



## Programme Specification

GENERAL INFORMATION	
<i>Programme title</i>	BSc (Hons) Sociology
<i>Awarding Institution//Body</i>	University of Bath
<i>Teaching Institution</i>	University of Bath
<i>Programme accredited by (including date of accreditation)</i>	n/a
<i>Subject Benchmark Statement*Subject Benchmark Statement:</i>	Sociology <a href="http://www.qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/Documents/Sociology07.pdf">http://www.qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/Documents/Sociology07.pdf</a>
<i>Date of Specification preparation/revision</i>	
<i>Applicable to cohorts</i>	
<i>Programme Approved by</i>	

### Synopsis and academic coherence of programme

This programme engages students in the study of the theory and practice of Sociology. The degree seeks to impart the abilities and skills necessary for a graduate in Sociology. The degree in Sociology therefore seeks to provide a balanced programme that blends the awareness of key conceptual and theoretical debates with an understanding of appropriate methodological strategies for gaining sociological knowledge. The four year degree adds a placement year that allows students experiential learning opportunities and possibility of applying their sociological skills to a variety of real-life settings.

The degree is studied as a three-year and four-year full-time programme. The 3-year full-time programme will be 100% University-based and study is undertaken at three levels (one for each year of study for the three-year programme). The programme is arranged on a semester basis (6 x 15 weeks). The programme is divided into study modules called units. Each unit has a credit value of 3 - 12, depending on the length of study and academic content, and according to subject and nature of learning. Each 6 credit unit represents 100 hours of student learning made up of lectures, tutorials, seminars, practical classes and workshops. Each level has an equivalent of 60 credits. The 4-year degree adds a one year placement to be taken in the third year of study.

Innovative features of the programme include: the combination of specialist input from the fields of Sociology with options drawn from a range of cognate disciplines.

Information about Designated Essential Units (DEUs) and Designated Alternative Programmes (DAPs), and the definitions for parts and stages of programmes, are also available in the NFAAR, Appendix 2: Definitions. Further information about the NFAAR is available at <http://www.bath.ac.uk/registry/nfa/index.htm>

### Educational aims of the programme

1. To develop critical and analytical powers of the student in general as well as in the context of the specified discipline.
2. To develop critical, analytical problem-based learning skills and the transferable skills to prepare the student for graduate employment or further study.
3. To enhance the development of the students' interpersonal skills.
4. To develop research skills with particular reference to those skills relating to investigation and analysis.
5. To provide the student with opportunities for collaborative learning with others.
6. To assist the student to develop the skills required for both autonomous and team work

- Knowledge & Understanding:

	<p><i>Teaching learning and assessment methods used to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated:</i></p> <p>Lead lectures, tutor-led seminars and tutorials, student-led seminars, IT practical sessions, practical workshops and problem-based learning scenarios.</p> <p><i>Assessment:</i> written unseen examinations, coursework, practical presentations (group and individual), placement report, research reports, dissertation.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Knowledge of the theoretical basis of learning processes and effective learning</li> <li>2. Knowledge of the fundamental concepts of sociology relevant to the student becoming an effective practitioner</li> <li>3. Knowledge of the theoretical basis of sociological perspectives</li> <li>4. Knowledge of historical and contemporary perspective of sociology</li> <li>5. Knowledge of the current developments in practice and research in a European and world context</li> <li>6. Knowledge of the relationship between sociology and other cognate disciplines</li> </ol> <p>For placement programmes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. to understand how these knowledge outcomes apply to work based situations.</li> </ol>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intellectual Skills:</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To think creatively and analytically.</li> <li>2. To communicate an argument.</li> <li>3. To evaluate others' arguments and research.</li> <li>4. To learn independently and be able to assess own learning needs (i.e. identify strengths and improve weaknesses in methods of learning and studying).</li> <li>5. To critically evaluate and assess research and evidence as well as a variety of other information.</li> <li>6. To gather information, data, research and literature from a number of different sources (i.e. library, web-based, archives etc.).</li> <li>7. To select appropriate and relevant information from a wide source and large body of knowledge.</li> <li>8. To synthesise information from a number of sources in order to gain a coherent understanding.</li> <li>9. To utilise problem solving skills.</li> <li>10. To analyse and evaluate innovative practices in students' relevant degree discipline.</li> <li>11. To explore a variety of relationships and environments relevant to learning and practising within the context of the students' degree discipline.</li> </ol>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professional Practical Skills:</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To reflect upon new technology and innovation within social sciences and to make decisions regarding legitimacy, reliability and effectiveness.</li> <li>2. To effectively and efficiently apply principles of sociological/social policy analysis within a variety of environments.</li> <li>3. To develop sensitivity to the values and interests of others.</li> </ol>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transferable/Key Skills:</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To communicate effectively at all levels and using different means (i.e. written, verbal, visual).</li> <li>2. To construct a bibliography of varying complexity.</li> <li>3. To develop information management skills (i.e. information and computing technology).</li> <li>4. To lead others confidently and competently, and work effectively as part of a team.</li> <li>5. To reflect upon his/her own academic and professional performance and take responsibility for personal and professional learning and development.</li> <li>6. To solve problems in a variety of situations.</li> <li>7. To manage time effectively and respond to changing demands.</li> <li>8. To prioritise workloads, and utilise long- and short-term planning skills.</li> <li>9. To understand career opportunities and challenges ahead and begin to plan a career path.</li> </ol>
<b>Summary of assessment and progression regulations</b>	
NFA - fully compliant	
<b>Progression Regulations and Awards</b>	
<p>3 year taught programme (3 year)</p> <p>3 year taught programme plus 1 year placement (4 year)</p> <p>The Sociology 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 programme will be assessed according to these rules; further information about the NFAAR is available at <a href="http://www.bath.ac.uk/registry/nfa/index.htm">http://www.bath.ac.uk/registry/nfa/index.htm</a>.</p> <p>The Designated Alternative Programme for this degree is the Social Science programme. Consideration of transfer to the Social Science programme as a DAP will be given according to Appendix 33 of the Assessment Regulations (NFAAR).</p>	

