

Course Specification

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Produced By:	Laura Clode
Status:	Validated

Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	School of Humanities		
Course Code(s):	RL002T01UV RL002T31UV	Full-time Part-time	4 Years 8 Years
UCAS Code:	V622		
Course Title:	BA (Hons) Religious Studies and Sociology with Foundation Year		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Bachelor of Arts with Honours Religious Studies and Sociology Bachelor of Arts Religious Studies and Sociology Diploma of Higher Education Religious Studies and Sociology Certificate of Higher Education Religious Studies and Sociology Foundation and Preparatory Studies Religious Studies and Sociology University Statement of Credit University Statement of Credit		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:	01/Sep/2017		
Last Review:	2015/6		
Course Specification valid from:	2009/0		
Course Specification valid to:	2021/2		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Dr Opinderjit Takhar
Head of Department:	Dr Andrew Cooper

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	Not delivered in partnership
Teaching Institution:	University of Wolverhampton
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS)

Typical Entry Requirements:

DD from A level

BTEC QCF Extended Diploma grade PPP, BTEC QCF Diploma grade MP

Pass Access to HE Diploma (Full Award)

If you've got other qualifications or relevant experience, please contact The Gateway for further advice before applying.

International entry requirements and application guidance can be found [here](#)

Other Requirements:

Students must have studied a minimum of two years post GCSE level. However, it is expected that some applicants will be mature students with work experience, who wish to further their career development. These applicants will be processed through standard procedures, which may involve an interview as part of the process. Please see <http://wlv.ac.uk/mature> for further information.

Younger applicants who do not meet the entry requirements may be asked to attend interview and/or to provide a sample of their academic writing, or they may be offered an alternative course.

Distinctive Features of the Course:

The Religious Studies course involves both in class learning as well as out of class engagement with faith communities.

At Foundation level you can develop the skills and knowledge that you need to study at undergraduate level, building on your strengths and working on your weaknesses, so that you can feel confident that by the end you are ready to commence a degree course, and to apply the skills to undertake the directed and independent learning which will help you to achieve your potential. This will allow you to embark on Level 4 study in an appropriate undergraduate discipline or combined award, confident that you have developed the skills and chosen the most relevant subject area(s) to specialise in, which will allow you to perform strongly at degree level and enhance your career aims.

You will also have access to a personal Academic Coach for the first two years of your course. The coach can help with study skills, assignments and with adapting to life at University.

Educational Aims of the Course:

A degree in Religious Studies and Sociology offers you the chance to analyse and understand the complexities of the social world in which we live. Within Religious Studies, a range of methods combine with sociological approaches to the study of religions in local and global contexts, where you explore the issues that concern religious leaders and their communities. During your studies, you will learn about those concepts, theories and methods essential to what we call a 'sociological Imagination', and apply these social science research methods to a range of areas, some specific to each subject, and some areas like identity and gender, which

both subjects explore. Religious Studies provides the opportunity to study the major world religions and explore themes relating to the full range of religious belonging in the UK.

As well as subject-specific knowledge, you will develop a wide range of key transferable skills including enhanced communication, analytical and technological proficiency. The degree encourages you to become digitally literate and intellectually curious, with the capacity to work both independently and cooperatively. These skills will equip our graduates to use their knowledge in enterprising and profitable ways in their chosen careers and develop their roles within the wider community.

Intakes:

September
January

Major Source of Funding:

Office for Students (OFS)

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2020/1	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9250.00
2020/1	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£12250.00
2020/1	H	Part Time	£3050.00
2020/1	Overseas	Part Time	£6125.00

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning experience.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Academic Regulations Exemption:

QAA subject Benchmarks Sociology (2007)

QAA subject Benchmarks Theology and Religious Studies (2015) Equality Act 2010

Quality Code - Part B: Assuring and Enhancing Academic Quality University Policies and Regulations

AFRSC/19/16.2.2 FABSS Undergraduate degrees with Foundation Years.

