

Course Specification

Published Date:	21-Sep-2020
Produced By:	Laura Clode
Status:	Validated

Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	School of Social, Historical and Political Studies		
Course Code(s):	SL005T01UV	Full-time	4 Years
	SL005T31UV	Part-time	8 Years
UCAS Code:	L305		
Course Title:	BA (Hons) Sociology with Foundation Year		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Bachelor of Arts with Honours Sociology Bachelor of Arts Sociology Diploma of Higher Education Sociology Certificate of Higher Education Sociology Foundation and Preparatory Studies Sociology University Statement of Credit University Statement of Credit		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:	01/Sep/2017		
Last Review:	2020/1		
Course Specification valid from:	2009/0		
Course Specification valid to:	2026/7		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Ms Shirin Housee
Head of Department:	Dr Clare Williams

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)

2017 Entry

- 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.

Applicants who do not meet the entry requirements may be offered an alternative course.

Distinctive Features of the Course:

- This course develops students' knowledge and skills through study of sociological theories and methods, and through application of these important sociological tools to a range of contemporary topics.
- This course encourages community-based learning through placements in not-for-profit agencies and organisations. These modules are embedded in the course and are an accredited part of the student learning experience. The Sociology Department at Wolverhampton are pioneers of accredited volunteering in the UK. Students benefit from staff expertise in this area and the provision greatly enhances graduate employability.
- The teaching team are all active researchers who are eager to share their ideas and practical experiences of 'doing Sociology'.

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.

Educational Aims of the Course:

The Foundation Year will introduce you to studying at university. You will develop your academic and study skills alongside studying modules that introduce you to the disciplines offered by courses across the Faculty. The Foundation Year will therefore provide a springboard for successful study at levels 4, 5 and 6.

The Sociology degree offers you the chance to analyse and understand the complexities of the global world in which we live. During your studies, you will learn about the concepts, theories and methods essential to what we call a 'sociological imagination' – that special way of identifying, describing and understanding the nature of social life.

Over the course of your studies, you will develop critical understanding of a range of institutional conditions, cultural processes and social relations, within and across societies. In the course of learning selected 'social facts' of society, you will be able to apply those concepts, theories and methods that are unique to this exciting discipline.

Students are encouraged to share knowledge and be enterprising with their ideas in self-directed and cooperative learning activities. You will acquire the skills necessary to gather evidence and apply theories to a range of social issues, and to communicate your ideas through interpersonal and digitally literate ways. At each level of study you are given the opportunity to undertake accredited voluntary work in the local community or a work placement – an experience that broadens your sociological knowledge, deepens your appreciation of civic responsibility and enhances your opportunities for graduate employment.

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:

January (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 1

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
3GK012	Preparing for Success at University	40	SEM2	Core
3GK015	Contemporary Social Issues	20	SEM2	Core

Continuing students will follow the programme indicated below:

3GK006	Extended Project	20	SEM1	Core
3GK005	Critical Thinking	20	SEM1	Core
3GK014	Wolverhampton and its People	20	SEM1	Core
3GK013	Project-Based Learning	40	SEM1	Core
3GK014	Wolverhampton and its People	20	SEM1	Core

January (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 2

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
4SL009	Introduction to Classical Sociological Theory	20	SEM2	Core
4SL010	The Media and the Manufacture of Deviance	20	SEM2	Core

For this option group you must choose a minimum of 20 credits and a maximum of 20 credits

4SA008	Contemporary Social Policy	20	SEM2	
4DF009	Introduction to British Sign Language	20	SEM2	

4SL005	The Sociological Imagination	20	SEM1	Core
4CJ003	Thinking About Crime	20	SEM1	Core
4SA007	The Development of the Welfare State: 1945-2010	20	SEM1	Core

January (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 3

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
5SL002	Making Gender	20	SEM2	Core
5SL007	Doing Quantitative Research	20	SEM2	Core

For this option group you must choose a minimum of 20 credits and a maximum of 20 credits

5SL008	Volunteering in Action	20	SEM2	
5CJ009	Victims and Offenders	20	SEM2	
5SA009	Communities in Social Policy	20	SEM2	

5SL005	Issues and Debates in Sociological Thought	20	SEM1	Core
5SL001	Racism, Diversity and difference in the British Context	20	SEM1	Core

For this option group you must choose a minimum of 20 credits and a maximum of 20 credits

5PO006	Contemporary Britain	20	SEM1	
5SA014	Families, Children and the State	20	SEM1	
5HU003	Body, Sexuality and Identity	20	SEM1	

January (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 4

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
6SL003	Independent Project in Sociology	20	SEM2	Core

For this option group you must choose a minimum of 40 credits and a maximum of 40 credits

