

## Course Specification

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

6	Course Description
	<p>Our BA (Hons) Sociology degree is a radical and practical course. It is 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 will equip you with the theoretical and methodological tools for interrogating social norms and societal transformations. You will gain an understanding of the complex social, political, economic and historical contexts that are formative of your everyday routines. You will examine: patterns and processes of inequality; the production of social identity and hierarchies; and how people reaffirm/contest their position in society. You will have the chance to practice sociology within the city of Birmingham, an urban context that hosts diverse communities. Employability is at the heart of our BA (Hons) Sociology course. The School of Social Sciences will help you develop links with public and third sector organisations; optional placement opportunities are embedded within the degree. You will have opportunities to forge professional contacts through a placement and/or voluntary work, thereby enhancing your future career prospects. Coming to study Sociology at Birmingham City University affords you with a wealth of academic and employability opportunities, to help you achieve successful graduate employment. You will gain the skills needed to become a thoughtful individual who can critically reflect on, as well as tackle, some of the pressing 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.

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

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

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

<b>12 Course Learning Outcomes</b>	
	On completion of the degree, you will be able to: -
<b>1</b>	Identify the inherent interdisciplinary nature of sociology as a discipline and develop a proficiency of sociological theories, methods, themes and perspectives unique to sociology.
<b>2</b>	Develop a working knowledge of relevant political, economic, historical, and cultural factors and perspectives drawn on by sociologists when venturing to understand society as a whole.
<b>3</b>	Illustrate an understanding of crime and society recognising the importance of political, economic, cultural and historical interconnectedness at local, national, and international levels
<b>4</b>	Reflect on and identify proficiencies in relevant employability-related skills including but not 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.
<b>5</b>	Build social and cognitive skills involving social collaboration and understanding, independence of judgement and argument, problem solving and personal commitment and responsibility.
<b>6</b>	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.
<b>7</b>	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 to generate workable solutions to contemporary social problems.
<b>8</b>	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.
<b>9</b>	Construct a critical reflection on experiences of work and employability skills and their interactions with sociological thought.

<b>13</b>	<b>Level Learning Outcomes</b>
	<b><i>Upon completion of Level 4 / the Certificate of Higher Education, you will be able to:</i></b>
<b>1</b>	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.
<b>2</b>	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.
<b>3</b>	Illustrate an understanding of crime and society recognising the importance of political, economic, cultural and historical interconnectedness at local, national, and international levels
	<b><i>Upon completion of Level 5 / the Diploma of Higher Education, you will be able to:</i></b>
<b>4</b>	Reflect on and 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.
<b>5</b>	Build social and cognitive skills involving social collaboration and understanding, independence of judgement and argument, problem solving and personal commitment and responsibility
<b>6</b>	Articulate an understanding of the disciplines of sociology and criminology – through the course’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
	<b><i>Upon completion of 60 credits at Level 6 / the Bachelors Degree, you will be able to:</i></b>
<b>7</b>	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
<b>8</b>	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.
<b>9</b>	Construct a critical reflection on experiences of work and employability skills and their interactions with sociological thought

<b>14</b>	<b>Course Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy</b>
	<p><b>Teaching and Learning Strategy</b></p> <p>You 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 you will engage in include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lectures</li> <li>• Seminars</li> <li>• Workshops</li> <li>• Independent Learning (including reading and researching)</li> <li>• Online Activities (including group discussion forums, online videos etc.)</li> </ul> <p><b>Assessment strategy</b></p> <p>You 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, you 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 you to develop your assessments. Individual feedback is also provided when assessments are returned to you. The focus of feedback is to help you develop your academic skills in preparation for future assessments.</p>