Section 1.3.1 - Exemption from the standard University Academic Framework allowing for the use of 40 credit taught modules at Level 3 and delivery of these within semesters as follows;

3GK012 Preparing for Success at University (40 credits)

3GK013 Project-Based Learning (40 credits).

Effective date: September 2020.

APPROVED (by Chair's Action on 12/2/2020).

Reference Points:

Quality Code - [Part A: Setting and Maintaining Academic Standards](#). Including :

[Qualifications Frameworks](#)

[Characteristics Statements](#)

[Credit Frameworks](#)

[Subject Benchmark Statements](#)

Quality Code - [Part B: Assuring and Enhancing Academic Quality](#)

[University Policies and Regulations](#)

Equality Act (2010)

Learning Outcomes:

Foundation Year Course Learning Outcome 1 (UCCL01)

Can articulate your understanding of a range of facts and theories relating to the subjects studied.

Foundation Year Course Learning Outcome 2 (UCCL02)

Can complete tasks and address problems that, while well-defined, may be complex and non-routine

Foundation Year Course Learning Outcome 3 (UCCL03)

Can interpret and evaluate relevant information and ideas.

Foundation Year Course Learning Outcome 4 (UCCL04)

Can describe key academic skills and conventions, appropriate to the level of study, and apply them to your work.

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 1 (CHECLO1)

"Demonstrate knowledge of the underlying concepts and principles associated with your area(s) of study, and an ability to evaluate and interpret these within the context of that area of study"

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 2 (CHECLO2)

"Demonstrate an ability to present, evaluate and interpret qualitative and quantitative data, in order to develop lines of argument and make sound judgements in accordance with basic theories and concepts of your subject(s) of study."

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 3 (CHECLO3)

Evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems related to your area(s) of study and/or work

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 4 (CHECLO4)

"Communicate the results of your study/work accurately and reliably, and with structured and coherent arguments"

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 5 (CHECLO5)

Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of some personal responsibility

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 1 (DHECLO1)

"Demonstrate knowledge and critical understanding of the well-established principles of your area(s) of study, and of the way in which those principles have developed with an understanding of the limits of your knowledge, and how this influences analyses and interpretations based on that knowledge."

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 2 (DHECLO2)

"Demonstrate the ability to apply underlying concepts and principles outside the context in which they were first studied, including, where appropriate, the application of those principles in an employment context"

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 3 (DHECLO3)

"Demonstrate knowledge of the main methods of enquiry in the subject(s) relevant to the named award, and ability to evaluate critically the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems in the field of study"

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 4 (DHECLO4)

"Use a range of established techniques to initiate and undertake critical analysis of information, and to propose solutions to problems arising from that analysis"

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 5 (DHECLO5)

"Effectively communicate information, arguments and analysis in a variety of forms to specialist and non-specialist audiences, and deploy key techniques of the discipline effectively"

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 6 (DHECLO6)

"Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment, requiring the exercise of personal responsibility and decision-making and undertake further training, developing existing skills and acquire new competences that will enable them to assume significant responsibility within organisations."

Ordinary Course Learning Outcome 1 (ORDCLO1)

"Demonstrate relevant academic knowledge of the contemporary principles of Sociology and religious studies, and evaluate the way in which those principles have developed within diverse communities."

Ordinary Course Learning Outcome 2 (ORDCLO2)

"Demonstrate the ability to analyse key theoretical concepts and principles of education and religious studies, including, where appropriate, the application of those principles for employment skills."

Ordinary Course Learning Outcome 3 (ORDCLO3)

"Use a range of established techniques to initiate and undertake analysis of information, and to propose solutions to problems arising from that analysis"

Ordinary Course Learning Outcome 4 (ORDCLO4)

"Critically apply knowledge of the interrelationship between Religious Studies and Sociology and the construction of cultural and religious identities, such as class, gender, ethnicity and age."

Ordinary Course Learning Outcome 5 (ORDCLO5)

Demonstrate knowledge of the conventions across a diverse range of texts.

