

MRes Sociology (THSP-APM52)

Course and Award Details

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| Course title | MRes Sociology |
| Route(s) | MRes Sociology |
| Awarding body | University of Bath |
| Award | Masters Degree not mainly by Research |
| Award name | Masters - Postgraduate Taught |
| Course mode of delivery | Part time |
| Course length | 2 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

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| Course Summary | Gain in-depth research skills relevant to sociology. You'll enhance your ability to identify key insights from data using advanced analysis techniques. |
| Course Description | <p>During this course, you'll review and critically evaluate a range of theories, methodologies and paradigms of research that are relevant to sociology. With a focus on quantitative and qualitative methods and approaches, you'll gain the essential skills needed to progress your studies or become a professional sociologist.</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.</p> <p>Learn from experts in their field</p> <p>You'll learn from experts in sociology. 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 from a wide range of private and public sector recruiters.</p> <p>Many firms and government departments are now committed to data-driven decision-making, making use of the increased availability of big data.</p> |

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

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

Our graduates generally go on to work in a wide variety of organisations and roles, such as:

- social research in universities and research institutes, government, business, voluntary organisations and international organisations
- public policy analysis at local, national and international levels
- public information and campaigning in organisations concerned with wellbeing, sustainability and social justice

Contact hours

Students studying the full-time variant of this course 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.

In each semester, __part-time students typically study for approximately 40%-60% of the full-time equivalent__. This usually involves taking 2 or 3 taught units per semester, alongside completing a research project that is submitted at the end of the course.

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:

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

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

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| 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 of study | Module code | Module title | Module status | Level | Credits | Option 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 | |
| S2 | SP52115 | Research for policy: concepts, methods and values | Part 4 Taught Designated Essential Unit | Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7) | 5 | |
| S2 | MRes Sociology PT Y1 S2 optional units CT | | | | | Select 1 module 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 | |
| Additional rules for module selection | | | | | | |
| None | | | | | | |

Year 2

| Period of study | Module code | Module title | Module status | Level | Credits | Option choice rules |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|---|--------------------------------|---------|--|
| S1 | SP52119 | Theoretical issues in sociology | Part 4 Taught Designated Essential Unit | Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7) | 5 | |
| S2 | MRes Sociology PT Y2 S2 optional units CT PG | | | | | Select 10 credits 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 | |
| Additional rules for module selection | | | | | | |
| None | | | | | | |

Year 3

| Period of study | Module code | Module title | Module status | Level | Credits | Option choice rules |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|-------|---------|---------------------|
| No data found | | | | | | |
| Additional rules for module selection | | | | | | |
| None | | | | | | |

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 | Professional | Study |
|-----------|--------------|-------|
| | | |

| | Knowledge and Understanding | Intellectual Skills | Transferable Skills | Placement | Study Year Abroad |
|---|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Review systematically alternative epistemological positions that provide the context for theory construction, research design and the selection of appropriate analytical techniques | ✓ | | | | |
| Critically assess the major paradigms within which sociology is conducted, the relationship between them, and how they relate to other social science disciplines. | ✓ | | | | |
| Critically appraise historical, theoretical and philosophical issues underlying the discipline of sociology | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| Appreciate the social nature of the relationship between individuals, groups and social institutions | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Critically evaluate concepts of objectivity, subjectivity and reflexivity in sociological research; and be able to apply this understanding to the conduct and interpretation of research | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| Interpret and evaluate the outcome of research on sociological topics | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Critically review the methods for the analysis of qualitative data, including conversational and discourse analysis, textual analysis and content analysis | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Develop skills related to computer packages, spreadsheets, graphical packages, statistical packages, and packages for analysing qualitative data | | ✓ | ✓ | | |

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| Appraise the connections between theory and practice; and between research and professional knowledge in sociology | ✓ |
| Critically assess the relevance of sociological work to issues of social, public and civic policy | ✓ |
| Appreciate the values and interests of others | ✓ |
| Appreciate the format and mechanisms for the dissemination of sociological research through professional bodies, including conference papers, papers and journal articles, and the process of peer-review | ✓ |

Alternative Courses and Exit Awards

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| Designated Alternative Courses (DAC) and exit awards | <p>Generic Postgraduate Diploma: 60 ECTS of FHEQ level 7 units passed</p> <p>Generic Postgraduate Certificate: 30 ECTS of FHEQ level 7 units passed</p> <p>Please speak to your Director of Studies for further information about possible named exit awards</p> |
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