

BA (Hons) Sociology and Politics

Programme Specification

Awarding Institution:

University of London (Interim Exit Awards made by Goldsmiths' College)

Teaching Institution: Goldsmiths, University of London

Final Award: BA (Hons) Sociology and Politics

Programme Name: BA Sociology and Politics

Total credit value for programme: 360

Name of Interim Exit Award(s):

Certificate of Higher Education in Sociology

Diploma of Higher Education in Sociology

Duration of Programme: 3 years full time

UCAS Code(s): LL23

HECoS Code(s):

(100505) Sociology 75%

(1000491) Politics 25%

QAA Benchmark Group: Politics Sociology

FHEQ Level of Award: Level 6

Programme accredited by: Not applicable

Date Programme Specification last updated/approved: May 2024

Home Department: Sociology

Department(s) which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme:

Politics and International Relations

Programme overview

The BA (Hons) Sociology and Politics programme equips students with the practical tools to understand the world around them, but also to think about how to change it for the better.

The degree gives students a thorough grounding in both sociology and politics, in methods of social and political research, and in interdisciplinary approaches. The degree aims to offer a challenging and flexible programme of study that stimulates independent thinking and curiosity in a wide range of sociology and politics. By bringing together the concerns, theories and methodologies of both sociology and politics, students develop rich, analytical and informed engagement with contemporary problems. Students study local and global events to explore diverse issues in Sociology, such as: how social inequalities operate and how they might be overcome; how social movements can combat oppression; how concepts

of citizenship and human rights are contested; how historical processes such as colonialism continue to shape today's societies; and how the climate crisis requires us to develop new ways of thinking and acting. In Politics, students won't just learn about politics in terms of what happens in the Houses of Parliament and conventional arenas of power in the West, but also what happens on the streets, in art galleries, and in the Global South.

Studying at Goldsmiths means joining one of the world's leading sociology departments. We are ranked: joint 1st in the UK for research intensity in sociology (Complete University Guide Subject League Tables 2021); 13 in terms of research excellence (REF 2022 GPA score), and in the top 40 in the world by the QS World University Subject Rankings 2021.

A core part of the programme is that our staff teach their own specialisms: they're pioneers in their fields and write the books that are on reading lists across the country. Students tailor their own journeys throughout their degrees by choosing from a wide range of option modules from their first year of study, including work placements. Our focus is on helping undergraduate students to become the type of sociologist and political scientist they want to be. Students 'get messy' with hands-on research methods modules - Methods of Worldmaking' - in their first two years, which form the spine of the programme, before designing and carrying out their own dissertation projects in their final year.

Diversified assessments support students to consolidate their learning, and students develop transferrable skills such as research design, data analysis, critical thinking, project management, working with others, and tackling inequalities knowledgeably and ethically; this means they experience what it means to be a sociologist and political scientist from day one.

Programme entry requirements

The programme is particularly suitable for applicants who will enjoy the academic inter-relationship between two disciplines and the creative rigour of theoretical and practical studies in sociology and politics. Please refer to the Undergraduate Prospectus for qualification requirements.

A-level: BBB

BTEC: DDM

IB: 33 Points, HL655

Access: 60 credits overall with 30 distinctions and distinctions/merits in related subject.

We do not assume that you have prior knowledge of Sociology or Politics, and students with arts, social studies, humanities or science backgrounds are equally eligible for admission. Normally, you will be expected to have A level grades of BBB for admission. If you have any AS Levels that have not been continued to A Level or Advanced Higher, these will also be taken into account. These are a guide and we can admit applicants without A- levels if they have other evidence of ability – for example, successfully having completed an Access or Certificate module in a related area. We welcome mature students (aged over 21) with ‘nontraditional’ educational backgrounds.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A1	Acquire knowledge and critical understanding of key concepts, thinkers and theoretical approaches to Sociology and Politics, as well as changing paradigms and debates that have informed both disciplines from the nineteenth century up to the present	Modern Knowledge, Modern Power; Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2; Political Theory & Ideologies; Modern Political Theory, Social Change and Political Action
A2	Develop an understanding of the relationship between individuals, groups and social institutions.	Modern Knowledge Modern Power; Social Change and Political Action
A3	Have an appreciation of the core ideas of political theory that inform modern political discussion and debate	Political Theory & Ideologies; Modern Political Theory
A4	The diversity of theoretical approaches used within the two disciplines to understand: the dynamics of political systems and institutions; the conduct of political action; government and policy; political ideologies and identities.	Social Change and Political Action; Political Theory and Ideologies; Modern Political Theory; optional modules.
A5	The importance and influence of social and cultural processes for contemporary politics, including the relationships between politics and culture in relation to topics such as race, gender and sexuality, science and technology and the environment.	Modern Knowledge, Modern Power; Political Theory and Ideologies; Modern Political Theory; Confronting Climate Crisis; Social Change and Political Action; optional modules
A6	Understand the various types of social processes that drive social change.	Modern Knowledge, Modern Power; Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2;