Ordinary Course Learning Outcome 6 (ORDCLO6)

"Review, synthesise, analyse and evaluate a wide range of appropriate evidence in relation to a variety of social theories, and to mobilise a reasoned, sociologically informed argument."

Honours Course Learning Outcome 1 (DEGCLO1)

"Demonstrate relevant academic knowledge of the contemporary principles of sociology and religious studies, and critically evaluate the way in which those principles have developed within diverse communities."

Honours Course Learning Outcome 2 (DEGCLO2)

"Demonstrate the ability to critically evaluate key theoretical concepts and principles of education and religious studies, including, where appropriate, the application of those principles for employment skills."

Honours Course Learning Outcome 3 (DEGCLO3)

"Use a range of established techniques to initiate and undertake critical evaluation of information, and to propose solutions to problems arising from that analysis"

Honours Course Learning Outcome 4 (DEGCLO4)

"Critically apply knowledge to evaluate the interrelationship between Religious Studies and Sociology and the construction of cultural and religious identities, such as class, gender, ethnicity and age."

Honours Course Learning Outcome 5 (DEGCLO5)

Demonstrate knowledge of academic conventions across a diverse range of texts.

Honours Course Learning Outcome 6 (DEGCLO6)

"Critically review, synthesise, analyse and critically evaluate a wide range of appropriate evidence in relation to a variety of academic theories, and to mobilise a reasoned and informed argument."

Overview of Assessment:

Module	Title	Course Learning Outcomes
3GK012	Preparing for Success at University	UCCL01, UCCL04, UCCL05
3GK013	Project-Based Learning	UCCL01, UCCL03, UCCL04
3GK014	Wolverhampton and its People	UCCL02, UCCL04
3HU005	Multiculturalism? Society & Culture in Modern Britain	UCCL01, UCCL02, UCCL03
4HU003	From Student to Scholar	CHECLO5
4RL003	Hindu Dharma and the Contemporary World	CHECLO4, CHECLO5
4RL005	Introduction to the Study of Religion	CHECLO1, CHECLO4
4RL006	Christianity and the Contemporary World	CHECLO1, CHECLO2, CHECLO5
4SL005	The Sociological Imagination	CHECLO1
4SL009	Introduction to Classical Sociological Theory	CHECLO1, CHECLO2, CHECLO3, CHECLO5
4WL002	Basic Language	CHECLO3, CHECLO5
4WL003	Elementary Language	CHECLO3, CHECLO5
5RL002	Sikhi and the Contemporary World	DHECLO4, DHECLO5
5RL004	Islam, Muslims and the Contemporary World	DHECLO4, DHECLO5
5RL005	New Religious Movements	DHECLO1, DHECLO3, DHECLO4, DHECLO5
5SL001	Racism, Diversity and difference in the British Context	DHECLO2, DHECLO3, DHECLO5, DHECLO6
5SL002	Making Gender	DHECLO1, DHECLO3, DHECLO5, DHECLO6
5SL005	Issues and Debates in Sociological Thought	DHECLO1, DHECLO2
5SL007	Doing Quantitative Research	DHECLO1, DHECLO2, DHECLO3
5SL008	Volunteering in Action	DHECLO3, DHECLO5, DHECLO6
6MZ001	Media, Religion and Ethics	DEGCLO6, ORDCLO6
6RL002	The Buddha, his Dharma and the Contemporary World	DEGCLO4, DEGCLO5, DEGCLO6, ORDCLO4, ORDCLO5, ORDCLO6
6RL004	Religious Studies Independent Study	DEGCLO4, ORDCLO4
6RL006	Atheism, Non-Belief and Religion	DEGCLO4, DEGCLO5, ORDCLO4, ORDCLO5
6SL002	Global Educational Issues	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO6, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO3, ORDCLO6
6SL003	Independent Project in Sociology	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO4, DEGCLO5, DEGCLO6, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO3, ORDCLO4, ORDCLO5, ORDCLO6
6SL011	The Sociology of Migration	DEGCLO6, ORDCLO6
6SL013	The Global World	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO5, DEGCLO6, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO3, ORDCLO5, ORDCLO6
6SL014	The Sociology of the Body	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO4, DEGCLO5, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO4, ORDCLO5

Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

The course provides for the study of a range of sociological and religious topics in an innovative, supportive and exciting environment. Modules are taught by leading scholars and academic experts, with a proven and respected research and publications record.