6CJ005	Contemporary Issues in Criminology	20	SEM2	
6SL002	Global Educational Issues	20	SEM2	
6SA008	Social Policy of Work and Labour Markets	20	SEM2	
6SL011	The Sociology of Migration	20	SEM2	

6SL012	Qualitative Research Methods	20	SEM1	Core
6SL013	The Global World	20	SEM1	Core

For this option group you must choose a minimum of 20 credits and a maximum of 20 credits

6SL014	The Sociology of the Body	20	SEM1	
6SA003	Approaches to Poverty and Social Exclusion	20	SEM1	

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 1

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
3GK012	Preparing for Success at University	40	SEM1	Core
3GK013	Project-Based Learning	40	SEM2	Core
3GK014	Wolverhampton and its People	20	SEM1	Core
3GK015	Contemporary Social Issues	20	SEM2	Core

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 2

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
4SL005	The Sociological Imagination	20	SEM1	Core
4CJ003	Thinking About Crime	20	SEM1	Core
4SL009	Introduction to Classical Sociological Theory	20	SEM2	Core
4SL010	The Media and the Manufacture of Deviance	20	SEM2	Core
4SA007	The Development of the Welfare State: 1945-2010	20	SEM1	Core

For this option group you must choose a minimum of 20 credits and a maximum of 20 credits

4SA008	Contemporary Social Policy	20	SEM2	
4DF009	Introduction to British Sign Language	20	SEM2	

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 3

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
5SL005	Issues and Debates in Sociological Thought	20	SEM1	Core
5SL001	Racism, Diversity and difference in the British Context	20	SEM1	Core
5SL002	Making Gender	20	SEM2	Core
5SL007	Doing Quantitative Research	20	SEM2	Core

For this option group you must choose a minimum of 20 credits and a maximum of 20 credits

Select one module from this Option Group.

5PO006	Contemporary Britain	20	SEM1
5SA014	Families, Children and the State	20	SEM1
5HU003	Body, Sexuality and Identity	20	SEM1

For this option group you must choose a minimum of 20 credits and a maximum of 20 credits

Select one module from this Option Group.

5SL008	Volunteering in Action	20	SEM2
5CJ009	Victims and Offenders	20	SEM2
5SA009	Communities in Social Policy	20	SEM2

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 4

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
6SL012	Qualitative Research Methods	20	SEM1	Core
6SL013	The Global World	20	SEM1	Core
6SL003	Independent Project in Sociology	20	SEM2	Core

For this option group you must choose a minimum of 20 credits and a maximum of 20 credits

6SL014	The Sociology of the Body	20	SEM1	
6SA003	Approaches to Poverty and Social Exclusion	20	SEM1	

For this option group you must choose a minimum of 40 credits and a maximum of 40 credits

6CJ005	Contemporary Issues in Criminology	20	SEM2	
6SL002	Global Educational Issues	20	SEM2	
6SA008	Social Policy of Work and Labour Markets	20	SEM2	
6SL011	The Sociology of Migration	20	SEM2	

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:

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:

[UK Quality Code for Higher Education](#)

[Qualifications and Credit Frameworks](#)

[Subject Benchmark Statements](#)

[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)

Critically understand a range of theoretical and methodological approaches in Sociology and comprehend the distinctive character of Sociological thought;

Ordinary Course Learning Outcome 2 (ORDCLO2)

"Critically 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;"

Ordinary Course Learning Outcome 3 (ORDCLO3)

Conduct quantitative and qualitative research in a preliminary way and communicate findings to a range of audiences using appropriate technologies in digitally literate ways;

Ordinary Course Learning Outcome 4 (ORDCLO4)

"Demonstrate a wide range of conceptual and practical skills commensurate with graduate employment, and personal and social development;"

Ordinary Course Learning Outcome 5 (ORDCLO5)

"Demonstrate a range of conceptual and practical skills commensurate with graduate employment, and an understanding of the importance of equality and diversity in your outlook towards and relationships with others."

Honours Course Learning Outcome 1 (DEGCLO1)

Critically understand a range of theoretical and methodological approaches in Sociology and comprehend the distinctive character of Sociological thought;

Honours Course Learning Outcome 2 (DEGCLO2)

"Critically 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 3 (DEGCLO3)

"Conduct quantitative and qualitative research in a preliminary way, and communicate findings to a range of audiences using appropriate technologies in digitally literate ways;"

Honours Course Learning Outcome 4 (DEGCLO4)

"Demonstrate a wide range of conceptual and practical skills commensurate with graduate employment, and personal and social development;"

Honours Course Learning Outcome 5 (DEGCLO5)

"Work independently by directing, managing and reflecting upon your learning activities, and to engage cooperatively with others in the planning, preparation and execution of tasks;"

Honours Course Learning Outcome 6 (DEGCLO6)

"Demonstrate a range of conceptual and practical skills commensurate with graduate employment, and an understanding of the importance of equality and diversity in your outlook towards and relationships with others."

