



Programme Specification (Undergraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2019/20

Date created: 02/03/2017

Last amended: 09/08/2021

Version no. 4

1. Programme title(s) and code(s):

BA Sociology

a) [HECOS Code](#)

| HECOS Code | % |
|------------|------|
| 100505 | 100% |
| | |

b) UCAS Code (where required)

UCAS code: L300

2. Awarding body or institution:

University of Leicester

3. a) Mode of study

Full-time

b) Type of study

Campus-based

4. Registration periods:

The normal period of registration is 3 years

The maximum period of registration 5 years

5. Typical entry requirements

A/AS-levels: BBB or equivalents

6. Accreditation of Prior Learning

There are no specific pre-requisites here; however, the following guidelines set out by the University Policy and Procedure for the Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL) (August 2015) apply in the case of requested transfers:

3.9 Decisions regarding the accreditation of prior learning are an academic judgement and departments will determine whether the prior learning is at the required level and broadly equivalent to the learning outcomes which would have been assessed during a module.

3.10 Departments will determine the currency of prior learning on a case by case basis within an overall requirement that, at the time of application, any prior learning which is more than five years old will not normally be considered current for this purpose

7. Programme aims

The BA Sociology aims to deliver an undergraduate degree that will provide a challenging and high quality academic grounding for graduates moving into an increasingly challenging world of work. It seeks to do this by encouraging students to develop a critical understanding of society, informed by theoretical debates and research at the forefront of the discipline. It aims to

facilitate opportunities for students to develop their conceptual understanding in order that they are able to critically evaluate research, scholarship, and different policies and practices that impact upon contemporary society, and apply the knowledge gained from this to their own future practice.

The **programme** aims to:

- Develop an understanding of the key concepts and theoretical approaches that have developed and are developing in relation to areas such as the relationship between
-
- individuals and groups, social action and social structure, biography and history, social institutions and culture, the underpinnings of social order, social inequality and conflict, diverse cultural practices, and the causes and consequences of social change.
-
- An understanding of the distinctively social standpoint of sociology and the explanatory value of social analysis. This necessarily includes familiarity with the analysis of a variety of forms of human interaction, from micro to macro, their interconnections and their dynamics.
- An understanding of the nature and appropriate use of research strategies and methods in relation to social issues.
- Provide a rigorous, coherent and attractive sociology curriculum that draws on the Department's research expertise and teaching strengths;
- Provide a stimulating and challenging learning experience for all students;
- Provide students with the skills required for independent learning and develop their capacity to work both with others and autonomously.
- Provide students with a range of both subject specific and transferable skills relevant to life- long learning and employment in a range of occupations;
- Prepare students for progression to Masters' courses and Ph. D. programme

8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification

- QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications, <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/qualifications-frameworks.pdf>
- QAA Benchmarking statement for Sociology (<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/Subject-benchmark-statement-Sociology.pdf>)
- UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- [University Learning Strategy](#)
- [University Assessment Strategy](#)
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report
- External Examiners' reports (annual)
- United Nations Education for Sustainable Development Goals
- Student Destinations Data

9. Programme Outcomes

a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies

i) Mastery of an appropriate body of knowledge

| Intended Learning Outcomes | Teaching and Learning Methods | How Demonstrated? |
|--|---|--|
| The mastery of an appropriate body of sociological knowledge | Lectures, seminars, resource-based learning, problem-solving exercises, consultations with staff, and private study | Essays, examinations, portfolios, seminar presentations, contribution to discussions, problem-solving exercises, research projects and assessed coursework |

ii) Understanding and application of key concepts and techniques

| Intended Learning Outcomes | Teaching and Learning Methods | How Demonstrated? |
|---|---|--|
| Comprehension of key concepts used in sociological analysis and the nature of social evidence | Lectures, seminars, computer practical classes, team problem-solving exercises, consultations with staff, and private study | Essays, examinations, portfolios, seminar presentations, contribution to discussions, problem-solving exercises, research projects and assessed coursework |
| A grasp of the main research methods used in sociological investigation | Seminars, computer practical classes, team problems solving-exercises, consultations with staff | Essays, examinations, portfolios, seminar presentations, contribution to discussions, problem-solving exercises, research projects and assessed coursework |

