

# BSc(Hons) Sociology and Social Policy with professional placement (UHSP-AKB36)

## Course and Award Details

<b>Course title</b>	BSc(Hons) Sociology and Social Policy with professional placement
<b>Route(s)</b>	BSc(Hons) Sociology and Social Policy with professional placement
<b>Awarding body</b>	University of Bath
<b>Award</b>	Undergraduate Degree with Honours
<b>Award name</b>	Bachelor with Honours
<b>Course mode of delivery</b>	Thick sandwich (Full-time on campus)
<b>Course length</b>	4 years
<b>Entry point</b>	September 2024
<b>Main location of study</b>	University of Bath, Main Campus, Claverton Down
<b>Course-owning school/department</b>	Social & Policy Sciences

## Course Description

**Course Summary** Explore new and creative ways to tackle key social challenges. Learn theory and methods to understand, critically examine, and influence organisations.

**Course Description** This course will appeal if you want to combine an understanding of the social world from different perspectives with a rigorous analysis of policy responses to social problems. You will examine theory and techniques from sociology alongside the analytical focus of social policy.

You'll explore areas such as health, welfare and poverty, race and discrimination, inequality and exclusion. By the end of the course, you'll have an understanding of how social institutions develop and operate and how they might be improved.

In Year 1, you'll be introduced to social theory, ideas about the state and social change, and the central traditions of social research. You'll select an option in either criminology or international development.

In Year 2, you'll expand and deepen your understanding of contemporary social theory. You will explore the political processes that underpin policy-making practices and develop data analysis techniques. You'll choose from a range of options in sociology, social policy, criminology and international development.

In your final year, you'll do your dissertation. This will demonstrate the knowledge and skills you'll develop. You'll also choose from a range of optional units from across the social sciences. These will allow you to build upon the theoretical understanding you'll gain during Years 1 and 2 and apply it to contemporary sociological issues.

The flexibility of this course will allow you to create a degree that's tailored to your interests and potential future career.

Informed teaching to advance your learning

You'll learn from teaching staff with diverse backgrounds and expertise in different areas of sociology and social policy. Their passion, knowledge and research activities

shape their teaching. This combination aims to enhance your learning experience.

Develop your professional skills

We work to provide you with the tools and support to prepare you for employment and further study. These include:

- critical and analytical thinking
- research skills
- skills related to generating and analysing sociological data ranging from ethnography to computational techniques
- presentation and communication skills
- project management
- team working

You will also benefit from expert guest speakers from the public, commercial or third sector.

## Contact hours

Contact hours

Timetabled contact hours, which may be made up of laboratory sessions, lectures, practical sessions, seminars, tutorials and workshops, vary throughout your course and between courses but are typically between 8 and 12 hours a week in your first year.

Our teaching for this course is delivered through in-person learning on campus, supported by high quality online provision. A small proportion of these contact hours may be delivered online, with the significant majority taught on campus. This may be supplemented by additional activities such as a small number of online learning sessions (not live), skills development sessions, and personal tutorials.

The amount of timetabled sessions on campus in later years may vary based on the options you choose, with a greater emphasis on independent learning. Project and dissertation units will generally have fewer scheduled sessions to allow you time for your independent work - this may also mean the number of hours of timetabled sessions each week will vary within a year.

Independent learning

In addition to timetabled contact hours, you are expected to undertake independent learning and assessment activities. Typically, this might be around 23 to 32 hours per week in your first year, and include individual research, reading journal articles and books, working on individual and group projects, preparing coursework assignments, presentations, or revising for exams. After your first year, the emphasis on independent learning becomes greater, for example, you may do a final year project in the final year. You'll be expected to work both on your own and as part of a group.

## Delivery methods

Laboratory sessions  
Lectures  
Practical sessions  
Seminars  
Tutorials  
Workshops

## Assessment summary

You will be assessed in a range of methods designed to develop and test your skills and knowledge.

10% to 25% of your course will be assessed through examinations.

75% to 90% will be assessed through essays, reports, and presentations.

The balance of examinations and coursework may depend on the optional units you choose.

The final degree classification is determined by your second and final year marks and each contributes 32% and 68% respectively.

You will primarily be assessed as an individual, but may also be assessed as part of a

group.

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**

Report  
Examinations  
Presentations  
Coursework  
Essay

**Placement/Study Year  
Abroad details**

Doing a professional placement in Year 3 allows you to apply what you've learnt in a practical context. You'll find out about the organisation you join and how it works, while learning more about potential future careers. Our students have worked in the UK and overseas within commercial, public or third sector organisations. Some have been offered graduate roles following placements.

You'll develop skills like planning, problem-solving, decision making and project management. You can learn how to work with others in a work environment and manage your time effectively.

Employers often value placements, so you could gain an advantage in the job market.

Previous students have done placements with organisations in the public and private sectors. These include:

- AXA Investment Managers
- Coca Cola
- Home Office
- Office for National Statistics (ONS)

Placement opportunities can't be guaranteed but you will receive tailored support from our dedicated placement team to help you secure a placement.

**Careers and  
professional  
development**

Prepare for your future career

Many of our social sciences graduates have gone on to work as social and policy researchers, civil servants, international consultants, journalists, and accountants.

