Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	**Course Title**	BSc (Hons) Sociology
2	**Course Code**	US1579
3	**Awarding Institution**	Birmingham City University
4	**Teaching Institution(s)** (if different from point 3)	N/A
5	**Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation** (if applicable)	N/A

6	**Course Description**
	Our BSc (Hons) Sociology is a degree that helps you make sense of the world and your place within it, both locally and globally by addressing long-standing and topical questions facing society. Why do racial inequalities persist in education and employment? What's the human cost of your matcha latte? Will AI replace human friendships one day, and does it matter? We'll will equip you with the theoretical and methodological tools to help investigate questions like these; complex questions that require serious reflection, critical analysis, and engagement with evidence. **What's covered in this course?** You'll learn research methods, analyse real data, and be taught by tutors who actively research issues like inequality and social change – so you're learning from people who are making new discoveries in the field, not just teaching from textbooks. Studying in the "super diverse" city of Birmingham is also beneficial to your studies, its hugely varied communities providing a living laboratory for understanding how society works. Through hands-on projects, career guidance, potential placements with public and third sector organisations, and an in-depth final year project, you'll explore the areas of sociology that matter to you most. These experiences will help you build professional networks while developing practical skills employers value, such as data analysis, critical thinking, and a deeper understanding of how society really works, meaning you'll graduate with both the knowledge and connections to tackle some of society's biggest challenges.

7	Course Awards		
7a	**Name of Final Award**	**Level**	**Credits Awarded**
	Bachelor of Science with Honours Sociology	6	360
	Bachelor of Science 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 Science Sociology	6	360
	Bachelor of Science Sociology with Professional Placement Year	6	480

8	Variations 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	US1579
Part Time	City Centre	5 years	US1580
Full Time with Professional Placement	City Centre (and placement year)	4 years	US1581

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 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 your 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 • Develop your 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	Identify the distinctive features of sociology as a discipline and develop a proficiency of sociological theories, methods, themes and perspectives unique to sociology.
2	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.
3	Illustrate an understanding of society recognising the importance of political, economic, cultural and historical interconnectedness at local, national, and international levels
4	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.
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 discipline of sociology – through the programme's core themes of social theory and research, culture, and politics – 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, and can formulate ideas taken from a wide reading of sociology to generate workable solutions to contemporary social problems.
8	Critically apply an in-depth knowledge of sociological perspectives, methods, and demonstrate their application to contemporary social issues and wider patterns of social change.
9	Critical reflect upon and analyse contemporary societal developments and sociological thought.

13	**Level Learning Outcomes**
	Upon completion of Level 4 / the Certificate of Higher Education, you will be able to:
1	Identify the distinctive features of sociology as disciplines and develop a proficiency of sociological theories, methods, themes and perspectives unique to sociology.
2	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.
3	Illustrate an understanding of 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:
4	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.
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– through the course's core themes of social theory and research, culture, and politics - 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:
7	Synthesise ideas to show that you can make sense of a wide range of social institutions, social changes and important social issues, and can formulate ideas taken from a wide reading of sociology to generate workable solutions to contemporary social problems
8	Critically apply an in-depth knowledge of sociological perspectives, methods, and demonstrate their application to contemporary social issues and wider patterns of social change.
9	Critical reflect upon and analyse contemporary societal developments and sociological thought.

14	**Course Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy**
	Teaching and Learning 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: • Workshops • Lectures • Seminars • 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. For the majority of the course, 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**

15a **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
SOC4025	Sociological Imagination	20
SOC4026	Understanding the Urban, Modern City	20
SOC4029	People, Power and Public Life	20
SOC4039	Sociological Perspective	20
SOC4038	Exploring Social Research	20
SOC	Cultural Sociology	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
SOC5044	Contemporary Social Theories	20
SOC5068	Social Problems, Public Policy	20
SOC5052	Numbers and Power: Data & the Digital Age	20
SOC	Sociological Careers	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
	Foul Play: Crime, Drugs and Corruption in Sport	20
	Citizenship, Empire and Race	20
	Gender & Feminism	20
	Media & Popular Culture	20
	Environmental Sociology and Social Justice	20
	Space, Power & Control	20