iii) Critical analysis of key issues

| Intended Learning Outcomes | Teaching and Learning Methods | How Demonstrated? |
|---|--|--|
| Ability to analyze key theoretical issues in sociology | Lectures, seminars, directed reading, team problem-solving exercises, consultations with staff | Essays, examinations, portfolios, seminar presentations, contribution to discussions, problem-solving exercises, research projects and assessed coursework |
| Ability to analyze key substantive issues in the study of societies, their development and processes of social change | Lectures, seminars, directed reading, team problem-solving exercises, consultations with staff | Essays, examinations, portfolios, seminar presentations, contribution to discussions, problem-solving exercises, research projects and assessed coursework |

| Intended Learning Outcomes | Teaching and Learning Methods | How Demonstrated? |
|--|--|--|
| Ability to analyze key issues in the use of sociological methods | Lectures, seminars, directed reading, team problem-solving exercises, consultations with staff | Essays, examinations, portfolios, seminar presentations, contribution to discussions, problem-solving exercises, research projects and assessed coursework |
| Ability to reflect critically on the nature of sociology as a discipline | Lectures, seminars, directed reading, team problem-solving exercises, consultations with staff | Essays, examinations, portfolios, seminar presentations, contribution to discussions, problem-solving exercises, research projects and assessed coursework |

iv) Clear and concise presentation of material

| Intended Learning Outcomes | Teaching and Learning Methods | How Demonstrated? |
|---|---|--|
| Ability to present sociological knowledge and arguments in a clear and concise way in a variety of written and oral formats | Feedback on oral and written contributions to seminars, problem-solving exercises, consultations with staff | Essays, examinations, portfolios, seminar presentations, contribution to discussions, problem-solving exercises, research projects and assessed coursework |

v) Critical appraisal of evidence with appropriate insight

| Intended Learning Outcomes | Teaching and Learning Methods | How Demonstrated? |
|---|---|--|
| Ability to assess the appropriateness of the evidence and the methods used in sociological studies, their value and their limitations | Seminars, directed reading, team problem-solving exercises, | Essays, examinations, portfolios, seminar presentations, contribution to discussions, problem-solving exercises, research projects and assessed coursework |
| Ability to read, analyze and reflect critically and contextually upon sociological texts | Seminars, directed reading, team problem-solving exercises, | Essays, examinations, portfolios, seminar presentations, contribution to discussions, problem-solving exercises, research projects and assessed coursework |

vi) Other discipline specific competencies

| Intended Learning Outcomes | Teaching and Learning Methods | How Demonstrated? |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Ability to design, research and present a sustained and independently conceived piece of sociological work | Supervised independent research | Research Project |

b) Transferable skills

i) Oral communication

| Intended Learning Outcomes | Teaching and Learning Methods | How Demonstrated? |
|--|---|--|
| Demonstration of clarity, fluency and coherence in oral expression | Seminars, team problem- solving exercises | Single and group seminar presentations, contributions to discussions |
| Effective participation as sociologists in group discussions | Seminars, team problem- solving exercises | Single and group seminar presentations, contributions to discussions |

ii) Written communication

| Intended Learning Outcomes | Teaching and Learning Methods | How Demonstrated? |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| Ability to develop and sustain sociological arguments in a variety of written forms | Seminars and Workshops | Essays, examinations, portfolios, and research projects |
| Ability to demonstrate clarity, fluency and coherence in written expression of sociological ideas | Seminars and Workshops | Essays, examinations, portfolios, and research projects |

iii) Information technology

| Intended Learning Outcomes | Teaching and Learning Methods | How Demonstrated? |
|---|--|--|
| Capacity to: use IT to support effectively their sociological studies; use IT in word processing; use the internet; use data bases, spreadsheets, specialist packages for data analysis, and presentation | Class task programme, computer practical classes, lectures, seminars | Essays, examinations, portfolios, seminar presentations, contribution to discussions, problem-solving exercises, research projects and assessed coursework |

iv) Numeracy

| Intended Learning Outcomes | Teaching and Learning Methods | How Demonstrated? |
|--|--|--|
| Ability to analyze interpret, and present relevant data using statistical and graphical techniques | Class task programme, computer practical classes, lectures, seminars | Computer practical classes, computer- based exercises, problem - based exercises, examinations, essays, examinations, portfolios, seminar presentations, contribution to discussions, problem-solving exercises, research projects and assessed coursework |

