

Overview

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| Programme Code | 30881 |
| Programme Title | Sociology |
| Awarding Institution | Liverpool John Moores University |
| Programme Type | Degree |
| Language of Programme | All LJMU programmes are delivered and assessed in English |
| Programme Leader | David Tyrer |
| Link Tutor(s) | |

Awards

| Award Type | Award Description | Award Learning Outcomes |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Target Award | Bachelor of Arts with Honours - BAH | See Learning Outcomes Below |
| Alternative Exit | Diploma of Higher Education - DHE | Apply the core areas of Sociological theory. Be competent in the theory and practice of Sociological research methods. Draw on critical skills. Demonstrate transferable skills. Actively participate in WRL and career-based opportunities. |
| Alternative Exit | Bachelor of Arts - BA | Demonstrate a broad and comparative knowledge of the general scope of the subject, its different areas and applications, and its interactions with related subjects. A detailed knowledge of a defined subject or a more limited coverage of a specialist area balanced by a wider range of study. In each case, specialised study will be informed by current developments in the subject. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the essential theories, principles and concepts of the subject(s) and of the ways in which these are developed through the main methods of enquiry in the subject. |
| Alternative Exit | Certificate of Higher Education - CHE | Demonstrate the transition from A-level, Access or other previous study to degree level study in Sociology. Identify and explain key issues, themes and substantive areas in Sociology. Draw on key study skills for further study in Higher Education generally and Sociology in particular. Work with Social Science research methods; identify and explain some of the methodological techniques in Sociology. Actively participate in group work and presentation. Understand PDP processes. |

| Alternate Award Names |
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External Benchmarks

| Subject Benchmark Statement |
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| UG-Sociology (2019) |

Programme Offering(s)

| Mode of Study, Mode of Delivery | Intake Month | Teaching Institution | Programme Length |
|---------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Full-Time, Face to Face | September | LJMU Taught | 3 Years |

Aims and Outcomes

Educational Aims of the Programme

1. To provide students with a stimulating, research informed, academic programme, including both core and optional modules, with clear progression through the degree, and with clear learning outcomes 2. To provide a dynamic and contemporary programme which stimulates the sociological imagination and engages students with the history of the discipline, and its central theoretical, methodological and substantive aspects 3. To provide an environment which facilitates and encourages student centred learning, that is inclusive and accessible to all students, and supports them as they begin to independently research the social world using appropriate quantitative and/or qualitative techniques 4. To provide at level 4 core modules introducing theory and method and a range of areas of sociology including social policy, inequalities, and culture in local, national and global contexts; these themes can be explored further in core (theory and method) and themed optional modules at level 5, with level 6 being made up of further themed optional modules. Hence a pathway can be constructed by the student built around specific themes. 5. To provide graduates with the appropriate subject knowledge and attributes, together with a range of transferable skills, and the ability to take responsibility for their own learning, to pursue a career related to the subject area, in general employment, or further study 6. To encourage students to engage with the development of employability skills, including their completion of a self-awareness statement 7. To provide a programme that enables students to recognise their citizenship in local, national and global communities and societies, and to appreciate their role in addressing social conditions, resisting prejudice, and improving social justice for all utilising the theoretical insights and evidence based findings of sociology 8. To appreciate the importance of ethical issues in all forms of sociological data collection, analysis and argumentation and the contested nature of social life, to develop a reflexive sociological understanding of world views alternative to their own. 9. To provide opportunities to sociologically investigate societies other than the UK and to facilitate exchange and study/field work educational visits to those countries to further understanding, analysis and knowledge. 10. Appreciate the distinctive character of Sociology in relation to other forms of understanding, such as its relation to other disciplines and to everyday explanations.

