



Course Information Form

This Course Information Form provides the definitive record of the designated course

Section A: General Course Information

Course Title	BA (Hons) Social Sciences / BA (Hons) Social Sciences (with Foundation Year) / BA (Hons) Social Sciences (with Professional Practice Year)
Final Award	BSc (Hons)
Route Code	BASSCAAF/BASSPAAF/BASCFAAF
Intermediate Qualification(s)	
FHEQ Level	6
Location of Delivery	University Square Campus, Luton
Mode(s) and length of study	Full-time over 3 years and part-time pathway typically over 6 years 4 years full-time with Professional Practice Year 4 years full-time with Foundation Year
Standard intake points (months)	October
External Reference Points as applicable including Subject Benchmark	QAA Subject Benchmark Statements Sociology (2019) QAA Quality Code FHEQ for level 6 (2014)
Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation or endorsement	None

HECoS code(s)	100105
UCAS Course Code	L310

Course Aims

The BSc (Hons) Social Sciences is a relevant and stimulating course that allows us to make sense of lived and real experiences. It provides a detailed understanding of the function and complexity of society, the lives of different individuals and the role of communities and workplaces within it. The content of the course is broad, covering contemporary ideas, theories of society, history and culture. The course offers a deeper contemplation and reflection of our values and shared principles. You will interrogate national and global social issues and problems together with policy and practice intervention responses across the government, the third sector and the human services. Potential employers from the private, public and voluntary sector favour Social Sciences graduates for the diversity of your transferable social science knowledge and skills, humanistic values and your breadth of mind.

There are four aims of the BSc (Hons) Social Sciences:

1. To develop conceptual and empirical knowledge in a wide range of social science subjects and disciplines covered in the social sciences, for example knowledge that is informed by research in social policy, cultural studies, social and political history and the 'state of the nation', the Welfare State, identity and inequality, social work and social development, trafficking studies, youth offending and and political sociology.
2. To learn and use various academic enquiry skills from a range of social science disciplines and acquire vocational skills in areas of specific relevance to current policy, governance and human services work, notably management practice, communication and team-working in diverse professional settings.
3. To apply social science knowledge and skills in the conduct of research and the mapping of social science theories to professional practice in ways that promotes equality and social justice and respects the rights of vulnerable groups and individuals.
4. To shape the course in accordance with students' personal preferences and future career aspirations by providing a number of option units at higher levels of study in key policy and service areas such as race and ethnicity, ecological politics, crime, migration and human rights, and welfare policy issues.

Course Learning Outcomes	Upon successful completion of your course you should meet the appropriate learning outcomes for your award shown in the table below		
	Outcome	Award	
	1	Evidence social science knowledge and critical appreciation of the key empirical and theoretical issues faced by different social groups in the contemporary UK, their causes and the different ways of addressing them in society	BSc Hons Social Sciences, BSc (Hons) Social Sciences (with Foundation Year), BSc (Hons) Social Sciences (with Professional Practice Year)
	2	Critically evaluate the drivers of social inequality, the sites of power in society, and further analyse the dynamics of diversity, identity, difference and stratification	BSc Hons Social Sciences, BSc (Hons) Social Sciences (with Foundation Year), BSc (Hons) Social Sciences (with Professional Practice Year)
	3	Display an in-depth ability to critically analyse a range of sources of social science knowledge addressed in disciplines such as sociology, cultural studies, political science and more, for example globalisation issues or welfare in different countries, using a variety of research applications and study techniques	BSc Hons Social Sciences, BSc (Hons) Social Sciences (with Foundation Year), BSc (Hons) Social Sciences (with Professional Practice Year)
	4	Articulate the value base within which the social sciences are embedded, demonstrating the means by which individual rights and responsibilities, social practices, institutions, groups and structures within society may be fostered, maintained and exercised in different settings and areas of UK and international society, and in public and private life	BSc Hons Social Sciences, BSc (Hons) Social Sciences (with Foundation Year), BSc (Hons) Social Sciences (with Professional Practice Year)
	5	Demonstrate an ability to synthesise sources of knowledge of different theoretical and ideological frameworks and to show academically relevant creativity in developing new knowledge about how policy, governance practices, cultural life and the human/public services address social, cultural, political and economic issues, both overseas and in the UK	BSc Hons Social Sciences, BSc (Hons) Social Sciences (with Foundation Year), BSc (Hons) Social Sciences (with Professional Practice Year)
	6	Locate sociological/social scientific issues and interventions, together with the contested nature of knowledge about both, within historical, contemporary and international legal, policy, organisational and practice contexts across UK and international society and distinguishing between the appreciation of the contemporary and the diachronically-framed analysis of social change	BSc Hons Social Sciences, BSc (Hons) Social Sciences (with Foundation Year), BSc (Hons) Social Sciences (with Professional Practice Year)