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
		Confronting Climate Crisis; optional modules
A7	Appreciate distinctive character of sociological knowledge in relation to other knowledge claims about the world, learning the place of sociology within a broader spectrum of academic disciplines, as well as an appreciation of key political and philosophical thinkers that have influenced sociology	Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2; optional modules
A8	Learn the importance of quantitative methods and data to social research, what social problems require quant methods, how quants are involved in framing sociological problems.	Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2.
A9	Develop a familiarity with key debates concerning sociological knowledge production and the way that these inform sociological methods.	Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2
A10	Understand the full diversity and relevance of research methods, research techniques and methods of data analysis used in sociology. This includes the research process, developing research problems, research design, assessing the relative strengths and weaknesses of particular research methods for particular research problems, the practical application of research design strategies and methods and real world practical and ethical issues in social research.	Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2; Dissertation
A11	Show understanding of how research is conducted as a process (in different stages) including how research questions are generated, how data are collected and analysed, and how conclusions are reached on the basis of empirical research.	Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2; Dissertation

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A12	Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of different methodological traditions and discern the appropriate application of different approaches to solving sociological research problems.	Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2
A13	Examine sociological knowledge in relation to issues of fact and value, objectivity and subjectivity, power, difference and ethics	Modern Knowledge, Modern Power; Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2.
A14	Employ analytical tools from different traditions in sociology to examine the empirical social world.	Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2; Dissertation
A15	Develop a literacy in the diversity of theoretical approaches used within contemporary sociology	Confronting Climate Crisis; Social Change & Political Action
A16	Evaluate and be able to reliably challenge received sociological opinion.	Dissertation
A17	Demonstrate critically reflective knowledge of the way in which well-established sociological and political approaches have developed	Social Change and Political Action; Modern Political Theory
A18	Display effective scholarly skills in the synthesis and critical evaluation of political arguments, demonstrating an ability to challenge received opinion in an informed way	Social Change and Political Action; Modern Political Theory
A19	Have an informed and critical understanding of contemporary social and cultural approaches to the study of politics	Social Change and Political Action
A20	Demonstrate an introductory critical appreciation of sociological and political issues from a local and global perspective	Social Change and Political Action; Modern Political Theory; Confronting Climate Crisis
A21	Develop an ability to apply fundamental sociological and political principles and concepts outside the teaching context in which they were initially introduced.	Modern Knowledge Modern Power; Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2; Social Change & Political Action; Modern Political Theory; Confronting Climate Crisis; option modules; Dissertation

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A22	Acquire knowledge of the challenges and practicalities encountered when conducting small scale sociological investigations	Dissertation
A23	Demonstrate an informed and critical understanding of social divisions within societies;	Modern Knowledge, Modern Power; Social Change & Political Action; optional modules
A24	Gain a critical appreciation of debates and contemporary interventions in questions of knowledge and science.	Confronting Climate Crisis; optional modules
A25	Enhance knowledge of the variety of substantive and specialist themes, concepts and topics in contemporary sociology and politics. Some of these areas can depend on options chosen, but may include: social and economic inequalities; German and Italian politics; migration and citizenship; British politics; differing conceptual approaches to the study of verbal and visual cultures; race and racism; politics and globalisation; European integration; democratic theory; nationalism and the nation state; social movements; technology, health and the body; human rights.	Level 4, 5 and 6 optional modules
A26	Demonstrate a critically informed grasp of key concepts and areas of debate in discussions of the environment and climate change	Confronting Climate Crisis