Learning Outcomes

| Code | Description |
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| PLO1 | Describe and examine a range of key concepts and theoretical approaches from the history and contemporary practice of Sociology and evaluate their application in examining the processes that underpin social change, conflict and social stability. |
| PLO2 | Demonstrate competence in using major theoretical perspectives and concepts in Sociology, and their application to social life |
| PLO3 | Identify, assess and analyse sources of evidence in building a sociological argument. |
| PLO4 | Plan and conduct ethical sociological research using quantitative and qualitative data sources whether using secondary analysis of previous research, naturally occurring data or gathering new data. |
| PLO5 | Recognise the relevance of sociological knowledge to social, public and civic policy. |
| PLO6 | Appreciate the complexity and diversity of social contexts including the need for cultural awareness when applying sociological ideas developed in one context to a cross-cultural setting. |
| PLO7 | Analyse, interpret and apply major theories and concepts in the study of sociology, independently engaging with subject literature, questioning received thinking, and supporting critical and normative judgements on sociological issues with relevant evidence and structured argument. |
| PLO8 | Apply reflexivity about assumptions and the social processes and structures shaping forms of knowledge. |

| Code | Description |
|-------------|--|
| PLO9 | recognise and develop arguments and evidence to challenge all forms of prejudice. |
| PLO10 | Demonstrate understanding of numeracy and statistical information, and use ICT and traditional methods for the retrieval and storage, interpretation and presentation of information and findings. |
| PLO11 | Appreciate the values of open mindedness and sensitivity to cultural differences and the importance of respecting equality and diversity. |
| PLO12 | Provide an analytical account of social diversity and various inequalities addressing the social processes shaping individuals, groups, social practices, social institutions and social structures. |
| PLO13 | Communicate ideas coherently in a written, visual and or verbal forms utilising appropriate referencing. |
| PLO14 | Assess the merits of competing explanations and draw on evidence to synthesise and evaluate competing arguments and explanations. |
| PLO15 | Work independently, demonstrating skills of self-organisation, time management, the ability for critical self-reflection and self-improvement. |
| PLO16 | Collaborate with others to achieve collective goals, and discuss and present ideas and interpretations with others in a clear and reasoned way. |
| PLO17 | Assess and analyse the ethical implications of research and enquiry. |
| PLO18 | Use specialist knowledge of one or more sub-topics within Sociology to construct a sociological argument (selecting from a range of available options reflecting the diversity of the discipline) and thereby evaluating the relationship between sociological arguments and evidence. |
| PLO19 | Examine a range of data sources, research strategies and quantitative and qualitative methods and assess the appropriateness of their use (through practical application and experience) to generate empirical knowledge about a substantive sociological concern. |
| PLO20 | Show understanding of the use of sociology in historical, cross-cultural and transnational comparative studies of global societies. |
| PLO21 | Demonstrate knowledge of the contingent and contextual nature of all forms of social knowing including sociological knowledge, so as to be reflexive about their own knowledge of the social world. |
| PLO22 | Apply sociology to the analysis of cultural forms and practices. |
| PLO23 | Appreciate the role of worldviews, values and beliefs and their consequences for social action in ethically plural societies |
| PLO24 | formulate and investigate sociological questions. |

