to attend our regular Employability Workshops, to meet and network with employers and former students to discover and research possible careers. There is nobody better to ask about the reality of different jobs than the people performing them on a daily basis. It is also reassuring that our past students have been consistently successful in securing rewarding careers in a variety of settings, often in national and local government and, increasingly, in private and voluntary sector employment.

Good to know:

257
Year One undergraduates in 2016

95%
of our students feel staff here made the subject interesting and are enthusiastic about what they are teaching (NSS 2016)

91%
of our students feel the course is intellectually stimulating (NSS 2016)

79%
are employed or in further study within six months of graduating (Destination of Leavers from Higher Education 2014/15)

Offers study abroad opportunities

Offers a Year in China

100 75 50 25
Offers Honours Select combinations
Learn from leading experts in a friendly and supportive environment

Internationally renowned for our research, we have a dynamic community of academic staff and students who work together in a shared spirit of discovery. You will be taught by lecturers who are actively engaged in research concerned with the role of social science in society. Through our research-led teaching we help our students develop as independent learners and researchers, gaining valuable skills for use in their subsequent careers.

You will be assigned an Academic Adviser to support you with your personal academic development, who will guide and support you throughout your studies. A dedicated Student Support Officer will also provide you with one-to-one advice should you need it.

Study abroad 🌍

As part of your degree at Liverpool you may have the opportunity to study abroad. Studying abroad has huge personal and academic benefits, as well as giving you a head start in the graduate job market. Sociology, Social Policy and Criminology students can currently apply to study abroad with a number of our worldwide partners. For more information, visit www.liverpool.ac.uk/goabroad

Year in China 🌟

The Year in China is the University of Liverpool’s exciting flagship programme enabling undergraduate students from a huge range of departments, including Sociology, Social Policy and Criminology, the opportunity to spend one year at our sister university Xi’an Jiaotong- Liverpool University (XJTLU), following XJTLU’s BA China Studies degree classes. See www.liverpool.ac.uk/yearinchina for more information.

How you 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 are 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.
Invest in your future

Studying Sociology, Social Policy and Criminology provides a sound basis from which you will be able to pursue postgraduate studies or further your research skills at master’s and Doctoral levels.

Our graduates have gone onto successful careers in 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. 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).

Work experience opportunities
There are opportunities to gain valuable work experience throughout your studies, through placements, mentoring and our ‘Interchange’ project (see below). For example, as part of your second year studies you may undertake a 10 week voluntary placement with a local organisation or in Year Three, you may have the opportunity of taking up a year-long placement in order to complete a specific project. We are partners with a local charity ‘Interchange’ which organises student placements with a variety of voluntary and charitable organisations in and around the region, such as Community Led Initiatives, Mencap, LFC Youth Foundation, Refugee Action, the Crown Prosecution Service and Citizens Advice Bureau. Through this kind of work you will produce evaluation reports, and feasibility studies to help the organisations develop their services and meet local needs – a great thing to have on your CV!

Recent employers of our graduates
- Merseyside Police
- HM Prison Service
- National Probation Service
- Legal Services Commission
- Mencap
- IPSOS Mori
- Shell
- British Council.

Make yourself employable
Studying with us will enable you to develop a range of social, scientific, analytic and communication skills and a variety of transferrable skills valued in a range of industries (eg media organisations, local government and charitable organisations, and commercial and financial service sectors).

A passion for learning: postgraduate study
Postgraduate programmes in the Department include:
- Criminological Research MRes
- Social Research MRes
- Social Research Methods MA
- Sociology, Social Policy and Criminology MPhil/PhD.

Employability opportunities with Interchange
Our partner Interchange, is a local charity that provides opportunities for final year students to work closely with local voluntary and community organisations for the purpose of research and work-based learning projects. These projects provide you with the opportunity to add quality work experience to your CV; conducting ‘live’ projects such as field research, feasibility studies or project coordination for hosts in the Health and Social Care, Housing, Family and other sectors. You can opt to undertake six months of work placements and supervised study in the field in your final year, with the project forming part of your final assessment.

