



Programme Specification

GENERAL INFORMATION	
Programme title	BA (Hons) Sport and Social Sciences/From 19/20 students can opt for title BSc Sport Ma...
Awarding Institution//Body	University of Bath
Teaching Institution	University of Bath
Programme accredited by (including date of accreditation)	n/a
Subject Benchmark Statement*Subject Benchmark Statement:	Hospitality, Sport, Leisure & Tourism (2008)
Date of Specification preparation/revision	
Applicable to cohorts	
Programme Approved by	

Synopsis and academic coherence of programme

With a degree in Sport & Social Sciences from the University of Bath students will develop a strong understanding of the relationships between sport, health, physical activity and the social context. The objective of the programme is to allow students to engage the heterogeneous body of theories and practices associated with a critical, social science oriented, investigation of sport, physical activity and society.

To gain a practical appreciation of the key theoretical concepts and principles that underpin sport and the physically-active human body and address the complex relationships with the social context, students study an interdisciplinary programme. This includes theories and methods drawn from cultural studies, sociology, history, media studies, psychology, management, education, health, social policy, and, development studies. Throughout the programme, students gain a critical appreciation of the significance of Sport as an effective vehicle for critically examining issues in the context of the wider social, economic, and political environments. The programme also reviews sport and physical activity as diverse experiential forms through which physically active human bodies are organized, regulated, trained and consumed. The programme allows students to engage in interdisciplinary research that explores the articulations between sport and physically active bodies with topics such as gender, sexuality and the body; class, race and ethnicity; post-colonialism, diaspora, and globalization; identity, subjectivity, and representation; community and justice; management and policy; international development and democracy; motivation and cognition; education; health and well-being; mediation; ideology and power/knowledge; and technology, coaching and performance. Students understand and explore a broad range of contemporary sport phenomena, issues and experiences in a manner that seeks to make connections between the macro/micro, the structure/agent, and the socio-historical/social psychological realms of existence.

Underpinned by the theoretical perspectives noted above, several options exist throughout the programme which allow students to refine their studies into areas of specific interest or relevance in relation to their personal or career goals. Supplemented by a core research strand, students can focus their studies (through optional unit choices) in the following areas: Sports Coaching; Sports Management, Policy and Development; Physical Education and Sport Health and the Body.

The complexity of the relationships between sport, physical activity and society demand a synthesis of pertinent disciplinary knowledge, theories and methods appropriate to the research question under scrutiny. The programme is designed to blend theory with practice and learning takes place through a variety of methods, from hands-on sessions to seminars, lectures and workshops. Unit assessment includes coursework, presentations, posters, portfolio work and examinations.

This programme is unique given its focus on the social sciences of sport and physical activity and is in line with shifts in subject benchmarks and external industry and sectoral shifts. Further, the programme complements additional offerings in sport at Bath (for example, Sports Performance and Sport & Exercise Science). It sets out to educate students through a social science approach to sport and physical activity in order that they can follow careers in coaching, coach education, teaching, sports development, management, sports policy, the sports industry generally (e.g. sports marketing, promotions, advertising, sponsorship, event management, sports tourism), health related professions, and/or research. Students acquire a strong knowledge and understanding of theory and they will be capable of applying this knowledge, challenging current practices promoting the progression of the field of study and influencing national and local policy, economies and social relations. The programme produces graduates capable of original and innovative research, and able to facilitate interdisciplinary co-operation in research.

The BA Sport & Social Sciences degree extends the sport-related curriculum offered by the University of Bath and the related academic community, and our sporting partners. It serves a niche in the sector and diversifies the range of undergraduate opportunities at the University of Bath to meet the aspirations of a wide student group. In addition, the undergraduate programme is in line with the strategic aims of the Department of Education and forms part of the stable of courses offered the Sport, Physical Activity & Research Group based in the Department. This group works closely with a number of organisations based at the Sports Training Village and within the UK as a whole (e.g. The English Institute of Sport, The British Olympic Association, Sky Sports, Octagon CSI, City Academy Bristol, GB Paralympics, UK Sport, Sport England & Wales). The philosophy of the programme is consistent with the Mission Statement of the University, embracing education for the 'real world' through close association with industry and commerce, extension of the arts and the provision of professional education. Further, the programme is in accord with the University's widening participation agenda, being accessible to students with AAB equivalences (such as Distinctions at BTEC) and mixed qualifications.

