

MRes European Social Policy (THSP-AFM56)

Course and Award Details

Course title	MRes European Social Policy
Route(s)	MRes European Social Policy
Awarding body	University of Bath
Award	Masters Degree not mainly by Research
Award name	Masters - Postgraduate Taught
Course mode of delivery	Full time
Course length	1 years
Entry point	September 2024
Main location of study	University of Bath, Main Campus, Claverton Down
Course-owning school/department	Social & Policy Sciences

Course Description

Course Summary	Immerse yourself in the advanced research techniques and skills needed to analyse data and draw effective insights, with a focus on European social policy.
Course Description	<p>By exploring the in-depth methods and approaches to quantitative and qualitative research, you'll gain the essential skills to progress your studies or become a working researcher in the field of European social policy.</p> <p>You'll enhance your understanding of the techniques used in the analysis of large-scale data and how to effectively present key insights and findings.</p> <p>This course is designed to provide high-quality training to potential doctoral students, as well as essential research skills that are desirable in a number of private and public sector roles. These may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- policy analysts and applied researchers in national, European or international social or public policy organisations- middle and senior-ranking staff in the public, private or voluntary sectors of social policy <p>Learn from experts in their field</p> <p>You'll learn from experts in social policy and European studies research. Their passion, knowledge and research shape their teaching to enhance your learning experience.</p> <p>Gain important career skills</p> <p>We work to provide you with the tools and support to prepare you for employment and further study.</p> <p>This includes advanced quantitative and qualitative research skills, and bibliographic skills; and the use of appropriate technology to undertake tasks that use these skills.</p> <p>Graduate prospects</p> <p>There is increasing demand for high-level quantitative and qualitative research skills</p>

from a wide range of private and public sector recruiters.

Many firms and government departments are now committed to data-driven decision-making, making use of the increased availability of big data.

This course will equip you with a hybrid skill set that combines quantitative, computing and analytical skills with an understanding of European social policy research and enquiry.

This MRes also equips you to go into further study at PhD level.

Contact hours

You are expected to spend approximately 35 hours per week studying, with around 8-10 of those hours being structured classes.

This will be made up of a combination of lectures and seminars.

Delivery methods

The following list provides an indication of some of the learning and teaching methods used on the course:

- Lectures
- Seminars

Assessment summary

You will experience a range of different forms of assessment designed to support your professional development. This will include coursework, project work, examinations, and a dissertation.

We can make reasonable adjustments to assessment procedures for students with disabilities. Take a look at our Disability Service's pages(/professional-services/disability-service/) for information.

Assessment methods

The following list provides an indication of some of the assessment methods used on the course:

- Coursework
- Examinations
- Project output (other than dissertation or report)
- Dissertation

Budgeting statement

You will need to budget at least £100 for the cost of photocopying, printing and binding. You will also need to budget for the cost of textbooks. Some courses involve visits away from campus and you may be required to pay some or all of the costs of travel, accommodation and food and drink. If you're on a placement, you're responsible for your own travel, accommodation and living costs. You should also consider the financial implications if you go on an unpaid or overseas placement. If you are thinking about studying or working abroad as part of your course, you may have to prove that you have a certain amount of money in your bank account to get a visa. Please read the information about planning your finances for your placement year [<https://www.bath.ac.uk/guides/planning-your-finances-for-your-placement-year/>] which includes potential sources of funding, travel insurance, and visas.

Course Assessment Regulations

Applicable Assessment Regulations	Postgraduate Taught Assessment Regulations - https://www.bath.ac.uk/publications/postgraduate-taught-assessment-regulations/
Exemptions from Regulations	Not specified
Course Progression Requirements	Not specified

Course Structure

Year 1

Period

Option

of study	Module code	Module title	Module status	Level	Credits	choice rules
AY	SP00000	Academic integrity training & test	Extra	Foundation (FHEQ level 3)	0	
AY	HS52009	Dissertation	Part 4 Project/Diss Designated Essential Unit	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	40	
AY	HS52015	Principles of social sciences research	Part 4 Taught Compulsory	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	10	
S1	HS52008	Digital methods and data skills for MRes	Part 4 Taught Compulsory	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	5	
S1	HS52016	Introduction to quantitative and qualitative research methods	Part 4 Taught Compulsory	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	10	
S1	SP52092	Comparative public policy and social welfare: cross-national, European and global perspectives	Part 4 Taught Designated Essential Unit	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	5	
S2	SP52115	Research for policy: concepts, methods and values	Part 4 Taught Designated Essential Unit	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	5	
S2	MRes Eur Soc Pol S2 optional units CT					Select 3 modules from this group in this period
	HS52002	Advanced qualitative methods	Part 4 Taught Optional	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	5	
	HS52003	Advanced quantitative methods	Part 4 Taught Optional	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	5	
	HS52010	Independent research essay	Part 4 Taught Optional	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	5	
	SP52105	Knowledge, data and our digital social world	Part 4 Taught Optional	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	5	

ZZ02002 Director of Studies
approved option S2

Part 4
Taught
Optional

Non-credit 5
(FHEQ
level n/a)

Additional rules for module selection

None

Year 2

No units found

The availability of optional units is subject to constraints such as staff availability, minimum and maximum group sizes, and timetabling factors, as well as a student's ability to meet any pre-requisite rules.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, you will be able to

	Knowledge and Understanding	Intellectual Skills	Professional and Transferable Skills	Placement	Study Year Abroad
Review systematically, and evaluate critically, alternative approaches, methodologies and paradigms of research in social and educational enquiry	✓				
Review systematically, and evaluate critically, the application of these approaches in the specific areas of social and educational enquiry in which students are specialising	✓				
Identify and investigate original questions within an active research community	✓	✓			
Develop skills to contribute to research projects using any of the main methodologies of the social sciences	✓	✓	✓		
Critically review the key concepts and theories of welfare, the state and policymaking/implementation	✓	✓			
Critically review the origins, development, current activity	✓	✓			

and organisation of the UK's social welfare institutions

Develop a comparative understanding of social policy - both in historical and cross-national terms

✓

✓

Appraise the role of research in the policy-making process

✓

Develop skills in applying and using research to inform professional knowledge and practice in social policy

✓

Develop skills in informing policy debates and policy formation in social policy

✓

Appreciate the values and interests of others

✓

Critically analyse some of the established theories and concepts of social policy to analyse social needs and particular policy problems and issues

✓



Alternative Courses and Exit Awards

Designated Alternative Courses (DAC) and exit awards

Generic Postgraduate Diploma: 60 ECTS of FHEQ level 7 units passed
Generic Postgraduate Certificate: 30 ECTS of FHEQ level 7 units passed
Please speak to your Director of Studies for further information about possible named exit awards