Overview of Assessment:

Module	Title	Course Learning Outcomes
3GK012	Preparing for Success at University	UCCL02, UCCL04
3GK013	Project-Based Learning	UCCL02, UCCL04
3GK014	Wolverhampton and its People	UCCL01, UCCL03, UCCL04
3GK015	Contemporary Social Issues	UCCL01, UCCL03, UCCL04
4CJ003	Thinking About Crime	CHECLO1, CHECLO2
4DF009	Introduction to British Sign Language	CHECLO2
4SA007	The Development of the Welfare State: 1945-2010	CHECLO2
4SA008	Contemporary Social Policy	CHECLO1, CHECLO2
4SL005	The Sociological Imagination	CHECLO1, CHECLO2
4SL009	Introduction to Classical Sociological Theory	CHECLO1, CHECLO2
4SL010	The Media and the Manufacture of Deviance	CHECLO1, CHECLO2
5CJ009	Victims and Offenders	DHECLO3, DHECLO4
5HU003	Body, Sexuality and Identity	DHECLO1, DHECLO4
5PO006	Contemporary Britain	DHECLO4
5SA009	Communities in Social Policy	DHECLO2, DHECLO3
5SA014	Families, Children and the State	DHECLO1, DHECLO2
5SL001	Racism, Diversity and difference in the British Context	DHECLO1, DHECLO4
5SL002	Making Gender	DHECLO1, DHECLO4
5SL005	Issues and Debates in Sociological Thought	DHECLO1, DHECLO4
5SL007	Doing Quantitative Research	DHECLO1, DHECLO2, DHECLO3, DHECLO4
5SL008	Volunteering in Action	DHECLO2, DHECLO3
6CJ005	Contemporary Issues in Criminology	DEGCLO2, DEGCLO5, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO5
6SA003	Approaches to Poverty and Social Exclusion	DEGCLO2, DEGCLO6, ORDCLO2
6SA008	Social Policy of Work and Labour Markets	DEGCLO2, DEGCLO6, ORDCLO2
6SL002	Global Educational Issues	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO5, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO5
6SL003	Independent Project in Sociology	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO4, DEGCLO5, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO3, ORDCLO4, ORDCLO5
6SL011	The Sociology of Migration	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO6, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO3
6SL012	Qualitative Research Methods	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO4, DEGCLO5, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO3, ORDCLO4, ORDCLO5
6SL013	The Global World	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2
6SL014	The Sociology of the Body	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2

Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

- Interactive Lectures
- Seminars
- One-to-one and Group Tutorials
- Small and Large Group Work
- Student Presentations – individual and group
- Poster Presentations
- Community-based Learning through Volunteering and work Placements – to enhance graduate employability
- Case Studies
- Audio visual materials
- Research activities
- Independent and Guided Study
- Collaborative and Individual Online Activities
- Wolverhampton Enterprise and Employability Award

The on-line activities, and research activities will develop and support students' digital literacy.

The group work, seminars, presentations, independent study and project work will support students' enterprising ideas.

Global citizenship is developed via:

- the international perspectives to topics taken in many lectures
- modules specifically dedicated to gender, 'race', globalisation and non-western perspectives as well as in volunteering modules.
- learning and assessment tasks in such modules

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, journal, DVDs etc.) and offer a range of study areas to allow students to study in the environment that suit them best: Social areas, quiet and silent areas. Learning Centres also provide access to 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

Where appropriate, online activities will support learning.

Support for the development of academic skills is embedded in Level 4 Core modules. In addition, there is specialist academic practice modules at Level 4 and LIS support for academic skills development.

Students will receive feedback informally throughout the modules and formally through written feedback for their formative and summative assignments. This feedback will be constructive and indicate to students how to progress in their learning.

Students will be supported through their Project or Community Link or Placement modules by an allocated academic supervisor.

All students will have a personal tutor to support their progress throughout their course. Tutors are regularly available to meet with students to discuss any issues they wish to raise and to map their progress.

The Academic Support Tutors within SSHIPs provided additional specialised learning support for students on an individual basis.

Employability in the Curriculum:

Sociology graduates are employed in a wide range of careers but with a definite inclination towards work in the public sector and voluntary sectors: in teaching, social research in the civil service and local government, or with think tanks; public sector management; as professional practitioners or working on projects in areas concerning, for example social inequalities and social exclusion. Recent graduates have been employed, for example, as neighbourhood development officers, volunteer management, family support workers, social care workers, housing officers, social inclusion workers and care managers. Graduates are also well equipped to continue their post-graduate studies in Sociology, Education, Teacher Training, Social Care, Social Work.

