GENERAL INFORMATION

Awarding Institution//Body	University of Bath
Teaching Institution*	University of Bath
Validated/Franchised (if appropriate)	N/A
Programme accredited by (including date of accreditation)*	N/A
Programme approved by (including date & minute number of Senate)	Senate: 15 January 1969 (S722) Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences Board of Studies (20th November 2002)
Final award	BSc (Hons) Students leaving an undergraduate programme prematurely may be eligible for a Certificate of Higher Education (www.bath.ac.uk/quality/documents/certhe.pdf) or a Diploma of Higher Education (www.bath.ac.uk/quality/documents/diplhe.pdf)
Programme title*	Sociology
UCAS code (if applicable)	L300 (3 year) L304 (4 year)
Subject Benchmark Statement*	Sociology http://www.qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/Documents/Sociology07.pdf
Intended level of completed programme (in line with FHEQ)*	6
Duration of programme & mode of study*	3 year taught programme (3 year) 3 year taught programme plus 1 year placement (4 year)
Date of Specification preparation/revision*	October 2008 / March 2012/June 2014/October 2014
Applicable to cohorts (eg. for students commencing in September 2011 or 20011/12-2012/138/09 – 2009/10)*	From 2014/15

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*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.		

*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

*Intended learning outcomes (including teaching, learning and assessment methods, specifying those applicable for interim awards where appropriate)

Teaching learning and assessment methods used to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated:
Lead lectures, tutor-led seminars and tutorials, student-led seminars, IT practical sessions, practical workshops and problem-based learning scenarios.

Assessment: written unseen examinations, coursework, practical presentations (group and individual), placement report, research reports, dissertation.

➢ Knowledge & Understanding:	1	Knowledge of the theoretical basis of learning processes and effective learning
	2	Knowledge of the fundamental concepts of sociology relevant to the student becoming an effective practitioner
	3	Knowledge of the theoretical basis of sociological perspectives
	4	Knowledge of historical and contemporary perspective of sociology
	5	Knowledge of the current developments in practice and research in a European and world context
	6	Knowledge of the relationship between sociology and other cognate disciplines
	7	For placement programmes: to understand how these knowledge outcomes apply to work based situations.
➢ Intellectual Skills:	1	To think creatively and analytically.
	2	To communicate an argument.
	3	To evaluate others' arguments and research.
	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).
	5	To critically evaluate and assess research and evidence as well as a variety of other information.
	6	To gather information, data, research and literature from a number of different sources (i.e. library, web-based, archives etc.).
	7	To select appropriate and relevant information from a wide source and large body of knowledge.
	8	To synthesise information from a number of

	sources in order to gain a coherent understanding.
	9 To utilise problem solving skills.
	10 To analyse and evaluate innovative practices in students' relevant degree discipline.
	11 To explore a variety of relationships and environments relevant to learning and practising within the context of the students' degree discipline.
➢ Professional Practical Skills:	1 To reflect upon new technology and innovation within social sciences and to make decisions regarding legitimacy, reliability and effectiveness.
	2 To effectively and efficiently apply principles of sociological/social policy analysis within a variety of environments.
	3 To develop sensitivity to the values and interests of others.
➢ Transferable/Key Skills:	1 To communicate effectively at all levels and using different means (i.e. written, verbal, visual).
	2 To construct a bibliography of varying complexity.
	3 To develop information management skills (i.e. information and computing technology).
	4 To lead others confidently and competently, and work effectively as part of a team.
	5 To reflect upon his/her own academic and professional performance and take responsibility for personal and professional learning and development.
	6 To solve problems in a variety of situations.
	7 To manage time effectively and respond to changing demands.
	8 To prioritise workloads, and utilise long- and short-term planning skills.
	9 To understand career opportunities and challenges ahead and begin to plan a career path

Structure and content of the programme (including potential stopping off points)

*(Append the relevant **programme description (PD) form(s)** and cross reference below)*

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 (minimum 30 weeks) 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.

The study units within the programme, the levels at which they are studied and the credit ratings of the units for the award of BSc (Hons) Sociology, with or without placement, are detailed in the programme descriptions (see the Appendix). The tables in the programme descriptions describe how the programme is structured in terms of the New Framework for

Assessment (NFAAR).

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

Details of work placements / work-based learning / industrial training / study abroad requirements

A full-time work placement of a minimum of 30 weeks 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 support available to students (e.g. induction programmes, programme information, resources)

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.

Admissions criteria

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/

Summary of assessment and progression regulations

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 http://www.bath.ac.uk/registry/nfa/index.htm.

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).

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Indicators of quality and standards (e.g. professional accreditation)

To assure continuing excellence in its quality and standards, the University of Bath has a quality management framework including:
For more general information on each part of the framework, click on the links.

1. A Quality Assurance Code of Practice, and associated regulations and policies :
   http://www.bath.ac.uk/learningandteaching/cop/index.php
2. A learning, teaching and quality committee structure which monitors quality and standards and instigates action for enhancement.

3. Staff development arrangements that assist staff in enhancing their own performance as educators, as researchers or as professional support services staff.

Students are involved in many of these processes, whereby their key perspectives and participation as citizens in the academic community are engaged in the 'informed Student Voice'.

For a fuller overview of the University's Quality Management framework see this summary document.

The Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) periodically reviews the quality of the University of Bath's Learning and Teaching performance.

At the last review by the QAA in November 2008, the University was given the highest grading available, that of 'Confidence', in the soundness of the University's current and likely future management of both the academic standards of its awards and the quality of learning opportunities available to students. The QAA's report can be seen at http://www.qaa.ac.uk/InstitutionReports/Reports/Pages/inst-audit-University-of-Bath-08.aspx

Professional or industrial placements for a year or a semester are particularly supported at Bath by specialised staff and these arrangements are demonstrably effective for improving degree grade and employability within six months of graduation.

Sources of other information

From the online prospectus:

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

Appendix:
Programme Description is available in a separate document.