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Our graduates have gone onto successful careers in 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. 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).

Work experience opportunities
There are opportunities to gain valuable work experience throughout your studies, through placements, mentoring and our ‘Interchange’ project (see below). For example, as part of your second year studies you may undertake a 10 week voluntary placement with a local organisation or in Year Three, you may have the opportunity of taking up a year-long placement in order to complete a specific project. We are partners with a local charity ‘Interchange’ which organises student placements with a variety of voluntary and charitable organisations in and around the region, such as Community Led Initiatives, Mencap, LFC Youth Foundation, Refugee Action, the Crown Prosecution Service and Citizens Advice Bureau. Through this kind of work you will produce evaluation reports, and feasibility studies to help the organisations develop their services and meet local needs – a great thing to have on your CV!

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I’ve had firm aspirations to work in public service since I was young, and I believe my positive experience with Interchange was paramount to being offered a position as a Prison Officer within HM Prison Service. Not only did Interchange provide a unique opportunity to work for a local Merseyside organisation, but they provided tailored support enabling all students to gain the most out of their work.

Nick Oliver
Criminology and Sociology BA (Hons) and former Interchange student
Degrees

Criminology BA (Hons) L311 3 years
Sociology BA (Hons) L302 3 years
Social Policy

See www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses for current entry requirements.

Criminology BA (Hons) UCAS code: L311 Programme length: 3 years

Criminology involves the study of complex issues of crime and criminal justice. Criminologists play an important role in the criminal justice system. You will be taught by experts who help influence and develop policy; some of the world’s most influential and respected criminologists teach and research within our Department. Our Criminology degree tackles the problems of crime, deviance, victimisation and social harm in a high quality programme that makes the subject exciting and intellectually challenging. The degree draws on the Department’s expertise in crime prevention, surveillance, policing, sentencing, victimology, youth justice and corporate crime. Modules are continually updated and designed to provide you with a well-rounded Criminology learning experience.

Programme in detail

Year One introduces you to Criminology and provides an introduction to exploring ‘crime’ in its social, historical and political context. During your second year you will explore the role of the criminologist in the world of policy and activism, gaining a deeper knowledge and understanding of particular controversies in criminal justice practice, and providing you with a broader coverage of criminological perspectives and criminal justice controversies.

By Year Three you will have the choice to study specialist subjects in-depth and develop your independent learning. You may wish to pursue your interest in a topic of your choice and opt for a dissertation. Alternatively, you can opt for our applied social research module or social policy project and carry out a piece of research commissioned by a local agency. This offers the opportunity for you to study in the ‘real world’ as well as an experience that will appeal to prospective employers.

Key modules

Year One
- Controlling crime: an introduction
- Introduction to crime and society
- Social change and social policy in contemporary society I
- Social change and social policy in contemporary society II: changing inequalities
- Sociological theory
- Studying society.
Year Two

Compulsory modules
- Punishment, penalty and prisons: critical debates
- Qualitative social research methods
- Quantitative social research methods
- Understanding crime, justice and punishment
- Understanding policing and the police.

Optional modules
- Beyond crime: social harm, culture and power
- Deviance, youth and culture
- Social exclusion
- Thinking sociologically: approaches to social inquiry
- Understanding digital culture and society
- Understanding non-profit organisations: work-based learning
- Urban sociology.

Year Three

Compulsory modules
Students take one of the following:
- Dissertation II
- Interchange portfolio.

Optional modules
- Architecture and power: parliaments, prisons and courts
- Community and public involvement in crime and criminal justice
- Corporate crime: law and power
- Criminal victimisation and policy
- Culture, economy and cities
- Gender and crime
- Jurisprudence
- Politics, society and the state: classic and contemporary ethnographies
- Social control and the city
- The risk society: crime, security and public policy.

See pages 14-18 for module descriptions.

Criminology Joint

Studying Criminology as 50% of your degree gives you a thorough understanding of the role of criminology in society. Year One introduces you to criminology and serves as a foundation for the second and third years.