	7	Evidence a familiarity with key research theories, methodologies and techniques, and data sources in order to complete and substantive independent, ethical and original research project	BSc Hons Social Sciences, BSc (Hons) Social Sciences (with Foundation Year), BSc (Hons) Social Sciences (with Professional Practice Year)
	8	Demonstrate knowledge and analytical understanding of professional practice by successfully completing an approved period of approved workplace practice.	BSc (Hons) Social Sciences (with Professional Practice Year)
Teaching, learning and assessment strategies	<p>Learning and Teaching A variety of teaching methods are employed across all levels of the degree. These include tutorial activities, problem solving, computer-based activities, problem based learning, and online interactive activities using Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) known as BREO (Bedfordshire Resources for Education Online). BREO is utilised at all levels of study and it contains a variety of material and is used in a variety of ways including e-learning and accessing sites elsewhere that provide practice at certain skills. Reflective learning is also linked to iProspects, an interactive programme accessed via the Careers Service website where students record key learning experiences and insights for later use as a bank of examples to build a tailored CV when applying for jobs. This is done throughout the course to enable students to become more aware of how their academic learning is contributing to their personal and professional development, further reflecting culture, diversity, equality, and lifestyles via culturally-sustaining pedagogical approaches.</p> <p>During the first year (Level 4), lectures are introductory, outlining key concepts and issues in relation to the broad social sciences (defined as Sociology, Political Science, Cultural Studies and the application of such themes to the broader development of Social Policy) and the nature of contemporary society, politics and culture. This learning is delivered in a variety of teaching methods including lectures, seminar discussions and workshops, guided reading exercises, and supported by additional support beyond the formal sessions, for example via one-to-one coaching sessions with the unit tutors and some online content where needed and appropriate. At level 4 key workshops are tailored specifically for Social Sciences students linking and extending the lecture material directly to relevant topic areas and research to do with a variety of introductory foci including (but not exclusively based on) identity, stratification, the arts, migration, welfare, statecraft and governance, policy development and diversity delivered via units on social and cultural history and the state of the contemporary nation, identity and dynamics of individual and social life, leadership and enterprise as well as formal delivery of study and research skills provision.</p> <p>In the second year of the course (Level 5) students strengthen their analytical, interpretative and communication skills on the core units. Lectures are more discursive, highlighting debates, theories, controversies or issues which students can pursue further through seminars, workshops and independent reading. The learning shifts slowly from guided to more independent styles as students learn to grow and assume some responsibility for their learning. Level 5 also provides an important juncture for the student to shape a bespoke pathway to their degree studies (should they wish to do so) via core units and options that provide thematic direction according to preference: namely in 'sociology', 'culture' or 'politics'.</p> <p>In the third year of the course (Level 6) students are able to demonstrate the problem-solving, evaluative, analytic, self-management and reflective skills expected of a university graduate. A combination of core units in contemporary social science knowledge and research practice, current issues in human rights, ecological and political sociology and cultural studies provides</p>		

	<p>the mechanism through assessment to demonstrate these qualities. At Level Six the objective is for student learning to move steadily towards more autonomous learning.</p> <p>Assessment A range of appropriate assessments will enable the student to grow in confidence and demonstrate acquisition of knowledge and skills. The assessment methods used across the course include:</p> <p>Written assignments – these vary from essays and reports to more in-depth research work on broader topics Examinations: These are a range of multiple-choice computer examinations through to in-class tests and essay-based exams in your final year Oral presentations and Poster presentations that demonstrate verbal and presentational skills in communicating information to others Group work allowing you to demonstrate skills of group research while allowing you to submit a piece of assessed individual work at the same time as your contribution to the group The Dissertation, allowing you to undertake a complex research project and communicate knowledge, findings and recommendations, in your final year on the course, thus showing your capacity to address a complex self-directed task</p> <p>The assessments will develop incrementally across the course and allow you to gain skills, confidence and knowledge, receive feedback and grow, thus allowing you to implement this knowledge and feedback in subsequent assessments. Along the way you will develop capacity for writing in your own words and style of expression at the higher level. At the end of the course, completion of the assessments you will demonstrate an ability to analyse current social science knowledge and communicate this, in both written and presentational formats, as well as demonstrate a range of transferable skills that are highly relevant to professional employability in a variety of sectors</p>
Learning support	The University's comprehensive student support service includes: Student Information Desk, a one-stop shop for any initial enquiries; Student Support team advising and supporting those with physical or learning needs or more general student well being; Study Hub team providing academic skills guidance; Personal Academic Tutoring system; a student managed Peer-Assisted Learning scheme; support from your lecturers
Admissions Criteria	<p>https://www.beds.ac.uk/entryrequirements</p> <p>Approved Variations and Additions to Standard Admission</p> <p>N/A</p>
	https://www.beds.ac.uk/about-us/our-university/academic-information

**Assessment
Regulations**

Note: Be aware that our regulations change every year

Approved Variations and Additions to Standard Assessment Regulations'

N/A

Section B: Course Structure

The Units which make up the course are listed below. Each unit contributes to the achievement of the course learning outcomes either through teaching (T), general development of skills and knowledge (D) or in your assessments (A).

