

Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	Course Title	BA (Hons) Sociology
2	Course Code	US0689
3	Awarding Institution	Birmingham City University
4	Teaching Institution(s) (if different from point 3)	
5	Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation (if applicable)	

6	Course Description
	<p>Our BA (Hons) Sociology degree is a radical and practical course; theoretically driven and empirically informed, as well as locally situated and globally focused. The discipline of Sociology helps us to make sense of the world and our place within it. Studying Sociology at Birmingham City University is about not <i>reading sociology</i> but <i>doing sociology</i>, allowing you to explore and question social norms and discover the complex issues behind your everyday routines and social practices in a range of spatial contexts, applying what you learn to your own lived experiences. You will examine patterns and processes of inequality, the structure and dynamics of social hierarchies and power relations and ask why and how people shape their identities and the tensions and conflicts that these processes create. Through the School of Social Sciences' Birmingham 2029 project, you will have the chance to explore such themes of sociology within the city of Birmingham, an urban context that hosts diverse communities perfect for sociological examination. The School of Social Sciences has links with local public and third sector organisations that will help you make professional contacts and be able to apply your studies to future career prospects when taking part in voluntary work or on placement. Employability is at the heart of our BA (Hons) Sociology programme, with placement opportunities embedded through the course of the degree. Coming to study Sociology at Birmingham City University affords you with a wealth of academic and employability opportunities, locally and globally aligned, to develop the skills needed to not only achieve successful graduate employment but also to contribute, as an agent of change, to thinking through and tackling some of the pressing social issues of contemporary society.</p>

7	Course Awards		
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	Bachelor of Arts with Honours Sociology	6	360
	Bachelor of Arts with Honours Sociology with Professional Placement Year	6	480
7b			
	Certificate of Higher Education Sociology	4	120
	Diploma of Higher Education Sociology	5	240
	Bachelor of Arts Sociology	6	300
	Bachelor of Arts Sociology with Professional Placement Year	6	420

8	Derogation from the University Regulations
	None.

9	Delivery Patterns			
	Mode(s) of Study	Location(s) of Study	Duration of Study	Code(s)
	Full Time	City Centre	3 years	US0689
	Part Time	City Centre	5 years	US0690
	Full Time with Professional Placement	City Centre (and placement provider)	4 years	

10	Entry Requirements
<p>The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at https://www.bcu.ac.uk/, or may be found by searching for the course entry profile located on the UCAS website.</p>	

11	Course Aims
	<p>This programme aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide students with knowledge and ability to apply sociological theory and research to social organisations and institutions (such as local and national government, educational establishments, charities, public and private sector organisations) • Develop the research skills needed to critically analyse and evaluate complex information • Develop an appreciation of the complexity and diversity of individuals, groups, communities and social and political institutions • Enhance students' ability to develop opinions and new ideas, and to make reasoned, critical judgements and arguments • Provide skills to relate sociological knowledge to social and public policy • Recognise social and communicative skills to work collaboratively • The ability to comprehend, assess and critically evaluate common understandings of the social world • Be committed to social inclusion and diversity • Develop an in-depth knowledge and understanding of research skills, qualitative and quantitative methods, and forms of research analysis • Enhance the professional and personal skills required to organise work and meet deadlines • Enhance the technological skills and software packages • Exhibit excellent skills in oral, presentational, and written communication • Demonstrate a range of practical and creative problem-solving skills

12 Course Learning Outcomes	
	On completion of the degree, you will be able to: -
1	Apply an in-depth knowledge of sociological perspectives and methods, and their application to contemporary social issues pertaining to social identities and institutions, crime, place-based contexts and wider patterns of social change.
2	Articulate an understanding of the discipline of sociology – through the programme’s core themes of social theory and research, culture, politics and space and place - as being theoretically informed, evidence-based, relevant, professionally focussed and applied.
3	Identify the inherent interdisciplinary nature of sociology as a discipline and develop a proficiency of sociological theories, methods, themes and perspectives unique to sociology: but also, to develop a working knowledge of relevant political, economic, historical, and cultural factors and perspectives drawn on by sociologists when venturing to adequately understand society as a whole.
4	Sythesise ideas to show that you can make sense of a wide range of social institutions, social changes and important social issues – such as poverty, crime, social class, racism, sexism and other forms of inequalities and discrimination – and can formulate ideas taken from a wide reading of sociology to generate workable solutions to contempoeary social problems.
5	Construct a critical reflection on experiences of work and employability skills and their interactions with sociological thought.
6	Reflectively identify proficiencies in relevant employability-related skills including but limited to: disciplined oral and written communication, the production of well-structured written work and presentations, the use of software packages and other technology, and the collection, comprehension and analysis of a wide range of research and data to build a professional identity that can be drawn on in future graduate employment opportunities.
7	Build social and cognitive skills involving social collaboration and understanding, independence of judgement and argument, problem solving and personal commitment and responsibility.
8	Illustrate an understanding of crime and society recognising the importance of political, economic, cultural and historical interconnectedness at local, national, and international levels

