

Template C4



Programme Specification

Title of Course: *BSc (Hons) Sociology*

Date first produced	17/10/2012
Date last revised	01/07/2025
Date of implementation of current version	01/09/2025
Version number	12
Faculty	Faculty of Business and Social Sciences
Cross-disciplinary	
School	School of Law, Social and Behavioural Sciences
Department	Department of Criminology, Politics and Sociology
Delivery Institution	Kingston University

This Programme Specification is designed for prospective students, current students, academic staff and employers. It provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the intended learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes and content of each modules can be found in the course VLE site and in individual Module Descriptors.

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

Award(s) and Title(s):	BSc (Hons) Sociology
Exit Award(s) and Title(s):	Cert HE Sociology Dip HE Sociology BSc Sociology
Course Code <i>For each pathway and mode of delivery</i>	UFSOC1SOC02
UCAS code <i>For each pathway</i>	L300

Award(s) and Title(s):	BSc (Hons) Sociology with Foundation Year
Exit Award(s) and Title(s):	
Course Code <i>For each pathway and mode of delivery</i>	UFSOC1SOC55
UCAS code <i>For each pathway</i>	

Awarding Institution:	Kingston University
Teaching Institution:	Kingston University
Location:	Penrhyn Road
Language of Delivery:	English
Delivery mode:	
Learning mode(s):	Full-time
Minimum period of registration:	Full-time - 3
Maximum period of registration:	Full-time - 6
Entry requirements	Kingston University typically uses a range of entry requirements to assess an applicant's suitability for our courses. Most course requirements are based on UCAS Tariff points, usually stipulated as a range, and are sometimes coupled with minimum grades in specific relevant subjects. We may also use interview, portfolio and performance pieces to assess an applicant's suitability for the course. We

	<p>recognise that every person's journey to Higher Education is different and unique and in some cases we may take into account work experience and other non-standard pathways onto University level study.</p> <p>Additionally, all non-UK applicants must meet our English language requirements.</p> <p>Please see our course pages on the Kingston University website for the most up to date entry requirements</p>
Regulated by	The University and its courses are regulated by the Office for Students.
Programme Accredited by:	The British Sociological Association (BSA) is the Professional body of reference. However, the BSA does not have any regulatory powers in relation to degree programmes.
Approved Variants:	There are no variants to the Undergraduate Regulations.
Is this Higher or Degree Apprenticeship course?	No

SECTION 2: THE COURSE

A. Aims of the Course

The main aims of the programme are to:

- Introduce students to sociology as an academic discipline.
- Provide students with a broad theoretical awareness and critical understanding of key sociological concepts, theories and perspectives.
- Foster an understanding of the interdisciplinary nature of sociology, and its relationship to other social sciences and humanities research and theory.
- To build confidence and skills in researching and understanding social issues and their contexts and writing and presenting sociological academic arguments in a range of formats.
- Equip students with core competencies in social research, afford them with opportunities to practice a range of methods, and enable them to conduct independent research and analysis.
- Develop students knowledge and understanding of the relationship between theory and empirical research and data, and the skills necessary to critically evaluate this relationship.
- Encourage students to critically reflect on their own lives and apply sociological perspectives to analyse and explore their experiences and real-world issues.
- Establish a sound foundation in key transferable skills from which students are enabled to develop strong career paths in graduate opportunities, professional occupations, and postgraduate study.

B. Programme Learning Outcomes

The programme learning outcomes are the high-level learning outcomes that will have been achieved by all students receiving this award. They have been aligned to the levels set out in 'Sector Recognised Standards in England' (OFS 2022).

Programme Learning Outcomes

	Knowledge and Understanding On completion of the course students will be able to:		Intellectual Skills On completion of the course students will be able to		Subject Practical Skills On completion of the course students will be able to
A2	Provide an analytical account of a range of social, public and civic issues and policies in relation to social diversity and inequality.	B4	Evaluate competing explanations and draw reasoned conclusions.	C6	Discuss sociological topics with appreciation of theory, evidence and relevance to current debates and to present the conclusions in a variety of appropriate sociological formats.
A1	Describe and evaluate a range of concepts and theoretical approaches within sociology and evaluate their application.	B3	Critically evaluate social theories with respect to reasoning and evidence.	C5	Analyse the ethical implications of social research in a variety of applied research settings.
A8	Articulate and analyse the distinctive role of social theory in providing coherent descriptions of social reality.	B2	Evaluate and synthesize the results of information and evidence from a variety of sources.	C4	Investigate sociologically informed explanations.
A7	Evaluate the relationship between sociological arguments and evidence in a range of contexts.	B1	Assess the merits of competing explanations of human behaviour, social situations and events.	C3	Select and use appropriate research tools.
A6	Understand and evaluate a range of research strategies and methods and assesses their application.			C2	Summarize and explain the findings of empirical sociological research, including a critical assessment of the methodological frameworks used.