During your second year, you will study **understanding crime, justice and punishment** to provide you with a broader and deeper coverage of criminological perspectives and criminal justice controversies.

You can then choose 30 credits from the following options: Punishment, penalty and prisons; Policing; Crime and social control; Crime, deviance and culture; Domestic and international drug policy; Understanding non-profit organisations and Social exclusion. If you wish to study a dissertation in Year Three, you can opt to take research methods modules in preparation.

By Year Three, you will be able to study from a range of areas that include: Crimes of the powerful; Community and public involvement in crime and criminal justice; The risk society; Criminal victimisation; Youth crime, youth justice and social control. In Year Three you may wish to study for your dissertation if you have completed the research methods modules. Alternatively, you can take the applied social research module and carry out a piece of research commissioned by a local agency. This offers both a great opportunity for you to study in the ‘real world’ as well as an experience that will appeal to prospective employers.
**Criminology Minor**

Studying Criminology as 25% of your degree gives you an understanding of the role of criminology in society. Year One introduces you to the concepts, debates and controversies in criminology. You will study the modules *Introduction to crime and society* and *Controlling crime*.

In your second year, core modules provide you with a broader coverage of criminological perspectives and criminal justice problems within the 24-week module *Understanding crime, justice and punishment*. By Year Three, you will be able to study from a range of areas that enrich your interests.

**Sociology BA (Hons)**

UCAS code: L302
Programme length: 3 years

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. 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? To give you a comprehensive grasp of the sociological imagination and the real world issues it speaks to.

**Programme in detail**

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 core 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 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.

**Key modules**

**Year One**

Compulsory modules
- Controlling crime: an introduction
- Introduction to crime and society
- Social change and social policy in contemporary society I
- Social change and social policy in contemporary society II: changing inequalities
- Sociological theory
- Studying society.

**Year Two**

Compulsory modules
- Qualitative social research methods
- Quantitative social research methods
- Thinking sociologically: approaches to social inquiry.

For up-to-date entry requirements and full module details see [www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses](http://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses)
Optional modules
- Age studies
- Beyond crime: social harm, culture and power
- Comparing welfare states
- Deviance, youth and culture
- Gender, sexuality and everyday life
- Punishment, penalty and prisons: critical debates
- Social exclusion
- The black presence: migration and settlement in Britain 1800-1979
- Understanding crime, justice and punishment
- Understanding digital culture and society
- Understanding non-profit organisations: work-based learning
- Understanding policing and the police
- Urban sociology.

Year Three

Core modules
Students take one of the following:
- Dissertation II
- Interchange portfolio.

Optional modules
- Architecture and power: parliaments, prisons and courts
- Bodies and society
- Community and public involvement in crime and criminal justice
- Corporate crime: law and power
- Culture, economy and cities
- Gender and crime
- Gender, the body and identity
- Health, lifecourse and society
- Politics, society and the state: classic and contemporary ethnographies
- ‘Race’, community and identity
- Social control and the city
- The risk society: crime, security and public policy
- Victimisation, policy and justice
- Youth crime, youth justice and social control.

See pages 14-18 for module descriptions.

Sociology Joint

How can sociology help us address social change and divisions? Where best can our sociological imagination apply itself?

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.

Available as part of Honours Select. Choose from over 30 subjects to create your perfect Joint or Major/Minor Honours degree. See www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/honours-select
**Sociology Minor**

Studying Sociology as 25% of your degree gives you an understanding of the way in which society works. Year One modules provide you with a firm foundation for future study. **Sociological theory** provides you with a firm foundation for future study in the field of sociology. This module embraces the classic work of Marx, Weber and Durkheim before moving on to a range of contemporary social thinkers. In Year Two you will study advanced theoretical sociology and learn more about the controversies within the subject. Year Three offers you the opportunity to develop your area of interest within sociology and you may choose from a range of modules to support this.

**Social Policy Joint and Minor**

This is part of the Honours Select scheme. For more information see pages 20-21.