13 Level Learning Outcomes	
	<i>Upon completion of Level 4 / the Certificate of Higher Education, you will be able to:</i>
1.	Identify the inherent interdisciplinary nature of sociology and criminology as disciplines and develop a proficiency of sociological and criminology theories, methods, themes and perspectives unique to sociology and criminology: but also, to develop a working knowledge of relevant political, economic, historical, and cultural factors and perspectives drawn on by sociologists and criminologists when venturing to adequately understand society as a whole.
2.	Illustrate an understanding of crime and society recognising the importance of political, economic, cultural and historical interconnectedness at local, national, and international levels
	<i>Upon completion of Level 5 / the Diploma of Higher Education, you will be able to:</i>
1.	Reflectively identify proficiencies in relevant employability-related skills including but limited to: disciplined oral and written communication, the production of well-structured written work and presentations, the use of software packages and other technology, and the collection, comprehension and analysis of a wide range of research and data to build a professional identity that can be drawn on in future graduate employment opportunities.
2.	Build social and cognitive skills involving social collaboration and understanding, independence of judgement and argument, problem solving and personal commitment and responsibility
3.	Articulate an understanding of the disciplines of sociology and criminology – through the programme’s core themes of social theory and research, culture, politics and space and place - as being theoretically informed, evidence-based, relevant, professionally focussed and applied
	<i>Upon completion of 60 credits at Level 6 / the Bachelors Degree, you will be able to:</i>
1.	Synthesise ideas to show that you can make sense of a wide range of social institutions, social changes and important social issues – such as poverty, crime, social class, racism, sexism and other forms of inequalities and discrimination – and can formulate ideas taken from a wide

	reading of sociology and criminology to generate workable solutions to contemporary social problems
2.	Formulate an in-depth knowledge of sociological and criminological perspectives and methods, and their application to contemporary social issues pertaining to social identities and institutions, place-based contexts and wider patterns of social change.
3.	Construct a critical reflection on experiences of work and employability skills and their interactions with sociological thought

14	Course Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy
	<p>Teaching and Learning Strategy Students will engage with a range of teaching and learning strategies. The teaching and learning arrangements will vary module to module, contingent on the subject matter being addressed and mode of assessment. Some of the teaching and learning activities that students will engage in include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectures • Seminars • Workshops • Independent Learning (including reading and researching) • Online Activities (including group discussion forums, online videos etc.) <p>Assessment strategy Students will be assessed via a variety of different modes of assessment; from coursework, to in-person assessments, to examinations. For the majority of the course, though, students will be required to complete a range of coursework assessments (e.g., essays, professional reports, research proposals, zine-making) and in-person assessments (e.g., individual presentations). There will be opportunities to receive informal and formal feedforward on assessments that enable students to develop their assessments. Individual feedback is also provided when assessments are returned to students. The focus of feedback is to help students develop their academic skills in preparation for future assessments.</p>

15	Course Requirements																					
15a	<p>Level 4:</p> <p><i>In order to complete this course, you must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Module Code</th> <th>Module Name</th> <th>Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>SOC40XX</td> <td>Sociological Perspectives</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SOC4026</td> <td>City, Community & Culture</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CRI40XX</td> <td>Crime, Punishment & Society</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SOC4025</td> <td>Sociological Imagination</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SOC4029</td> <td>States & Societies</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SOC40XX</td> <td>Becoming a Social Researcher</td> <td>20</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Level 5:</p> <p><i>In order to complete this course, you must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 100 credits):</i></p>	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	SOC40XX	Sociological Perspectives	20	SOC4026	City, Community & Culture	20	CRI40XX	Crime, Punishment & Society	20	SOC4025	Sociological Imagination	20	SOC4029	States & Societies	20	SOC40XX	Becoming a Social Researcher	20
Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value																				
SOC40XX	Sociological Perspectives	20																				
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CRI40XX	Crime, Punishment & Society	20																				
SOC4025	Sociological Imagination	20																				
SOC4029	States & Societies	20																				
SOC40XX	Becoming a Social Researcher	20																				

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
SOC50XX	Current Issues in Sociology	20
SOC50XX	Media & Popular Culture	20
SOC50XX	Space, Place & Society	20
SOC5052	Applied Sociological Research	20
SOC5044	Contemporary Social Theory	20

In order to complete this course, you must successfully complete at least 20 credits from the following indicative list of OPTIONAL modules.