A5	Examine the processes that underpin social change and social stability in a variety of social situations.			C1	Construct appropriate sociologically informed questions.
A4	Describe and analyse a range of social structures and their relationship to individual and groups.			C7	Identify and comment on the value of sociological work with regard to social, public and civic policy issues.
A3	Understand and evaluate the issues and problems involved in the use of comparison in sociology.				

C. Future Skills Graduate Attributes

In addition to the programme learning outcomes, the programme of study defined in this programme specification will engage students in developing their Future Skills Graduate Attributes:

1. Creative Problem Solving
2. Digital Competency
3. Enterprise
4. Questioning Mindset
5. Adaptability
6. Empathy
7. Collaboration
8. Resilience
9. Self-Awareness

D. Outline Programme Structure

This programme is offered in full-time mode, and leads to the award of BSc (Hons) Sociology. Entry is normally at level 4 with A-level or equivalent qualifications. Transfer from a similar programme is possible at level 5 with passes in comparable level 4 modules – but is at the discretion of the course team. Intake is normally in September.

The British Sociological Association (BSA) is the Professional body of reference. However, the BSA does not have any regulatory powers in relation to degree programmes.

Work and community placements and residencies are actively encouraged. Guidance is provided to help students source and secure such opportunities. Placements/residences allow students to reflect upon their own personal experience of working in an applied setting, to focus on aspects of this experience that they can clearly relate to theoretical concepts and to evaluate the relationship between theory and practice. At level 6 students can undertake the module SO6037 Applied Social Science: Work and Volunteering that specifically includes a sociological analysis within a work or community setting.

All students will be provided with the University regulations and, where appropriate, specific additions that are sometimes required for accreditation by outside bodies (e.g. professional or statutory bodies that confer professional accreditation). Full details of each module will be provided in module descriptors and on Canvas. Specific subject specific content within the core modules may vary year on year depending on staff availability and reflecting staff research specialism and expertise, thereby ensuring that students are kept abreast of the latest developments in the field.

Students are encouraged to develop their knowledge and participation of 'real world' Sociology throughout the programme, and opportunities are built in at each Level to allow for such engagement. This culminates in Level 6 where students are enabled to develop their dedicated area of interest through either, undertaking the Dissertation (SO6029) OR to undertake an Applied Social Science Work/ Volunteering Placement in SO6037.

For information on Foundation year modules, please refer to the Foundation Year in Social and Behavioural Sciences programme specification.

Note: As per GR5 within the general regulations, the University aims to ensure that all option modules listed below are delivered. However, for various reasons, such as demand, the availability of option modules may vary from year to year or between teaching blocks. Students will be informed of the availability of option modules through the Online Module Selection process.

BSc (Hons) Sociology

Level 4							
BSc (Hons) Sociology							
Core modules	Module code	Credit Value	Level	Teaching Block	Pre-requisites	Full Time	Part Time
Classical Social Theory in a Contemporary World	SO4007	30	4	Year Long		1	1
Introduction to Research Methods	SO4006	30	4	Year Long		1	1
Social Order and Social Control	CM4005	30	4	Year long		1	2
Social Selves	SO4003	30	4	Year Long		1	1

Exit Awards at Level 4

Students exiting the course at this point who have successfully completed 120 credits at level 4 or above are eligible for the award of Certificate of Higher Education.

Level 5							
BSc (Hons) Sociology							
Core modules	Module code	Credit Value	Level	Teaching Block	Pre-requisites	Full Time	Part Time
Crime, Media and Culture	CM5021	30	5	Year Long	None	2	1
Researching Social Problems (Explore)	CM5012	30	5	Year Long		2	1
Securing Human Rights:	PO5004	30	5	Year Long	None	1	1

Contemporary Themes and Issues							
Social Justice and Social Movements	SO5014	30	5	Year Long		2	2

Exit Awards at Level 5

Students exiting the programme at this point who have successfully completed 120 credits at level 5 or above are eligible for the award of Diploma of Higher Education.