Learning takes place through a variety of activities and media designed to support the development of skills and achievement of learning outcomes. The course also increases students' digital literacy by widespread use of a range of formats to present materials electronically, including the VLE. The traditional combination of lecture and seminar is accompanied and varied by other teaching and learning activities appropriate to particular modules. These include interactive lectures, individual and small group presentations, student-led seminars, small group and classroom exercises and discussions, writing workshops, forums and surgeries, work-related and service-learning assignments and activities, and engagement with electronic learning and teaching materials. Students will interact/collaborate with other undergraduates from a variety of backgrounds and cultures, addressing critical and creative material that reflects and promotes awareness of cultural diversity. Students can also undertake a period of sustained independent study through the third year project. At all levels they are encouraged to read widely and critically, to write prolifically, and to incorporate information and communication technologies into their learning practices.

An important element of the course is tutor-supported and independent fieldwork. Many religious communities are within walking distance of the campus and allow for sessions to link the classroom and community.

Assessment is diverse and tailored to experiential learning. Students will encounter written essays, presentations, fieldwork reports, book reviews, media analysis and relevant research methods in a carefully scaffolded programme of assessments which is designed to introduce students at first year level to academic engagement with religion and which, by the end of the third year, will provide them with assessments directly linked to key employment skills.

All Foundation modules are taught in small groups and assessed via a portfolio, allowing you to find out which tasks you excel at and to get help enhancing your skills in other areas. This will prepare you for study at degree level.

Assessment Methods:

At the University of Wolverhampton, a variety of modes of assessment will be used to support and test your learning and progress and to help you develop capabilities that are valued beyond your University studies and into your working life. Your course may include a variety of assessment activities:

Written examinations (including online examinations, open and closed book examinations and quizzes)
Coursework (for example, essays, reports, portfolios, project proposals and briefs, CVs, poster presentation)
Practical (for example, oral and video presentations, laboratory work, performances, practical skills assessment)

In the final year of your undergraduate degree, and at the end of your postgraduate degree, you are likely to be expected to write an extended piece of work or research, such as a dissertation or a practice-based piece of research.

Student Support:

General University support:

[University Learning Centres](#) are the key source of academic information for students. Learning Centres provide physical library resources (books, journals, DVDs etc.) and offer a range of study areas to allow students to study in the environment that suits them best: social areas, quiet and silent areas. Learning Centres also provide access to a wide range of online information sources, including eBooks, e-Journals and subject databases.

Learning Centres also provide students with academic skills support via the [Skills for Learning programme](#). Students on campus can attend workshops or ask for one-to-one help on a range of skills such as academic writing and referencing. Students can access a range of online skills material at: www.wlv.ac.uk/lib/skills

The [University Student Support website](#) offers advice on a variety of matters (careers, counselling, student union advice, etc.) Students can also access these services by booking appointment with the SU, careers, counselling services, etc.

Course Specific Support

You will have access to GTAs (Graduate Teaching Assistants) who can provide support in the classroom, as well as with assignments and with study skills. You will also be assigned a personal Academic Coach, this person will help with studying, as well as guide you through the process of adapting to University life.

Employability in the Curriculum:

There are many opportunities to explore your employment potential if you study with us, including modules that see you go out into the world of work, opportunities to attend events at employability weeks every spring semester and activities and assignments that help you to explore and demonstrate the transferable skills that you have gained; including the production of material that can be taken to interviews/used in application forms to allow you to show potential employers what you can do.



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