They've gone on to work in:

- government departments
- social enterprises and charities
- European and international agencies and organisations
- Social care and family services
- international development
- public policy consultancy

**Course Assessment Regulations**

<b>Applicable Assessment Regulations</b>	Undergraduate assessment regulations - <a href="https://www.bath.ac.uk/publications/undergraduate-assessment-regulations/">https://www.bath.ac.uk/publications/undergraduate-assessment-regulations/</a>
<b>Exemptions from Regulations</b>	N
<b>Weighting of each Study Year</b>	Stage 1: 0% Stage 2: 32% Stage 3: 0% Final Stage: 68%
<b>Is this Course Standalone or Co-Existent?</b>	SA

## 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	SP12002	The making of modern society	Part 1 Stage 1 Compulsory	Certificate (FHEQ level 4)	10	
AY	SP12003	Social problems, social change and the state	Part 1 Stage 1 Compulsory	Certificate (FHEQ level 4)	10	
S1	SP12001	Becoming a social scientist 1	Part 1 Stage 1 Compulsory	Certificate (FHEQ level 4)	10	
S1	SP12009	Understanding social change	Part 1 Stage 1 Compulsory	Certificate (FHEQ level 4)	10	
S2	SP12010	Becoming a social scientist 2	Part 1 Stage 1 Compulsory	Certificate (FHEQ level 4)	10	

**FHEQ level 4 - Title** Year 1 Options

**FHEQ level 4 - Total credits in this study yr** 10

**FHEQ level4 - Overview of options in this study yr** In Year 1, you will study 10 credits of optional units in semester two. You will select one of two 10 credit criminology options, or two 5 credit international development options.

## Year 2

Period of study	Module code	Module title	Module status	Level	Credits	Option choice rules
AY	SP22022	Contemporary sociological theory	Part 2 Stage 2 Compulsory	Intermediate (FHEQ level 5)	10	
AY	SP22027	Policy making: politics and practices	Part 2 Stage 2 Compulsory	Intermediate (FHEQ level 5)	20	
S1	SP22019	Qualitative analysis: the power of immersion	Part 2 Stage 2 Compulsory	Intermediate (FHEQ level 5)	10	
S2	SP22020	Quantitative data analysis: the power of statistics	Part 2 Stage 2 Compulsory	Intermediate (FHEQ level 5)	10	

**Title** Year 2 Options

**Total credits in this study yr** 10

**Overview of options in this study yr** In Year 2, you will study 10 credits of optional units. This will either be an all-year 10 credit unit or a 5 credit unit in each semester and will cover the areas of international development, sociology, social policy or economics.

Topics may include:  
- social inequalities  
- conflict and security  
- race and racism  
- poverty and population

### Year 3

Period of study	Module code	Module title	Module status	Level	Credits	Option choice rules
AY	SP22061	SPS professional placement	Part 2 Stage 3 Compulsory	Intermediate (FHEQ level 5)	60	

**Placements and Years Abroad - Title** Professional placement

**Placements and Years Abroad - Total credits** 60

**Placements and Years Abroad - Overview** You can choose to go on a professional placement. This is an opportunity to enhance your CV, gain valuable new skills, or try out a career option.

### Year 4

Period of study	Module code	Module title	Module status	Level	Credits	Option choice rules
AY	SP32041	Sociology and social policy dissertation	Part 3 Stage 4 Compulsory	Honours (FHEQ level 6)	20	
AY	SP32043	Policy analysis for professional practice	Part 3 Stage 4 Compulsory	Honours (FHEQ level 6)	10	
AY	SP32044	Sociology and beyond	Part 3 Stage 4 Compulsory	Honours (FHEQ level 6)	10	

**Title** Final Year Options

**Total credits in this study yr** 20

**Overview of options in this study yr** In your final year, you will study 20 credits of optional units. This will consist of either two all-year 10 credit options or two 5 credit options in each semester. As in Year 2, these will cover a range of areas such as international development, sociology, social policy or economics.

- Topics may include:
- conflict and human rights
  - humanitarianism
  - lobbying
  - experts and evidence

## 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
Outline and assess the relative merits of key concepts, positions and debates in sociological theory or social policy	✓	✓			
Understand and explain the origins and development of welfare institutions across the UK and beyond, including the social and demographic contexts in which they have operated	✓				
Apply sociological concepts and theory to examine a range of phenomena related to social policy such as institutions,		✓			

organisations and welfare				
Apply sociological approaches to appraise critically evidence and arguments used in social policy research and practice		✓		✓
Undertake individually and/or collaboratively investigations of social questions, issues and problems by employing different techniques of data collection, management and analysis, including secondary data and other information, using appropriate software		✓		✓
Build structured arguments combining insights from sociology and social policy and communicate them in formats/media suitable for a range of different audiences		✓		✓
Explain relationships between sociology as a discipline with social policy as a field of study		✓		
Marshall, interpret, and synthesise evidence about social phenomena and social policy issues		✓		
Recognise and assess the ethical implications of sociological and social policy research	✓	✓		
Design, undertake and complete a small-scale independent research project comprising a set of interrelated components that seeks to contribute to sociological and/or social policy knowledge or understanding	✓	✓		✓
Apply knowledge and skills in a work environment				✓

## Alternative Courses and Exit Awards

### Designated Alternative

UHSP-AFB36: BSc(Hons) Sociology and Social Policy is the designated alternative

**Courses (DAC) and exit awards**

course (DAC).  
Transfer to DAC possible from year 3 (placement/study year).  
Exit awards:  
Diploma of Higher Education  
Certificate of Higher Education

Generated: 14/Aug/2024 10:41:33