Programme Structure

Programme Structure Description

The programme is taught within the University Academic Framework. Students must take 120 credits of Sociology modules at each level of the programme (Levels 4, 5 and 6). Each Level of the programme should normally be completed in one academic year. Modules are of two types: core and options. Modules are all 20 credits aside from the 40 credit Dissertation Module at level 6 and the 120 credit Study Abroad module at level 5. At Levels 4 students will take a core programme of 120 credits. At level 5, 80 credits are from core modules whilst the remaining 40 credits are from optional modules. At Level 5 there is a mix of core and option modules, the only restriction for option registration is that students cannot take the following two modules together, 5109IRP: Politics and Popular Culture and 5110IRP: International Organisations, taking both these modules is a barred combination. At level 6 there are no core modules. With three modules that last 2 semesters, with the Dissertation (40 credits) and Sociology at Work 2 and International Field Work in Sociology, it is not possible for a student in either programme, to take all three 'independent studies' modules, but only to do a combination of any two. Students will be allocated a personal tutor in Level 4 who will teach them at this level and normally remain their personal tutor throughout their time at LJMU. The programme will offer the opportunity for 60 credits of study abroad at L5. Students will be enrolled on a 360 credit honours with study abroad programme. A 60 credit Level 5 study abroad module 5109SOC will normally replace the second semester modules on the standard programme. This study abroad should cover the same learning outcomes as the modules being replaced. The modules to be studied in the host institution must be agreed in advance. The Level 5 mean for the final award mark will be calculated based upon the 120 credits at Level 5. The programme will offer the opportunity of an additional year of study abroad following Level 5. Students will be enrolled on a 480 credit honours with study abroad programme. Of the 480 credits, 120 will be taken via 5108SOC Study Year Abroad. The modules to be studied at the host institution must be agreed in advance. The Level 5 mean for the final award mark will be calculated upon the 240 credits at Level 5.

| Programme Structure - 360 credit points | |
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| Level 4 - 120 credit points | |
| Level 4 Core - 120 credit points | CORE |
| [MODULE] 4101SOC Sociological Imaginations Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 4102SOC Contemporary Social and Green Issues Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 4106SOC Introduction to Sociology Approved 2022.03 - 20 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 4107SOC Becoming a Sociological Investigator Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 4108SOC Cultural Sociology Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 4109SOC Global Inequalities and Society Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points | |
| Level 5 - 120 credit points | |
| Level 5 Core - 80 credit points | CORE |
| [MODULE] 5100SOC Researching British Society Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 5101SOC Knowing the Modern World Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 5102SOC Research in Action Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 5116SOC Critical Theory and Us Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points | |
| Level 5 Optional - 40 credit points | OPTIONAL |
| [MODULE] 5107SOC The Medicalised Body: the Sociology of Health and Illness Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 5109IRP Politics and Popular Culture Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 5110IRP International Organisations Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 5114SOC Musical Identities: Sociological Perspectives Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 5115SOC Cities Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 5117SOC Sociology at Work 1 Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points | |
| Optional placement - 120 credit points | OPTIONAL |

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| Study Abroad - 120 credit points | OPTIONAL |
| [MODULE] 5108SOC Study Year Abroad Sociology Approved 2022.02 - 120 credit points | |
| Optional Study Semester - 60 credit points | OPTIONAL |
| [MODULE] 5109SOC Study Semester Abroad Sociology Approved 2022.02 - 60 credit points | |
| Level 6 - 120 credit points | |
| Level 6 Optional - 120 credit points | OPTIONAL |
| [MODULE] 6100SOC Dissertation in Sociology Approved 2022.03 - 40 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 6101IRP Non-western Political Theories Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 6103SOC International Fieldwork in Sociology Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 6106SOC Sport, Crime and Politics: Critical Sociological Analyses Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 6108SOC Body Politics: Gender, Sexuality and Society Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 6109SOC Cultural Sociology of Music Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 6110IRP Securing Spaces: Security and Places in the Modern World Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 6111SOC Visual Sociology Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 6114SOC Sociology at Work 2 Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 6115MEDCUL Mediating Diversity Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points | |
| [MODULE] 6115SOC Fear and Loathing: the politics and aesthetics of aversive emotion Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points | |

Module specifications may be accessed at <https://proformas.ljmu.ac.uk/Default.aspx>