<b>15</b>	<b>Course Requirements</b>																																							
<b>15a</b>	<p><b>Level 4:</b></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" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Code</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Name</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">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 and Culture</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CRI40XX</td> <td>Crime, Punishment and Society</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SOC4025</td> <td>Sociological Imagination</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SOC4029</td> <td>Politics and Society</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SOC40XX</td> <td>Becoming a Social Researcher</td> <td>20</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>Level 5:</b></p> <p><i>In order to complete this course you must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 100 credits):</i></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Code</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Module Name</th> <th style="background-color: #ffffcc;">Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>SOC50XX</td> <td>Current Issues in Sociology</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SOC50XX</td> <td>Media and Popular Culture</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SOC50XX</td> <td>Race, Racism and Inequality</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SOC5052</td> <td>Applied Sociological Research</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SOC5044</td> <td>Contemporary Social Theory</td> <td>20</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	SOC40XX	Sociological Perspectives	20	SOC4026	City, Community and Culture	20	CRI40XX	Crime, Punishment and Society	20	SOC4025	Sociological Imagination	20	SOC4029	Politics and Society	20	SOC40XX	Becoming a Social Researcher	20	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	SOC50XX	Current Issues in Sociology	20	SOC50XX	Media and Popular Culture	20	SOC50XX	Race, Racism and Inequality	20	SOC5052	Applied Sociological Research	20	SOC5044	Contemporary Social Theory	20
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***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	Space, Place and Society	20
SOC5058	Sociology Placement	20
SOC50XX	Food, Neoliberalism and 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 and Borders	20
SOC6034	Self, Identity and 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 and Society	20
SOC6037	Activism, Social Movements and Social Change	20
SOC6038	Black Arts Movement	20
SOC60XX	Global Cities	20
SOC60XX	Postcoloniality	20
SOC60XX	Visual Cultures	20

**15b Full-time Structure Diagram**
**Level 4**

<b>SEMESTER ONE</b>	<b>SEMESTER TWO</b>
Sociological Perspectives	Sociological Imagination
City, Community and Culture	Politics and Society
Crime, Punishment and Society	Becoming a Social Researcher

**Level 5**

<b>Semester 1 (Core)</b> Current Issues in Sociology Race, Racism and Inequality Media and Popular Culture	<b>Semester 2 (Core)</b> Applied Sociological Research Contemporary Social Theory
<b>Optional Modules (Semester 2 only)</b> Space, Place and Society Sociology Placement Food, Neoliberalism and Welfare	

**Level 6**

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

**Full Time with Professional Placement Year Course Structure**
**Level 4**

<b>SEMESTER ONE</b>	<b>SEMESTER TWO</b>
Sociological Perspectives	Sociological Imagination

City, Community and Culture	Politics and Society
Crime, Punishment and Society	Becoming a Social Researcher

**Level 5**

<b>Semester 1 (Core)</b> Race, Racism and Inequality Media and Popular Culture Current Issues in Sociology	<b>Semester 2 (Core)</b> Applied Sociological Research Contemporary Social Theory Race and Crime
<b>Optional Modules (Semester 2 only)</b> Space, Place and Society Sociology Placement Education and Critical Pedagogies Food, Neoliberalism and Welfare	

<b>Professional Placement Year (120 credits)</b>
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**Level 6**

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

## Part Time Course Structure

### Year 1

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

### Year 2

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
City, Community and Culture (20 credits)	Politics and Society (20 credits)
Media and Popular Culture (20 credits)	Contemporary Social Theory (20 credits)

### Year 3

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Race, Racism and Inequalities (20 credits)	Applied Sociological Research (20 credits)
Current Issues in Sociology (20 credits)	
<b>Optional (Semester 2 only)</b>	
Space, place and society	
Sociology Placement	
Food, Neoliberalism and Welfare	

### Year 4

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

### Year 5

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO



Integrative Research Project (40 credits)

## 16 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

### Level 4

#### Workload

18% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	214
Directed Learning	250
Private Study	736
<b>Total Hours</b>	1200

#### Balance of Assessment

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

### Level 5

#### Workload

16% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	193
Directed Learning	340
Private Study	667
<b>Total Hours</b>	1200

#### Balance of Assessment

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

### Level 6

#### Workload

12% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	140
Directed Learning	306
Private Study	754
<b>Total Hours</b>	1200

**Balance of Assessment**

<b>Assessment Mode</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Coursework	100%
Exam	0%
In-Person	0%