Unit	Unit Name	Level	Credits	Core or Option	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
ASS080-2	Professional Practice Year (Applied Social Studies)	5	0	Core								12T DA							

Unit	Unit Name	Level	Credits	Core or Option	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
ASS067-1	The Sociology of Modern Britain	4	30	Core	T1			A2											
ASS069-1	Understanding Societies, Identities and Structures	4	30	Core	T1			T2											
ASS099-1	Social Change and UN Sustainable Development Goals	4	15	Core				T2	T1										
ASS100-1	Introduction to Research and Social Enquiry	4	15	Core	T1				T2										
ASS102-1	Career Planning for Social Scientists	4	15	Core	D1	D2													
ASS103-1	Introducing Academic Skills	4	15	Core	T2	T1			T2										
ASS059-2	Identity, Inequality, and Difference	5	15	Option		D1	D2	D2		D2									
ASS068-2	Comparing Welfare Internationally	5	15	Option	D1	D2	D2		D2										
ASS096-2	Refugees, Displacement, and the Politics of Migration	5	15	Option	D1	D1		D2											
ASS099-2	The Social Sciences at Work	5	15	Core	D1			D2			D2								
ASS108-2	Cultural Studies	5	30	Core	D2		D1	D2	D1										
ASS110-2	Research 1: Collecting Data	5	15	Core	D1	D2													
ASS113-2	Research 2: Exploring Data	5	15	Core			D2				D1								
ASS116-2	Power in Political Thought	5	15	Core	D2	D2				D1									
ASS010-3	Ideas and Issues in Globalisation	6	30	Core	A1	A2	A2	A2	A2	A1									
ASS138-3	Climate Change: The Sociology of Survival and Loss	6	15	Option	A1	A1	A1	A2	A2	A1									
ASS139-3	SASS Change Maker Project Dissertation	6	45	Core	A1	A1	A2	A2	A2	A1	A2								

ASS140-3	Arts, Activism, and Social Change	6	15	Option	A1	A2	A1	A2	A2	A2									
ASS142-3	SASS Change Maker Research Dissertation	6	45	Core	A1	A1	A2	A2	A2	A1	A2								
ASS145-3	Work and Welfare in the 21st Century	6	15	Option	A1	A1	A2	A2	A2		A2								
ASS147-3	Human Rights and Global Governance	6	15	Option	A1	A2	A2	A2	A2	A1									

Section C: Assessment Plan

The course is assessed as follows :

BASOSAAF-

Unit Code	Level	Period	Core/Option	Ass 1 Type code	Ass 1 Submit wk	Ass 2 Type code	Ass 2 Submit wk	Ass 3 Type code	Ass 3 Submit wk	Ass 4 Type code	Ass 4 Submit wk
ASS067-1	4	15	Core	CW-ESS	8	EX	15				
ASS069-1	4	15	Core	CW-ESS	10	PR-ORAL	12				
ASS099-1	4	15	Core	PR-OR	15						
ASS100-1	4	15	Core	EX-CB	15						
ASS102-1	4	15	Core	CW-ESS	13						
ASS103-1	4	15	Core	IT-PT	6	CW-PO	12				
ASS059-2	5	15	Option	WR-I	12						
ASS068-2	5	15	Option	PR-ORAL	14						
ASS096-2	5	15	Option	WR-I	13						
ASS099-2	5	15	Core	CW-EPO	13						
ASS108-2	5	15	Option	PR-ORAL	12						
ASS110-2	5	15	Core	PJ-PRO	14						
ASS113-2	5	15	Core	PJ-PRO	14						
ASS116-2	5	15	Option	CW-ESS	6	PR-ORAL	12				
ASS010-3	6	15	Core	EX-OT	6	PR-ORAL	12				
ASS023-3	6	15	Option	PR-OR	12						
ASS140-3	6	15	Option	PR-OR	28						
ASS145-3	6	15	Option	CW-ESS	12						
ASS147-3	6	15	Option	CW-PO	27						
ASS142-3	6	30	Core	CW-ESS	6	PR-OT	28				
ASS139-3	6	TY	Core	CW-ESS	6	PJ-DIS	28				

TBC- BA (Hons) Social Science (with Professional Practice Year)

Unit Code	Level	Period	Core/Option	Ass 1 Type code	Ass 1 Submit wk	Ass 2 Type code	Ass 2 Submit wk	Ass 3 Type code	Ass 3 Submit wk	Ass 4 Type code	Ass 4 Submit wk
ASS080-2	5	TY	Core	CW-PO	30						

Glossary of Terms for Assessment Type Codes

CW-EPO	Coursework - e-Portfolio
CW-ESS	Coursework - Essay
CW-PO	Coursework - Portfolio
EX	Exam (Invigilated)
EX-CB	Computer-based Invigilated Examination
EX-OT	Invigilated Exam-Other including open book
IT-PT	Summative in-class test or phase test
PJ-DIS	Coursework - Dissertation Report
PJ-PRO	Coursework - Project Report
PR-OR	Practical - Oral Presentation
PR-OT	Practical - Other Skills Assessment
WR-I	Coursework - Individual Report

Administrative Information

Faculty	Health and Social Sciences
School	School of Applied Social Studies
Head of School/Department	Alison Tresidder
Course Coordinator	Philip Miles