Programme Specification (Undergraduate) FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2023/24

Date created: 02/03/2017 **Last amended:** 23/04/2026 **Version no.** 4

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

BA Sociology

BA Sociology with a Year Abroad^

^ Students may only enter this programme by approved transfer at the end of Year 1

a) HECOS Code

HECOS Code	%
100505	100%

b) UCAS Code (where required)

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:

BA Sociology

The normal period of registration is 3 years

The maximum period of registration 5 years

BA Sociology with a Year Abroad

The normal period of registration is 4 years

The maximum period of registration 6 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:

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.

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 purposed

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

In addition, for the 'with a Year abroad' variants:

Global Citizen Study Abroad (GCSA)

For the aims, learning outcomes and application criteria for the GCSA Year Abroad please see https://le.ac.uk/study/undergraduates/courses/abroad

8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification

- QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications,
- QAA Benchmarking statement for Sociology
- UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- University Education 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;useITin 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

Global Citizen Study Abroad (GCSA)

For the aims, learning outcomes and application criteria for the GCSA Year Abroad please see https://le.ac.uk/study/undergraduates/courses/abroad

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

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 exam-papers [log-in required]

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

Programme Specification (Undergraduate) FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2023/24

Date created: 02/03/2017 **Last amended:** 23/04/2026 **Version no.** 4

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 2023/24

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	60 credits	60 credits
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a

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	SY1025	Race, Ethnicity and Racisms in Britain	15 credits
Sem 2	SY1002	Society in Transformation	30 credits
Sem 2	SY1008	Interpreting Key Texts	15 credits
Sem 2	SY1013	Ways of Researching	15 credits

Notes
n/a

Level 5/Year 2 2024/25

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	15 credits	30 credits	45 credits
Optional	n/a	15 credits	15 credits

120 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Year long	SY2084	Bringing Sociology to Work	15 credits
Sem 1	SY2093	Doing Qualitative Research	30 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	SY2012	Youth, Young adulthood and Society	15 credits
Semester 2	SY2098	Sociology through Literature and Film	15 credits
Semester 2	SY2102	Environmental Sociologies	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 2025/26

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	45 credits	30 credits
Optional	n/a	15 credits	30 credits

120 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	SY3103	Research, Reflection and Future Direction	30 credits
Semester 2	SY3104	Doing Social Research	30 credits
Sem 1	SY3079	Modern Sociological Theory	15 credits

Notes
n/a

Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	SY3065	Body and Society	15 credits
Semester 1	SY3091	Education and Social Justice	15 credits
Semester 1	SY3100	Social Psychology	15 credits
Semester 2	SY3057	Football and Society: Social Divisions, Violence and Consumption	15 credits

Delivery period	Code	Title	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 [login required] (Note - modules are organized by year of delivery)