#### **Details of Work Placements Requirements / Work Based Learning / Industrial Training Requirements**

A full-time work placement is required for the 4-year degree. In some cases this will be a paid placement in external organisations. In other cases the placement can be either unpaid in a number of commercial and non-commercial settings or undertaken in the University with the student taking a research topic under the close supervision of a member of staff. In all cases the content of the year should provide experiential and practical learning opportunities related to the key themes raised by the Sociology programme. The placement is assessed in various ways (including placement visits, a ten-week placement report, a paper presented to the mid-year placement conference, a final placement report). These are required for the successful completion of the placement but do not contribute to the final degree classification.

#### **Details of Study Abroad Requirements**

#### **Details of Professional Accreditation**

#### **Admissions Criteria including APL/APEL arrangements**

GCSE (or equivalent qualifications) requirements:

- GCSE English Language and Mathematics at Grade C or above

GCE (or equivalent qualifications) requirements:

- Typical Offer: AAB

Applicants with equivalent qualifications including the Access to Higher Education Diploma, relevant BTECs and many overseas qualifications are welcomed.

Detailed information at:

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

#### **English Language Qualifications:**

We would normally require all applicants whose first language is not English to provide evidence of English language proficiency and applicants may be asked to take an English language test. The minimum requirement is: IELTS 7.0 with no subject less than 7.0.

Further information at: <http://www.bath.ac.uk/study/ug/apply/englishlanguage/>

#### **Details of Support Available to Students**

University of Bath students attending programmes of study at the Claverton Campus are usually encouraged to stay in University halls of residence during their first year and will be supported in their transition into University life and study by Resident Tutors. These are postgraduate students or staff who live in the halls of residence and are responsible for the general welfare, health and safety and discipline of student residents.

Undergraduate students will be allocated a Personal Tutor, postgraduate taught students a course manager and postgraduate research students a supervisor who are responsible for monitoring and supporting the academic progress and general welfare of their students.

Staff in these roles will be able to respond to many of the questions and concerns raised by their students. However, there is also a range of specialist student support services that will offer both information and advice to support these staff working with their students, as well as take referrals to work more directly with the students. Students can also self-refer to these services.

These services can provide information, advice and support in relation to accommodation, emotional difficulties, assessment of needs and provision of support relating to disability, student funding, general welfare, academic problems, student discipline and complaints, careers, international students, spiritual matters, part time work, security and personal safety. The Students' Union can also provide advocacy for students. More information about these services can be accessed via: <http://www.bath.ac.uk/students/support/>.

There are also Medical and Dental Centres, and a Chaplaincy on campus that are very experienced in meeting the needs of a student population, as well as a University nursery and vacation play scheme to provide childcare for older children during the school holidays.

#### **Department and Programme Specific Support Information**

From the online prospectus:

<http://www.bath.ac.uk/study/ug/prospectus/subject/sociology>

**Business Support Systems** - part of Computing Services