Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	**Course Title**	BA (Hons) Sociology and Criminology with Foundation Year
2	**Course Code**	US0867F
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**
	Course Overview:

Course Overview:

Looking for a foundation course in sociology or criminology in Birmingham? Our BA (Hons) Sociology and Criminology with a Foundation Year degree has lower entry requirements and can lead to a full undergraduate qualification. This course has been specifically designed to allow home and EU students, who do not initially meet the Birmingham City University entry requirements for our standard Sociology or Criminology degrees, to undertake additional level 3 study designed to ensure they are successful on their chosen degree course. The foundation year itself will equip you with the required knowledge and skills to proceed on to any of our undergraduate Sociology or Criminology degree courses offered within the School of Social Sciences.

What's covered in the course?

Our BA (Hons) Sociology and Criminology degree is a radical and practical course; theoretically driven and empirically informed, as well as locally situated and globally focused. Studying Sociology at Birmingham City University is about not reading sociology but doing sociology, 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. The inclusion of Criminology into the degree affords you the opportunity to understanding how society makes sense of crime, criminality and its control as well as the relationship between crime and wider society. You will examine patterns and processes of inequality, crime, 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 and criminology within the city of Birmingham, an urban context that hosts diverse communities perfect for sociological and criminological 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 and Criminology programme, with placement opportunities embedded throughout the course of the degree. Coming to study Sociology and Criminology 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.

7	Course Awards		
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Sociology and Criminology	6	480
	Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Sociology and Criminology with Professional Placement Year	6	600
7b	Exit Awards and Credits Awarded		
	Foundation Certificate Sociology and Criminology	3	120
	Certificate of Higher Education in Sociology and Criminology	4	240
	Diploma of Higher Education in Sociology and Criminology	5	360
	Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Criminology	6	420
	Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Criminology with Professional Placement Year	6	540

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	4 Years	US0867F
	Full Time with Professional Placement Year	City Centre (and placement provider)	5 Years	US0867FS

10	Entry Requirements
	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.

11	Course Aims
	This programme aims to: • Provide you with knowledge and the ability to apply sociological and criminological 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 your ability to develop opinions and new ideas, and to make reasoned, critical judgements and arguments • Provide skills to relate sociological and criminological 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 • A commitment 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 knowledge of 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	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.
2	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.
3	Illustrate an understanding of crime and society recognising the importance of political, economic, cultural and historical interconnectedness at local, national, and international levels
4	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.
5	Build social and cognitive skills involving social collaboration and understanding, independence of judgement and argument, problem solving and personal commitment and responsibility.
6	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.
7	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.

13	**Level Learning Outcomes**
	Upon completion of Level 3 / the Foundation Certificate, you will be able to:
1	Understand the development of sociology and criminology as academic subjects at a preliminary level.
2	Be aware of contemporary issues associated with sociology and criminology.
3	Use basic academic conventions relevant to the social sciences.
	Upon completion of Level 4 / the Certificate of Higher Education, you will be able to:
4	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.
5	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.
6	Illustrate an understanding of crime and society recognising the importance of political, economic, cultural and historical interconnectedness at local, national, and international levels
	Upon completion of Level 5 / the Diploma of Higher Education, you will be able to:
7	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

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	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.
8	Build social and cognitive skills involving social collaboration and understanding, independence of judgement and argument, problem solving and personal commitment and responsibility
9	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
	Upon completion of 60 credits at Level 6 / the Bachelors Degree, you will be able to:
10	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
11	Apply 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.
12	Construct a critical reflection on experiences of work and employability skills and their interactions with sociological thought.

14	**Course Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy**
	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: - Lectures - Seminars - Workshops - Independent Learning (including reading and researching) - Online Activities (including group discussion forums, online videos etc.) **Assessment strategy** 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.