If you are thinking of a career in the social services or public administration, combining Social Policy with another subject allows you to build the ideal degree. You may choose to study Social Policy either as 50% or 25% of your degree depending on how much focus you choose. The Social Policy route will explore the ways in which governments seek to provide services and to change conditions in fields such as health, education and welfare support.

You will study current political issues relevant to social policy today, aspects of social change and social divisions that underpin the context of social policy interventions. You may take up to 30 credits of optional modules. Having established your knowledge of Social Policy in the first year, in Year Two you go on to deepen that knowledge, examining the outcomes of Social Policy between the broad social groupings of social class, gender and race. You will also explore modules that examine the nature of contemporary welfare services as well as a module that covers the dynamics of social inclusion and exclusion. You can also choose other modules in social policy adding up to 30 credits.

These kinds of questions inform the study of the distribution and organisation of welfare and well-being within societies, and provide an exciting insight into studying Social Policy with us. Social Policy focuses on the ways in which different societies understand and meet the needs of their populations. Studying within our department provides a readiness to engage with the nature of social problems through a range of intellectual traditions and social perspectives, and the opportunity to work directly with organisations involved in this field.

**Social Policy Joint in detail**

In Year One, you are introduced to some of the current political issues relevant to social policy today. Here you will study aspects of social change and social divisions that underpin the context of social policy interventions. You may take up to 30 credits of optional modules. Having established your knowledge of Social Policy in the first year, in Year Two you go on to deepen that knowledge, examining the outcomes of Social Policy between the broad social groupings of social class, gender and race. You will also explore modules that examine the nature of contemporary welfare services as well as a module that covers the dynamics of social inclusion and exclusion. You can also choose other modules in social policy adding up to 30 credits.

The modules on the course are developed very specifically to incorporate different ways of learning such as group presentations, reviews, essays and research methods – which are invaluable skills to transfer into the working world.

Danielle Skidmore  
Sociology and Criminology BA (Hons)
In Year Three, you study specialist subjects in-depth and develop your independent learning. If you opt for a dissertation, having taken the research methods modules as part of your module choices in Year Two, you are given freedom to pursue a topic of your own interest, whilst if you opt for our applied social research or social policy project, you can combine work experience with academic rigour. Alternatively, you may opt for a range of option modules at Year Three. These include:

- Bodies and society
- Gender, the body and identity
- Health, lifecourse and society
- Politics, society and the state
- Race, community and identity
- Social control and the city
- The risk society: crime, security and public policy
- Victimisation, policy and justice
- Youth crime, youth justice and social control.

**Social Policy Minor in detail**

If you are thinking of a career in the social services or public administration, then this social policy route is tailor-made for you. It will allow you to concentrate on studying the ways in which governments seek to provide services and to change conditions in fields such as health, education and welfare support.

In Year One, you will study aspects of relationships between social change, social policy and the key organising features of modern society (age, ‘race’, class, gender and sexuality). Having established your knowledge of Social Policy in the first year, in Year Two you go on to deepen that knowledge, examining the outcomes of Social Policy between the broad social groupings of social class, gender and race. You will study the nature of welfare provision between and across different national contexts as well as critically explore the nature of social exclusion. In Year Three, you study specialist subjects in-depth and develop your independent learning.

Available as part of Honours Select. Choose from over 30 subjects to create your perfect Joint or Major/Minor Honours degree. See [www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/honours-select](http://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/honours-select)
### Core and selected optional modules overview

#### Year One

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Module description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Controlling crime: an introduction</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Explores key concepts and debates about criminal justice responses to crime and victimisation; develops an appreciation of the range of responses to crime and deviance, and an ability to interpret the values and practices of the agencies which administer them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to crime and society</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces sociological criminology, concepts and frameworks through which the nature, extent and 'causes' of crime have been conceptualised. Considers how crime is constructed, perceived and responded to within society and explores the interrelationships between crime, social problems and their context.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social change and social policy in contemporary society I</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Encourages you to think about history in sociological terms, particularly about the ways in which an understanding of the past can help to illuminate the present. Provides an appreciation of continuity and change in social life in Britain, with an emphasis on politics, social policy, the economy, family life, and social and cultural relations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social change and social policy in contemporary society II: changing inequalities</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Provides you with an appreciation of the main changes that have taken place in British society since 1945, with a particular emphasis on 'race' and ethnicity, gender and social class. Provides an understanding of how sociologists have studied, described and explained these changes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociological theory</td>
<td>1 and 2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Introduces key classic and contemporary sociological theories; gives you an appreciation of the relevance of sociological theory in producing knowledge of the social world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Studying society</td>
<td>1 and 2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>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 field 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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Please note:** modules may not be available across all programmes, please check programme specific module lists on pages 08-13.
# Core and selected optional modules overview