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

The programme incorporates staff-led and student-centred strategies with a progressive emphasis on the latter as students develop as independent learners. The former includes both formal and interactive lectures, and seminars, which provide opportunities to present ideas, discuss and reflect. The latter involve small group activities, tutorials, workshops and enquiry-based learning. These are designed to foster student progression, stimulate interest and encourage participation, provide equal opportunities to develop learning skills, encourage critical analysis and the application of theory, utilise ICT and Canvas. Criteria of attainment are given in handbooks and module assignments. Assessment across the programme is planned, and designed to be coherent, balanced and to facilitate the achievement of learning outcomes. Assessment meets the criteria (QAA and School) of validity, reliability and consistency. Assessment takes account of students with particular needs. The programme utilises a wide range of assessments including Essays, Exams, reports, portfolios, projects, self-reflective diaries, biography, leaflet, book reviews, enquiry-based learning, presentations (written and oral) and, at level 6, an optional dissertation, and opportunities for work placement. Intellectual skills are strongly linked to the development of knowledge and understanding. Lectures provide the foundations of and models for students to develop and consolidate their intellectual skills, whole workshops, seminars, tutorials and independent learning provides opportunities for students to practice and apply these intellectual skills. The assessment of intellectual skills is closely linked with subject knowledge and assessment, however the focus is upon the student's ability to recognise, construct and defend arguments, to undertake critical analysis and to identify and resolve intellectual problems. A variety of written coursework and exam based assessments focus directly on the student's ability to construct rigorous arguments and analysis. While the more applied nature of some assessments (briefing papers, blogs, case studies, reports), particularly those requiring students to understand and undertake Sociological research encourages students to creatively develop their intellectual skills. All teaching and learning activities focus on developing and improving communication skills: lectures enable students to become effective listeners who can assimilate ideas and information; discussions in workshops and small group settings develop spoken communication skills, collaboration and interpersonal skills. Students are also encouraged and supported, via tutor guidance and the VLE, to undertake independent learning which, in turn, promotes planning, organisational and time-management skills. All assessment utilized on the programme encourages students to develop their communication skills and to present arguments and ideas with precision and clarity. Achievement of good time management and organizational skills is demonstrated by students completing work on time to a satisfactory standard. These skills are introduced in 4106SOC: Introduction to Sociology, at level four. Thereafter, core and option modules at levels 5 and 6 involve a combination of student-centred learning in both collective (seminars/workshops, group project work etc) and individual contexts (independent learning, tutorials, dissertations). Teaching is block time-tabled into 3 hour sessions. The variety of learning experiences and assessment tasks is designed to stimulate interest and encourage participation, and to provide opportunities for students with differing capabilities and aptitudes to develop transferable skills. The variety of assessment on the programme ensures that these transferable key skills are assessed at various points throughout the degree.

Opportunities for work related learning

Personal development planning is integrated into the personal tutor arrangements at Levels 4, 5 and 6. Work related learning is embedded at Level 5 in the 5117SOC Sociology at Work 1 Module and at Level 6 in the 6114SOC Sociology at Work 2 module- 20 credits each (proposal and placement / report). All LJMU undergraduate programs are required to incorporate into a L4 module an assessment item of the submission of a personal Self Awareness Statement. Students have the opportunity to choose from work-based/related/transferrable skills modules at L5 and L6, while the programme's PDP system provides opportunities for students to reflect on and document their achievements inside and outside of university and think about future employability paths.

Entry Requirements

| Type | Description |
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| BTECs | Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications. DMM in a relevant subject area is required if no other level 3 qualifications are taken. |
| A levels | 104 UCAS points from a minimum of 2 A Levels, preferably including a Humanities and Social Science subject. Maximum of 20 AS points accepted |
| Alternative qualifications considered | Prior to starting the programme applicants must have obtained grade 4 or grade C or above in English Language and Mathematics GCSE or an approved alternative qualification: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Skills Level 2 in English/ Maths • NVQ Level 2 Functional skills in Maths and English Writing and or Reading • Skills for Life Level 2 in Numeracy/English • Higher Diploma in Maths/ English • Functional skills Level 2 in Maths/ English • Northern Ireland Essential Skills Level 2 in communication or Application of Number • Wales Essential Skills Level 2 in Communication or Application of Number |
| Other international requirements | International applications will be considered in line with UK qualifications. Any applicant whose first language is not English will be required to have IELTS 6.0 (minimum 5.5 in each component) or acceptable equivalent. |
| International Baccalaureate | 24 IB points. |

Extra Entry Requirements