Cognitive and thinking skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B1	Learn how to critically read, dissect and engage with an academic text	Modern Knowledge Modern Power; Political Theory and Ideologies; Level 4 option modules
B2	Develop a critical and reflexive understanding of issues of identity within a broader political, social and cultural framework	Modern Knowledge Modern Power; optional modules
B3	Recognise, understand, explain and apply a sociological argument, concept or idea, and compare and contrast ideas across a range of thinkers and writers.	Modern Knowledge, Modern Power, Political Theory and Ideologies; Level 4 options.
B4	Develop knowledge and skills in a range of traditional and emerging research methods	Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2
B5	Critically evaluate the use of different research methods in practice, apply appropriate methodological approaches to different types of sociological question, and situate these within broader methodological literature	Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2; Dissertation
B6	Experience problem-solving in groups	Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2
B7	The ability to describe and evaluate alternative views of political action, institutions and policy-making processes	Social Change and Political Action; Confronting Climate Crisis; Politics optional modules
B8	An ability to employ and make appropriate use of the language and concepts of sociology and politics.	Modern Knowledge, Modern Power; Political Theory and Ideologies; Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2; Social Change and Political Action; Modern Political Theory; Confronting Climate Crisis; option modules; Dissertation.
B9	Locate, assemble and interpret appropriate information from a range of resources in self-directed learning and to inform sociological research	Modern Knowledge, Modern Power; Political Theory and Ideologies; Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2; Social Change and Political Action; Modern Political Theory; Confronting Climate Crisis; option modules; Dissertation.

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B10	Confidently develop independent thinking and clear self-expression and be able to make reliable critical evaluations in accordance with fundamental sociological and political theories.	Dissertation; Level 6 option modules
B11	Analyse, evaluate, discuss, and synthesise complex texts, theories and empirical evidence.	Methods of Worldmaking 2; Confronting Climate Crisis; Level 5 and 6 optional modules, Dissertation.
B12	Apply theoretical and methodological approaches and concepts to specific issues and real-world problems	Modern Knowledge, Modern Power; Political Theory and Ideologies; Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2; Social Change and Political Action; Modern Political Theory ; Confronting Climate Crisis; option modules, Dissertation.
B13	Interpret, evaluate and assess the characteristics, strengths and weakness of theories and empirical evidence, including empirical data created by yourself or others	Modern Knowledge, Modern Power; Political Theory and Ideologies; Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2; Social Change and Political Action; Modern Political Theory; Confronting Climate Crisis; option modules, Dissertation.
B14	Demonstrate skills in oral, written and multimedia communication	Modern Knowledge, Modern Power; Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2; Political Theory and Ideologies; Social Change and Political Action; Modern Political Theory; Confronting Climate Crisis; option modules, Dissertation
B15	Synthesise and communicate complex ideas clearly to different types of audiences, including making persuasive arguments	Methods of Worldmaking 2
B16	Apply a decolonial and anti-racist understanding to issues of power and knowledge in relation to ecological issues	Confronting Climate Crisis

Subject specific skills and professional behaviours and attitudes

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C1	Learn how to evidence a sociological argument by using consistent and appropriate referencing to avoid plagiarism	Modern Knowledge, Modern Power
C2	Ability to express ideas and evidence clearly in written and verbal form, and in accordance with academic standards and guidelines; this includes managing the length of written work and identifying and attributing sources of knowledge	All modules
C4	Ability to work on own initiative, including learning about ways and methods for motivating oneself	All modules
C5	Acquire basic skills in computer-assisted methods in social research	Methods of Worldmaking 1
C6	Groupwork skills, including communicating, negotiating and working with people from diverse backgrounds; developing interpersonal skills in the giving and receiving of criticism	Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2; optional modules
C7	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of sound ethical and reflexive sociological research across a range of research designs and methods, including critically reflecting on how your knowledge and learning has been shaped by your lived experiences	Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2; Dissertation
C8	Appreciate the pertinence and difference between quantitative and qualitative research methods.	Methods of Worldmaking 1
C9	Demonstrate skills in different styles of methodological writing, including the description and critical evaluation of methodological approaches and practices	Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2; Dissertation
C10	Gather, evaluate and synthesise complex empirical data and information through a range of appropriate research methods	Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2; Dissertation.
C11	Critical reading and evaluation skills	All modules
C12	Differentiate between statements of opinion and statements grounded in	All modules