**Year Two**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Module description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age studies</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Examines representations of ageing in western social, political and philosophical thought, social policy, medicine, art, fashion, advertising and literature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beyond crime: social harm, culture and power</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Explores a range of interdisciplinary literature on social harm in order to understand this phenomena as a feature of modern societies; examines the spaces and social locations that social harms arise within (eg in popular media; popular music and subcultural practices); highlights the key criminological and sociological debates in and around social harm and how this concept relates to the process of social change.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparing welfare states</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Sets out and explains Esping-Andersen’s typology of welfare regimes, “the three worlds of welfare capitalism”; introduces the concepts of “(de)commodification”, “(de)stratification” and “systems of exchange” and underlines their significance in understanding “the mixed economy of welfare” in different countries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deviance, youth and culture</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Explores the main academic literature sources and historical and contemporary debates relevant to the study of deviance and deviancy in the UK and beyond; examines the different functions and strategies of the media and culture to ‘policing’ youth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender, sexuality and everyday life</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces the sociology of gender and everyday life with reference to issues around sexuality.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punishment, penalty and prisons: critical debates</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Provides a broad overview of the historical, theoretical and comparative foundations of punishment and imprisonment nationally and internationally; examines the experiences and outcomes of imprisonment for different groups of prisoners; introduces 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qualitative social research methods</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces you to a range of research methods used in sociological research; gives some practical experience of data collection, analysis and presentation; explores the ethical, epistemological and practical considerations of designing a research study and conducting social research; reflects on the role of the researcher in collecting and generating data.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantitative social research methods</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces the usage of quantitative data and methods in explaining the social world; gives practical experience of working with and appropriately analysing data relevant to your studies; encourages reflection on the strengths and limitations of using quantitative data in the social sciences; prepares you for independent research using a range of quantitative data.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Please note:* modules may not be available across all programmes, please check programme specific module lists on pages 08-13.
## Core and selected optional modules overview

### Year Two (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Module description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social exclusion</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Explores the theory and practice of social exclusion as it relates to class, ‘race’, disability, sexual orientation and gender; considers the impact of social policy on exclusion and policy options/strategies for the future; evaluates the theory and practice of social action as a response to social exclusion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The black presence: migration and settlement in Britain 1800-1979</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces historically changing concepts, such as ‘race’, racial ideology, social class and community; leads to an awareness of recent history and historical change, particularly the relationship between ‘race’, class and gender and how this relates to forms of discrimination and inequality; explores the long tradition of migration and settlement of black communities in Britain, in particular their presence in port cities such as Liverpool.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thinking sociologically: approaches to social inquiry</td>
<td>1 and 2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Introduces some of the major theories and perspectives on how social life can be studied and understood; explores the major philosophical underpinnings of social science relative to knowledge production; gives students an appreciation of the ways in which sociologists use theories as a way to support empirical inquiry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding crime, justice and punishment</td>
<td>1 and 2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Explores the main sociological and criminological perspectives on crime, justice and punishment; investigates the historical emergence of theoretical thought in relation to crime and subsequent development within particular perspectives; examines these perspectives as they relate to social divisions (class, ‘race’, gender, sexuality and age).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding digital culture and society</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Digital technologies now permeate our day-to-day lives, and we have increasingly come to take them for granted. This module looks at the significance of this digitisation and 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding non-profit organisations: work-based learning</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>You carry out 48hrs of volunteering with a non-profit organisation, make connections between the placement experience and organisational theory, social policies, and practice; reflecting on your learning while on placement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding policing and the police</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces some key concepts, topics and debates in the sociology of policing and the police; provides an overview of the historical development of modern police organisations; explores the idea that there is a distinctive ‘cop culture’ and issues of police governance and accountability, including the significance of human rights.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban sociology</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces classical and contemporary social scientific approaches to the study of urban life and the distinctive contribution made by sociologists to our understanding of cities.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Core and selected optional modules overview