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

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
PPY5007	Professional Placement Year (Criminology and Sociology)	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
SOC6052	Global Sociologies & Inequalities	20
SOC6XXX	Intimacies, Communities & Belonging	20
SOC6040	Integrated 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
	Activism, Social Movements & Social Change	20
	Fascism, Extremism & Genocide	20
	Music & Society	20
	Postcoloniality	20

15b Full-time Structure Diagram

Level 4

SEMESTER ONE (Core)	SEMESTER TWO (Core)
Sociological Imagination	Sociological Perspectives
Understanding the Urban, Modern City	Exploring Social Research
People, Power & Public life	Cultural Sociology

Level 5

Semester 1 (Core) Contemporary Social Theories Social Problems & Public Policy	**Semester 2 (Core)** Numbers and Power: Data & the Digital Age Sociological Careers
Optional Modules (Pick 1) Foul Play: Crime, Drugs and Corruption in Sport Citizenship, Empire and Race Gender & Feminism	**Optional Modules (Pick 1)** Media & Popular Culture Environmental Sociology and Social Justice Space, Power & Control

Level 6

Semester 1 (Core) Global Sociologies & Inequalities	**Semester 2 (Core)** Intimacies, Communities & Belonging
Optional Modules (Pick 1) Activism, Social Movements & Social Change Fascism, Extremism & Genocide	**Optional Modules (Pick 1)** Music & Society Postcoloniality
Semester One and Two Integrated Research Project (Core)	

Full Time with Professional Placement Year Course Structure

Level 4

SEMESTER ONE (Core)	**SEMESTER TWO (Core)**
Sociological Imagination	Sociological Perspectives
Understanding the Urban, Modern City	Exploring Social Research
People, Power & Public life	Cultural Sociology

Level 5

Semester 1 (Core) Contemporary Social Theories Social Problems & Public Policy	**Semester 2 (Core)** Numbers and Power: Data & the Digital Age Sociological Careers
Optional Modules (Pick 1) Foul Play: Crime, Drugs and Corruption in Sport Citizenship, Empire and Race Gender & Feminism	**Optional Modules (Pick 1)** Media & Popular Culture Environmental Sociology and Social Justice Space, Power & Control

Professional Placement Year (120 credits)

Level 6

Semester 1 (Core) Global Sociologies & Inequalities	**Semester 2 (Core)** Intimacies, Communities & Belonging
Optional Modules (Pick 1) Activism, Social Movements & Social Change Fascism, Extremism & Genocide	**Optional Modules (Pick 1)** Music & Society Postcoloniality
Semester One and Two Integrated Research Project (Core)	

Part Time Course Structure

Year 1

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Sociological Imagination (20 credits) Understanding the Urban, Modern City (20 credits)	Sociological Perspectives (20 credits) Exploring Social Research (20 credits)

Year 2

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
People, Power & Public life (20 credits) Contemporary Social Theories (20 credits)	Cultural Sociology (20 credits) Numbers and Power: Data & the Digital Age (20 credits)

Year 3

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Social Problems & Public Policy (20 credits)	Sociological Careers (20 credits)
Optional Modules (Pick 1) Foul Play: Crime, Drugs and Corruption in Sport (20 credits) Citizenship, Empire and Race (20 credits) Gender & Feminism (20 credits)	**Optional Modules (Pick 1)** Media & Popular Culture (20 credits) Environmental Sociology and Social Justice (20 credits) Space, Power & Control (20 credits)

Year 4

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Global Sociologies & Inequalities (20 credits)	Intimacies, Communities & Belonging (20 credits)
Optional Modules (Pick 1) Activism, Social Movements & Social Change (20 credits) Fascism, Extremism & Genocide (20 credits)	**Optional Modules (Pick 1)** Music & Society (20 credits) Postcoloniality (20 credits)

Year 5

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Integrated Research Project (40 credits)	

16 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Level 4

Workload

23% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	276
Directed Learning	172
Private Study	752
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	83.3%
Exam	0%
In-Person	16.7%

Level 5

Workload
20% (estimated) time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	240
Directed Learning	324
Private Study	636
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	83.3%
Exam	0%
In-Person	16.7%

Level 6

Workload

17.7% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	212
Directed Learning	232
Private Study	756
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	83.3%
Exam	0%
In-Person	16.7%