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
SOC50XX	Citizenship, 'Race' & Ethnicity	20
SOC5058	Sociology Placement	20
SOC50XX	Education and Critical Pedagogies	20
SOC50XX	Food, Neoliberalism & Welfare	20

In order to qualify for the award of BA (Hons) Sociology with Professional Placement Year a student must successfully complete the following module:

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
PLA5XXX	Professional Placement Year	120

Level 6:

In order to complete this course, you must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 80 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
SOC60XX	Globalisation, Migration & Borders	20
SOC6034	Self, Identity & Society	20
SOC6040	Integrative Research Project	40

In order to complete this course, you must successfully complete at least 40 credits from the following indicative list of OPTIONAL modules.

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
SOC6032	Music & Society	20
SOC6037	Activism, Social Movements & Social Change	20
SOC6038	Black Arts Movement	20
SOC60XX	Global Cities	20
SOC60XX	Postcoloniality	20
SOC60XX	Visual Cultures	20

15b Structure Diagram

Please note list of optional modules is indicative only. Your choice will not be guaranteed for optional modules, but a fair and transparent process will be adopted and shared with students.

Full Time Structure

Level 4

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Sociological Perspectives	Sociological Imagination
City, Community & Culture	States & Societies
Crime, Punishment and Society	Becoming a Social Researcher

Level 5

Semester 1 (Core) Current Issues in Sociology Space, Place & Society Media & Popular Culture	Semester 2 (Core) Applied Sociological Research Contemporary Social Theory
Optional Modules (Semester 2 only) Citizenship, 'Race', and Ethnicity Sociology Placement Education & Critical Pedagogies Food, Neoliberalism & Welfare	

Level 6

Semester 1 (Core) Globalisation, Migration & Borders	Sememester 2 (Core) Self, Identity & Society
Semester 1 (Optional Modules) Postcolionality Visual Cultures Global Cities	Semester 2 (Optional Modules) Music & Society Black Arts Movement Activism, Social Movements & Social Change
Semester One and Two Integative Research Project	

Full Time with Professional Placement Year Course Structure

Level 4

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Sociological Perspectives	Sociological Imagination
City, Community & Culture	States & Societies
Crime, Punishment and Society	Becoming a Social Researcher

Level 5

Semester 1 (Core) Space, place & society Media & Popular Culture Current Issues in Sociology	Semester 2 (Core) Applied Sociological Research Contemporary Social Theory Race and Crime
Optional Modules (Semester 2 only) Citizenship, 'Race', and Ethnicity Sociology Placement Education & Critical Pedagogies Food, Neoliberalism & Welfare	
Professional Placement Year (120 credits)	

Level 6

Semester 1 (Core) Globalisation, Migration & Borders	Semester 2 (Core) Self, Identity & Society
Semester 1 (Optional Modules) Postcoloniality Visual Cultures Global Cities	Semester 2 (Optional Modules) Music & Society Black Arts Movement Activism, Social Movements & Social Change
Semester One and Two Integrative Research Project	

Part Time Course Structure

Year 1

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Sociological Perspectives (20 credits)	Sociological Imagination (20 credits)
Crime, Punishment & Society (20 credits)	Becoming a Social Researcher (20 credits)

Year 2

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
City, Community & Culture (20 credits)	States & Societies (20 credits)
Media & Popular Culture (20 credits)	Contemporary Social Theory (20 credits)

Year 3

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Space, place & society (20 credits)	Applied Sociological Research (20 credits)
Current Issues in Sociology (20 credits)	
Optional (Semester 2 only)	
Citizenship, 'Race', and Ethnicity	
Sociology Placement	
Education & Critical Pedagogies	
Food, Neoliberalism & Welfare	

Year 4

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Globalisation, Migration & Borders (20 credits)	Self, Identity & Society (20 credits)
Optional	Optional
Postcoloniality (20 credits)	Music & Society (20 credits)
Visual Cultures (20 credits)	Black Arts Movement (20 credits)
Global Cities (20 credits)	Activism, Social Movements & Social Change (20 credits)

Year 5

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Integrated Research Project (40 credits)	

16 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Level 4

Workload

% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	214
Directed Learning	250
Private Study	736
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	90%
Exam	10%
In-Person	0%

Level 5

Workload

XX% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	193
Directed Learning	340
Private Study	667
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	95%
Exam	0%
In-Person	5%

Level 6

Workload

XX% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	140
Directed Learning	306
Private Study	754
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	100%
Exam	0%
In-Person	0%