#### Year Three

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Module description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Architecture and power: parliaments, prisons and courts</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces the classic and contemporary social studies of architects, architecture and the built environment (with particular reference to parliaments, prisons and courts).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bodies and society</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Demonstrates the sociological contributions to the study of the body; shows how this relatively recent focus on the body has challenged traditional sociological ways of thinking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community and public involvement in crime and criminal justice</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Examines how communities/lay publics interact with and are “involved” in crime control and criminal justice institutions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate crime: law and power</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Identifies the main literature and sources relevant to corporate crime; key historical and contemporary debates in corporate crime research; explores a range of theoretical explanations for the social production of corporate crime; develops an understanding of the social representation of corporate crime; analyses the problems associated with, and prospects for controlling, corporate crime.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culture, economy and cities</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces key theories and concepts regarding the interaction between cultural and economic forces within the city; explains the current position of culture within political, economic and urban spheres by tracing their shifting historical inter-relation; reveals the links between urban, economic and cultural development.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissertation II</td>
<td>1 and 2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>You are supported to undertake a substantial piece of supervised written work based on research into a topic of your choice. You develop research and project management skills and manage your own learning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender and crime</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Explores key issues concerning the gendered nature of work on deviance, such as feminism’s contribution to criminology, the link between masculinities and crime, the experiences of female offenders and of women as victims.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender, the body and identity</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces social, cultural and philosophical theories of gender; develops conceptual tools to understand and engage with feminist debates on gender, the body and identity; examines theoretical approaches which place gender, the body and identity at the centre of analysis; evaluates the form and structure of feminist arguments on the meaning and experience of gender for understandings of the body and power.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health, lifecourse and society</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Demonstrates the relevance of sociological approaches to understanding health, illness and the lifecourse by considering a range of substantive issues and the contribution made by different theoretical perspectives to illuminating them.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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## Core and selected optional modules overview

### Year Three (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Module description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interchange portfolio</td>
<td>1 and 2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>This work based learning module allows you to engage in an extended work placement to develop your workplace skills. You will experience connections between theory, research, social policy and practice, while fostering experiential learning by reflecting on your experience.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jurisprudence</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces you to the basic problems of jurisprudence and the work of some of the most important authors in legal theory. Particular emphasis is given to the detailed study of some of the most influential modern legal theorists, H.L.A., Hart, Lon Fuller, and Ronald Dworkin. You will also be introduced to some of the crucial contemporary concerns of legal philosophy, and in particular, the relationship between the rule of law, rights and democracy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politics, society and the state: classic and contemporary ethnographies</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Provides an overview of ethnographic research traditions within the social and political sciences through an exploration of classic and contemporary studies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘Race’, community and identity</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Explores the impact of colonialism on patterns of migration to Britain in the post war period and the creation of greater ethnic diversity; examines the changing nature of racism as an ideology; examines the conflictual relationship between the state and minority ethnic communities; unpacks constructions of ethnic and national identity in the context of post-colonial Britain.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social control and the city</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Explores the main theoretical arguments and debates around social control and surveillance practices; examines the relationship between the urban state power and the development of surveillance practices and social control; assesses the relationship between the prevention of crime, social control and how these impact upon populations defined by class, gender, ‘race’ and age; explores social control practices as they impact on uses of space and conceptions of “place”.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The risk society: crime, security and public policy</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Investigates the impacts of risk in contemporary; evaluates risk management strategies in the areas of crime, security and welfare; scrutinises the efficacy of social policies designed to reduce risk; explores conceptual and theoretical approaches to risk within the social science.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victimisation, policy and justice</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Examines current criminal justice policy preoccupations with the victim of crime within the context of victimological and sociological theorising.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth crime, youth justice and social control</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Provides a critical overview of the historical development of state policy responses to youth crime (particularly within England and Wales) and explores criminological and sociological conceptualisations of ‘youth’, ‘crime’, ‘criminalisation’ and ‘justice’.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Please note:** modules may not be available across all programmes, please check programme specific module lists on pages 08-13.
Studying Sociology in Liverpool is such a unique experience, a city overflowing with culture and history makes for incredibly captivating surroundings. Wherever you go in the city you are constantly able to observe the world through a sociological perspective. Sociology doesn’t necessarily lead to one particular career, which in my opinion is what is great about this degree, the lack of constraints when graduating open up so many opportunities for career prospects that you may not have otherwise contemplated.