v) Team working

| Intended Learning Outcomes | Teaching and Learning Methods | How Demonstrated? |
|---|--|--|
| Ability to form teams and work collaboratively in groups to explore sociological problems and to recognize the value of working closely with others | Seminars, team problem solving exercises | Problem - based exercises, group presentations in seminars |

vi) Problem solving

| Intended Learning Outcomes | Teaching and Learning Methods | How Demonstrated? |
|--|--|--|
| Ability to address and analyze theoretical, methodological, and empirical problems posed by sociological literature and practice | Seminars, team problem solving exercises | Essays, examinations, portfolios, seminar presentations, contribution to discussions, problem-solving exercises, research projects and assessed coursework |

vii) Information handling

| Intended Learning Outcomes | Teaching and Learning Methods | How Demonstrated? |
|--|---|--|
| Ability to identify, comprehend, analyze and handle sociological information | Lectures, seminars, team problem-solving exercises, directed reading, computer practical classes, team problems solving exercises | Essays, examinations, portfolios, seminar presentations, contribution to discussions, problem-solving exercises, research projects and assessed coursework |

viii) Skills for lifelong learning

| Intended Learning Outcomes | Teaching and Learning Methods | How Demonstrated? |
|--|--|--|
| Intellectual independence in the setting of research tasks and the analyzing of sociological questions | Fostering independent learning and self-evaluation through consultations and feedback sessions | Essays, examinations, portfolios, seminar presentations, contribution to discussions, problem-solving exercises, research projects and assessed coursework |
| Capacity for time management and self-organization | Fostering independent learning and self-evaluation through consultations and feedback sessions | Essays, examinations, portfolios, seminar presentations, contribution to discussions, problem-solving exercises, research projects and assessed coursework |

10. Progression points

This programme follows the standard Scheme of Progression set out in [Senate Regulations](#) – see the version of Senate Regulation 5 governing undergraduate programmes relevant to the year of entry.

In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course.

a) Course transfers

There are no specific pre-requisites here; however, the following guidelines set out by the University Policy and Procedure for the Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL) (August 2015) apply in the case of requested transfers:

3.9 Decisions regarding the accreditation of prior learning are an academic judgement and departments will determine whether the prior learning is at the required level and broadly equivalent to the learning outcomes which would have been assessed during a module.

3.10 Departments will determine the currency of prior learning on a case by case basis within an overall requirement that, at the time of application, any prior learning which is more than five years old will not normally be considered current for this purpose..

11. Criteria for award and classification

This programme follows the standard scheme of undergraduate award and classification set out in [Senate Regulations](#) – see the version of *Senate Regulation 5 governing undergraduate programmes* relevant to the year of entry.

12. Special features

The BA Sociology programme offers a year abroad opportunity to Year 2 students.

Our partner institutions Year 2 currently include (TBC):
Current Erasmus partnerships

1. Lund University Sweden
2. Charles University Prague

Current Study abroad partnerships:

3. USA California State University, Long Beach
4. USA The University of Georgia
5. USA University of Florida

This list is subject to change at short notice.

The exchange is a 'cultural exchange', so that students cannot apply to study at a University in a country/region from which they originally come.

13. Indications of programme quality

University Academic Review reports
External Examiners' reports
Degree Results and Career Destination statistics.

14. External Examiner(s) reports

The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners' reports for this programme can be found at exampapers@Leicester [log-in required]

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FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2019/20

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Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

The University regularly reviews its programmes and modules to ensure that they reflect the current status of the discipline and offer the best learning experience to students. On occasion, it may be necessary to alter particular aspects of a course or module.