Level 6							
BSc (Hons) Sociology							
Core modules	Module code	Credit Value	Level	Teaching Block	Pre-requisites	Full Time	Part Time
Future Skills Apply	AX6001	15	6	TB2		3	6
Genocide and Crimes against Humanity	PO6007	30	6	Year long		3	6
Risk, Crime and Justice	CM6028	15	6	TB1		3	6
Social Issues	SO6034	30	6	Year long		3	6
Optional Modules							
Applied Social Science: Work and Volunteering	SO6037	30	6	Year Long	None	1	1
Criminology/sociology Dissertation	SO6029	30	6	Year Long	None	1	1

Exit Awards at Level 6

Students choose either the Dissertation or the Applied Social Science module. They also take the 90 credits from the list of remaining modules.

Students exiting the programme without completing the full 120 credits but have successfully completed 60 credits at level 6 or above are eligible for the award of an Ordinary Degree.

BSc (Hons) Sociology with Foundation Year

E. Teaching, Learning and Assessment

This course uses a range of teaching and assessment methods which have been designed to support students' learning and achievement of the learning outcomes. The course has been developed with reference to the Kingston University Academic Framework which sets-out core principles relating to Course and Credit Structure (including Module delivery Structure and Pattern, and Learning Hours and Learning Formats); Curriculum Design (inclusion Learning Design Principles and Inclusive Curriculum); and Future Skills.

Teaching and Learning on the course consist of Scheduled Learning and Teaching and Guided Independent Study (self-managed time). Scheduled Learning and Teaching includes the following, and the format for each module is set out in the module specification:

- Laboratory Sessions
- Lectures
- Seminars
- Tutorials
- Workshops
- Placements

Guidance for students on the use of independent study time is communicated through the 'Succeed in your module' section on the Canvas Virtual Learning Environment and through other communications during the course.

In addition to the core Scheduled Learning and Teaching activities for the course, the University may offer students additional optional opportunities for learning. Examples of these include Study abroad and Work-based learning.

The course will provide students with the opportunity to develop their knowledge and skills relating to at least two United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs). We are committed to empowering students with the knowledge, skills and opportunities to understand and address the UN SDGs: each course is thus also required to prepare students for at least two of the SDGs (not including Quality Education, which all courses must deliver).

F. Support for Students and their Learning

Students are supported through a range of services that provide academic and wider support. These include:

- A Module Leader for each module
- A Course Leader to help students understand the course structure
- Personal Tutors to provide academic and personal support
- Technical support to advise students on IT and the use of software
- Student Voice Committee – to ensure the views of students are heard
- Canvas – Kingston University's Virtual Learning Environment
- Student support facilities that can provide advice on issues such as finance, regulations, legal matters, accommodation, international student support
- Disabled student support
- The Kingston Students' Union

- Student Development and Graduate Success

G. Ensuring and Enhancing the Quality of the Course

The University has policies and procedures for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of its provision. These include:

- Continuous Monitoring of courses through the Kingston Course Enhancement Programme (KCEP)
- Student evaluation including Module Evaluation Questionnaires (MEQs), the National Student Survey (NSS)
- Internal and external moderation of graded assignments

H. External Reference Points

External reference points which have informed the design of the course.

- QAA Subject benchmarks

I. Development of Course Learning Outcomes in Modules

This table maps where programme learning outcomes are **summatively** assessed across the **core** modules for this course. It provides an aid to academic staff in understanding how individual modules contribute to the course aims, a means to help students monitor their own learning, personal and professional development as the course progresses and a checklist for quality assurance purposes.

Module Code	Level 4				Level 5				Level 6					
	SO4003	SO4007	SO4006	CM4005	CM5021	CM5012	PO5004	SO5014	SO6029	SO6034	PO6007	AX6001	SO6037	CM6028
Knowledge & Understanding	A2	S	S	S		S		S		S				
	A1	S	S	S		S	S	S	S	S	S			S
	A8		S	S				S		S				
	A7	S	S	S				S	S	S	S			S
	A6			S		S			S					

	A5		S		S				S		S	S			
	A4		S		S		S		S		S		S		S
	A3		S		S			S			S		S		S
Intellectual Skills	B4	S	S	S	S	S	S		S	S	S	S	S		S
	B3	S	S		S			S	S	S	S	S			S
	B2	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		S
	B1	S	S		S			S	S	S	S	S			S
Practical Skills	C6	S	S		S				S	S	S	S			S
	C5			S			S			S					
	C4	S	S	S	S				S	S	S	S			S
	C3			S			S			S					
	C2			S	S	S	S			S	S	S			S
	C1	S	S	S			S		S	S					S
	C7		S		S		S		S		S	S			S

Students will be provided with formative assessment opportunities throughout the course to practise and develop their proficiency in the range of assessment methods utilised.

Additional Information