Abi O’Connor
Sociology BA (Hons)
Honours Select

Honours Select offers an innovative way to study more than one subject and create your own degree based on your academic strengths and interests.

Sociology, Social Policy and Criminology students have the opportunity to study two subjects on a Joint Honours (50:50) basis or as Major/Minor (75:25), focusing 75% of your time on your Major subject and 25% of your time on your Minor.

Why combine subjects?
We consulted widely with employers and careers experts when developing the Honours Select programme, and they strongly supported the emphasis on flexibility, breadth and multidisciplinary skills as a valuable addition to the strong Single Honours programme.

From our work with graduate recruiters it’s clear that the key to 21st century employability lies in positioning yourself at the intersections between academic subject disciplines. That’s where innovation exists, that’s what gives organisations from Apple to Unilever a competitive advantage, and that’s why Honours Select offers students such an important head start in the job market.

Head of Careers & Employability
University of Liverpool

Build your programme

| 100 | 100% Single Honours | Specialise in one subject and immerse yourself in something you’re passionate about. |
| 75 + 25 | 75:25 Major/Minor | Complement your Major with something you’ve always been interested in, or that could enhance your career prospects. |
| 50 + 50 | 50:50 Joint Honours | Choose two areas of strength to broaden your horizon and career options. |

Upon graduation you will receive a certificate that clearly credits the one or two subjects you chose to study.
Criminology
- Available through Honours Select as a Major (75%)
- Available through Honours Select as a Joint (50%)
- Available through Honours Select as a Minor (25%).

Sociology
- Available through Honours Select as a Major (75%)
- Available through Honours Select as a Joint (50%)
- Available through Honours Select as a Minor (25%).

Social Policy
- Available through Honours Select as a Joint (50%)
- Available through Honours Select as a Minor (25%).

Study abroad
Students studying under Honours Select can still apply to study abroad, as long as both subjects have compatible partners. See www.liverpool.ac.uk/goabroad for more information.

Criminology, Sociology and Social Policy can either be studied on their own or as part of a Joint (50%) or Major/Minor (75/25%) Honours Select Programme with a choice from the following subjects:

**Joint Honours (50:50) combinations**

**Major/Minor (75:25) combinations**

See www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/honours-select for further details.

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*My advice to anyone studying this course would be, keep your mind open. University is an opportunity to engage with people of different ages, with different ideas and from different parts of the world – not an opportunity you get every day. During this course my mind has been opened and my knowledge expanded, breaking down and re-constructing a lot of pre-conceived ideas I had about the world, leading me to consider different opinions and attitudes. The course is fun, inspiring and challenging – a brilliant selection for anyone who wants to ‘get to grips’ with real issues within society at this present moment in time.*

Hannah O’Neill
Sociology and Criminology BA (Hons)
Find out more
www.liverpool.ac.uk/study

Accommodation: www.liverpool.ac.uk/accommodation
Fees and student finance: www.liverpool.ac.uk/money
Life in Liverpool: www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/welcome-to-liverpool
Student Welfare Advice and Guidance: www.liverpool.ac.uk/studentsupport
Undergraduate enquiries and applications: T: +44 (0)151 794 5927

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Information provided is correct at time of going to press and is subject to change.