Educational aims of the programme	
<p>The broad aims of the BA in Sport & Social Sciences are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide the students with a critical understanding of the relationships between sport and physically activity bodies with a particular set of complex social, economic, political and technological relationships that comprise the social context. • Develop a critical understanding of the structure of sport within contemporary society. • Develop a critical understanding of how physically active and trained bodies are organized, regulated, and consumed (prefigured on particular ability, class, ethnic, gender, generational, national, racial, and/or sexual norms and differences). • Develop investigative and analytical skills to facilitate effective research. • To train the next generation of sport and physical active scholars who will possess the research skills appropriate to the demands of graduate schools within major research universities. • Provide students with the understanding, knowledge and skills to equip them for pursuing a career in coaching, teaching, sports development, sports policy, leisure, recreation, management, 'the sports industry' and other sport, physical activity and health-related professions. • Develop the students' competence in applying theoretical knowledge to the professional practice. • Develop critical, analytical problem-based learning skills and the transferable skills to prepare the student for graduate employment or further study. • Develop the critical and analytical powers of the student. • Enhance the development of the students' interpersonal skills. • Assist the student to develop the skills required for both autonomous practice and team-work. <p><i>Teaching learning and assessment methods used to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated through: lectures, seminars and tutorials, student-led seminars, virtual learning environments, practical experience and problem-based learning scenarios.</i></p> <p>Assessment: written unseen examinations, coursework, oral and poster based presentations, research reports, critical reflective self-assessment.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge & Understanding: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interdisciplinary theoretical foundations of critical, social science oriented, understanding of sport, physical activity and society. • Comprehensive critical comprehension of the relationships between sport, physical activity and the social context. • Theoretical and contextual basis of learning processes. • Understanding of sport as a conduit for critical examination of social, political and economic contingencies. • Fundamental concepts of education, applied psychology, management policy and development theories, academic understandings of the body, sociology of sport relevant to the student becoming an active coach, teacher, health worker, policy worker, development officer or employee in the sports industry. • Historical and contemporary perspectives of sport and physical activity. • The context of elite and community sport provision and participation. • Management principles related to the sports industry. • Understanding the articulations between education, communities, sport development, health, the body, and physical activity in relation to appropriate career pathways. • Understanding the articulations between education, communities, sport development, health, the body, and physical activity in relation to broader, society-level concerns.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intellectual Skills: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and apply the skills needed for academic study and enquiry. • Evaluate research critically and assess a variety of information sources. • Synthesise information from a number of sources in order to gain a coherent understanding of theory and practice. • Apply strategies for appropriate selection of relevant information from a wide source and large interdisciplinary body of knowledge. • Utilise problem solving and metacognitive skills. • Analyse and evaluate past, current and innovative practices in coach education. • Explore a variety of relationships and environments relevant to understanding sport and physical activity in relation to the wider social context.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional Practical Skills: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake competent, safe, evaluative, reflective and effective relevant professional practices. • Communicate effectively with learners, performers, coaches, coach educators, administrators and other professionals in sport. • Develop effective and appropriate teacher/learner, coach/athlete relationships which facilitate learning. • Apply pedagogical and other forms of knowledge to understand the stresses and mental processes underpinning performance and participation and so be able to direct motivation in relation to learning, performance and participation. • Effectively and safely apply transferable skills to the management of individuals and groups/teams, with continual analysis and evaluation of outcome and appropriate modification or intervention. • Undertake detailed and informed long- and short- term planning. • Reflect upon new technology and innovation and its impact on understanding of the relationships between sport, the body, health, physical activity and society. • Effectively and efficiently apply principles of sports policy-making and sports development, within a variety of environments. • Recognise and understand competent and effective management skills in relation the wider sports industry.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transferable/Key Skills: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate effectively with a wide range of individuals using a variety of means. • Lead others confidently and competently, and work effectively as part of a team. • Evaluate personal academic and professional performance. • Utilise problem-solving skills in a variety of theoretical and practical situations. • Manage effectively and respond to changing demands. • Take responsibility for personal and professional learning and development. • Manage time, prioritise workloads, and utilise long- and short-term planning skills. • Understand career opportunities and challenges ahead and begin to plan a career path. • Information management and technology skills. • Apply technical competence to the development and utilisation of a range of teaching and learning resources. • Work independently and as part of a team to identify and achieve clear goals.