15	**Course Requirements**

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Level 3

In order to complete this course, you must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
SOC3001	Sociology: The Foundations	20
TBC	Criminology: The Foundations	20
TBC	Skills for Social Scientists	20
SOC3000	Sociology and Criminology in Practice	20
CRI3000	Criminality, Crime Control and Society	20
TBC	FYSC Independent Research Project	20

Level 4:

In order to complete this course, you must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):

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
SOC4040	Politics and Society	20
SOC40XX	Becoming a Social Researcher	20

Level 5:

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

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
SOC50XX	Crime in the City	20
SOC5052	Applied Sociological Research	20
SOC5044	Contemporary Social Theory	20
CRI50XX	Race and Crime	20

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
CRI50XX	Issues in Criminal Investigation	20
CRI50XX	Experiencing Harm	20
CRI50XX	Youth Crime and Justice	20
SOC50XX	Media and Popular Culture	20

In order to qualify for the award of BA (Hons) Sociology and Criminology 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
CRI60XX	Gender and Crime	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
CRI60XX	Hate Crime	20
CRI60XX	Emotions in Crime & Criminal Justice	20
CRI60XX	Cybercrime	20
CRI60XX	Deviant Leisure	20
CRI60XX	Harms of the Powerful	20
CRI60XX	Local to Global Organised Crime	20
SOC6032	Music & Society	20
SOC6037	Activism, Social Movements & Social Change	20
SOC6038	Black Arts Movement	20
SOC60XX	Global Cities	20
SOC60XX	Postcolionality	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 you.

Full Time

Level 3

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core	**Core**
SOC3001: Sociology: The Foundations	SOC3000: Sociology and Criminology in Practice
TBC: Criminology: The Foundations	CRI3000: Criminality, Crime Control and Society
TBC: Skills for the Social Scientists	TBC: FYSC Independent Research Project

Level 4

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

Level 5

Semester 1 (Core)	Semester 2 (Core)
Crime in the City	Applied Sociological Research
Media and Popular Culture	Contemporary Social Theory
	Race and Crime
Optional Modules (Semester 1 only)	
Current Issues in Sociology	
Experiencing Harm	
Youth Crime and Justice	

Level 6

Semester 1 (Core)	Semester 2 (Core)
Globalisation, Migration and Borders	Gender and Crime
Semester 1 (Optional Modules)	**Semester 2 (Optional Modules)**
Postcolionality	Music and Society
Visual Cultures	Black Arts Movement
Global Cities	Activism, Social Movements and Social Change

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Emotions in Crime and Criminal Justice	Hate Crime
Deviant Leisure	Cybercrime
	Harms of the Powerful
Semester One and Two	
Integrative Research Project	

Full Time with Professional Placement Year

Level 3

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core	**Core**
SOC3001: Sociology: The Foundations	SOC3000: Sociology and Criminology in Practice
TBC: Criminology: The Foundations	CRI3000: Criminality, Crime Control and Society
TBC: Skills for the Social Scientists	TBC: FYSC Independent Research Project

Level 4

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

Level 5

Semester 1 (Core)	Semester 2 (Core)
Crime in the City	Applied Sociological Research
Media and Popular Culture	Contemporary Social Theory
	Race and Crime
Optional Modules (Semester 1 only)	
Current Issues in Sociology	
Experiencing Harm	
Youth Crime and Justice	
(Core) Professional Placement Year	

Level 6

Semester 1 (Core)	Semester 2 (Core)

Globalisation, Migration and Borders	Gender and Crime
Semester 1 (Optional Modules) Postcolionality Visual Cultures Global Cities Emotions in Crime and Criminal Justice Deviant Leisure	**Semester 2 (Optional Modules)** Music and Society Black Arts Movement Activism, Social Movements and Social Change Hate Crime Cybercrime Harms of the Powerful
Semester One and Two Integrative Research Project	

16 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time you will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by you. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

Level 3

Workload

29.6% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	384 (4 hours per module, per week, per 12-week semester + 4 hours per week additional contact time, per 12-week semester)
Directed Learning	252
Private Study	660
Total Hours	1296

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	67%
Exam	0%
In-Person	33%

Level 4

Workload

17.8% 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

<u>**Workload**</u>
16% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

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

<u>**Balance of Assessment**</u>

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	80%
Exam	0%
In-Person	20%

Level 6

<u>**Workload**</u>

11.7% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

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

<u>**Balance of Assessment**</u>

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