BA Sociology

Level 4/Year 1 2019/20

Credit breakdown

| Status | Year long | Semester 1 | Semester 2 |
|----------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Core | Choose an item. | 60 credits | 60 credits |
| Optional | Choose an item. | Choose an item. | Choose an item. |

120 credits in total

Core modules

| Delivery period | Code | Title | Credits |
|-----------------|--------|---------------------------------|------------|
| Sem 1 | SY1004 | Sociology in Practice | 30 credits |
| Sem 1 | SY1021 | Power, Privilege & Diversity | 15 credits |
| Sem 1 | SY1008 | Interpreting sociological texts | 15 credits |
| Sem 2 | SY1002 | Society in Transformation | 30 credits |

| Delivery period | Code | Title | Credits |
|-----------------|--------|--|------------|
| Sem 2 | SY1018 | Thinking Sociologically About Crime | 15 credits |
| Sem 2 | SY1019 | We Are What We Buy: Consumption, Self & Identity | 15 credits |

Notes

n/a

Level 5/Year 2 2020/21

Credit breakdown

| Status | Year long | Semester 1 | Semester 2 |
|----------|-----------------|------------|------------|
| Core | 15 credits | 30 credits | 45 credits |
| Optional | Choose an item. | 15 credits | 15 credits |

120 credits in total

Core modules

| Delivery period | Code | Title | Credits |
|-----------------|--------|------------------------|------------|
| Year long | SY2084 | Sociological Placement | 15 credits |
| Sem 1 | SY2093 | Doing Social Research | 30 credits |

| Delivery period | Code | Title | Credits |
|------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Sem 2 | SY2008 | Using Numbers in Social Research | 30 credits |
| Sem 2 | SY2078 | Sociological Theory Explored | 15 credits |

Notes

[n/a]

Option modules

| Delivery period | Code | Title | Credits |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Semester 1 | SY2091 | Live Sociology | 15 credits |
| Semester 1 | SY2094 | Gender & Society | 15 credits |
| Semester 1 | SY2099 | The Politics of Beauty | 15 credits |
| Semester 1 | SY2100 | Cosmic Sociology | 15 credits |
| Semester 2 | SY2083 | Sociology of Fashion | 15 credits |
| Semester 2 | SY2089 | Work, Employment & Society | 15 credits |
| Semester 2 | SY2098 | Sociology through Literature and Film | 15 credits |

| Delivery period | Code | Title | Credits |
|-----------------|--------|------------------------------------|------------|
| Semester 2 | SY2012 | Youth, Young adulthood and Society | 15 credits |

Notes

This is an indicative list of option modules and not definitive of what will be available. Option module choice is also subject to availability, timetabling, student number restrictions and, where appropriate, students having taken appropriate pre-requisite modules.

Level 6/Year 3 2021/22

Credit breakdown

| Status | Year long | Semester 1 | Semester 2 |
|----------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|
| Core | 45 credits | 15 credits | Choose an item. |
| Optional | Choose an item. | 30 credits | 30 credits |

120 credits in total

Core modules

| Delivery period | Code | Title | Credits |
|-----------------|------------------------|---|------------|
| Year long | SY3102 OR SY3101 | Research Project OR Real World Research: Research Intensive | 45 credits |

| Delivery period | Code | Title | Credits |
|-----------------|--------|----------------------------|------------|
| Sem 1 | SY3079 | Modern Sociological Theory | 15 credits |

Notes

n/a

Option modules

| Delivery period | Code | Title | Credits |
|-----------------|--------|--|------------|
| Semester 1 | SY3090 | Drugs & Society | 15 credits |
| Semester 1 | SY3091 | Education and Social Justice | 15 credits |
| Semester 1 | SY3094 | Autobiographical Society | 15 credits |
| Semester 1 | SY3099 | Identity Troubles: nationalism, jihadism and the extreme right | 15 credits |
| Semester 1 | SY3100 | Social Psychology | 15 credits |
| Semester 2 | MS3000 | Media and Gender | 15 credits |
| Semester 2 | SY3057 | Football and Society | 15 credits |
| Semester 2 | SY3092 | Social Movements | 15 credits |
| Semester 2 | SY3093 | Space, Place and Contemporary Society | 15 credits |
| Semester 2 | SY3095 | Sociology of Health & Illness | 15 credits |
| Semester 2 | SY3097 | International Migration | 15 credits |

Notes

This is an indicative list of option modules and not definitive of what will be available. Option module choice is also subject to availability, timetabling, student number restrictions and, where appropriate, students having taken appropriate pre-requisite modules.

Appendix 2: Module specifications

See undergraduate [module specification database](#) (Note - modules are organized by year of delivery).

Appendix 3: Skills matrix