Summary of assessment and progression regulations	
NFA - fully compliant	
Progression Regulations and Awards	
<p>The BA Sport & Social Sciences programme is fully compliant with the University's New Framework for Assessment: Assessment Regulations (NFAAR). The NFAAR describes the rules for progression from one stage of the programme to the next (including supplementary assessment, and the extent of failure that can be condoned) as well as for the award of degrees. Students taking the BA Sport & Social Sciences programme will be assessed according to these rules; further information about the NFAAR is available at http://www.bath.ac.uk/registry/nfa/index.htm.</p>	
Details of Work Placements Requirements / Work Based Learning / Industrial Training Requirements	
<p>Students opting for a professional placement between the second and final year of the sandwich programme may undertake work across a variety of employment possibilities. Ideally a placement would relate to the specialised pathway being taken through the programme and will relate to the proposed Dissertation project (though not exclusively) for the final year of the programme, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applied Pedagogy & Practice: Coaching (e.g. coaching within professional football clubs, private organisations, leisure centres). • Applied Pedagogy & Practice: Teaching (e.g. teaching within state and/or independent schools). • Advanced Issues in Sport Policy, Management & Development (e.g. working as sports development officers in Local Authorities or professional sports clubs; commercial and public sports/leisure centres; undertaking commercial event management, sports marketing, athlete representation). • Advanced Issues in Physical Activity, Health & the Body (e.g. working with local authorities in inclusion initiatives, working with Paralympics GB, with charities and organisations whose remit is to increase active living (e.g. Youth Sports Trust). <p>Organisations which potentially provide opportunities for placements are updated on the Placements webpage available at: http://www.bath.ac.uk/education/undergraduate/coached/#placements</p> <p>Students must present a detailed report on their placement work at the beginning of the Final Year. The student performance will be assessed as satisfactory or unsatisfactory on the basis of the quality of the report, the visiting tutor's assessment and an assessment from the employer.</p>	
Details of Study Abroad Requirements	
Details of Professional Accreditation	
Admissions Criteria including APL/APEL arrangements	
<p>Candidates must be able to satisfy the general admissions requirements of the University of Bath and Department of Education. This will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School/College leavers who are at least 17 years on the 1st October in the year of admission • Five grade 'C' GCSE passes, or equivalent, which should include Maths, English and a Science <p>Plus one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Level offers will be at least AAB or 320 points average (not including General Studies). • International Baccalaureate 35+ points. • BTEC National Diploma in a related discipline with a Distinction profile (DDD) and distinctions in all units. • Irish Leaving Certificate: minimum of Cs in all subjects, with ABB in at least three subjects. • Scottish Highers: minimum of Cs in all subjects, with BBB in at least three subjects. Advanced Highers AA. • Welsh Baccalaureate: pass the Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced Diploma plus two A levels at grades A and B. 	

Overseas students are encouraged to apply and will be considered on an individual basis.

Students with appropriate qualifications and previous relevant working experience are encouraged to apply and will be considered on an individual basis.

<http://www.bath.ac.uk/study/ug/prospectus/subject/sport-social-science/entry-requirements>

Details of Support Available to Students

Department and Programme Specific Support Information

Support specific to this programme includes:

- Student handbook, unit outlines and unit descriptions.
- Programme of induction activities (including additional referencing/plagiarism input from the Education Librarian).
- Library and study skills packages including the CPD unit which builds in support for academic reading and writing skills.
- Extensive library resources and other learning resources and facilities at the University of Bath.
- All units supported by Moodle based resources
- Student email and personal access to tutorial staff including course director.
- Placement Officer dedicated to supporting students on professional placements.
- Academic liaison staff make regular, planned visits to professional placements to support and collaborate with students and placement supervisors
- Extensive sporting and coaching facilities and resources: English Institute of Sport South West, Performance Sports Programme and 5 National Governing Bodies of Sport offices on site.

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