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
	scholarly rigour, and make judgments about the basis of different opinions, evidence, and claims	
C13	Develop an on-going self-reflexive approach to interpreting, evaluating and assessing the characteristics, strengths and weakness of theories and empirical evidence.	All modules
C14	Develop a sociological argument about a specific problem against the background of pre-existing and competing sociological arguments.	Modern Knowledge, Modern Power; Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2; Social Change and Political Action; Confronting Climate Crisis; optional modules
C15	Recognise the relevance of sociological knowledge to public, political, economic and ecological debates	Modern Knowledge, Modern Power; Methods of Worldmaking 1 and 2; Social Change and Political Action; Confronting Climate Crisis; sociology option modules; Dissertation
C16	Acquire the ability to independently design, plan, execute and write up a dissertation.	Dissertation
C17	Develop an ability to open up very specific and original areas of everyday life to sociological and political questioning	Dissertation, Confronting Climate Crisis, Level 5 and 6 option modules

Transferable skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
D1	Questioning the Status Quo	Modern Knowledge, Modern Power; Political Theory and Ideologies; Modern Political Theory; Methods of Worldmaking 1 & 2; Social Change and Political Action; Confronting Climate Crisis; Dissertation. Optional modules
D2	Borderless Thinking	Modern Knowledge Modern Power; Social Change and Political Action; Methods of Worldmaking 1&2; Dissertation.

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
		Optional modules
D3	Socially Responsible	Modern Knowledge, Modern Power; Methods of Worldmaking 1 & 2; Social Change and Political Action; Confronting Climate Crisis. Optional modules
D4	Sustainability Leadership	Social Change and Political Action; Confronting Climate Crisis Level 5 and 6 optional modules

Grading Criteria

Mark	Descriptor	Specific Marking Criteria
80-100%	1st: First (Exceptional)	Represents the overall achievement of the appropriate learning outcomes to an exceptionally accomplished level. A grade of 80-100% is awarded when candidates show outstanding and highly advanced application and understanding of theoretical or methodological areas, an original, critical and sophisticated approach.
70-79%	1st: First (Excellent)	Represents the overall achievement of the appropriate learning outcomes to an excellent level. A grade of 70-79% is awarded when candidates show an advanced or sophisticated understanding and application of theoretical or methodological areas in critical, original and independent ways in relation to the module learning outcomes.
60-69%	2.1: Upper Second (Very good)	Represents the overall achievement of the appropriate learning outcomes to a good level. A grade of 60-69% is awarded when candidates show consistency and fluency in discussing and evaluating appropriate reading from a range of sources (or bringing a range of reading to bear on analysis of, for example, texts). They will demonstrate an ability to relate this reading clearly to the examination/coursework topic and to structure their own essay. They will clearly have understood, assimilated and responded to the relevant literature. The written submission will demonstrate the effective application of appropriate knowledge, understandings and skills specified in the module learning outcomes.
50-59%	2.2: Lower Second (Good)	Represents the overall achievement of the appropriate learning outcomes to a threshold level. A grade of 50-59% is awarded when there is evidence of knowledge and understanding, but where there is limited development of

		ideas and critical comment. The written submission will demonstrate an overall satisfactory application of knowledge, understandings and skills specified in the module learning outcomes. There will be reference to relevant reading, though not necessarily critical evaluation. Within these limitations there will be some indication that the candidate has grasped fundamental concepts in the field and the point of the question.
40-49%	3rd: Third (Pass)	Represents the overall achievement of the appropriate learning outcomes to a threshold level. A grade of 40-49% is awarded when a candidate provides some evidence that they have read recommended texts but shows that their understanding is limited or contradictory, and organisation of the essay is inadequate. The written work will demonstrate that the majority of the appropriate module learning outcomes are achieved to a satisfactory level. However, the point of the question is not fully grasped or knowledge for responding to the question is lacking. There is no critical evaluation of reading.
25-39%	Fail	Represents an overall failure to achieve the appropriate learning outcomes. A grade of 25-39% is awarded when the majority of the module learning outcomes are not achieved. There is some recognition of the question but no clarity and no evidence of sufficient knowledge or understanding to respond to it.
10-24%	Bad fail	Represents a significant overall failure to achieve the appropriate learning outcomes.
1-9%	Very bad fail	A submission that does not even attempt to address the specified learning outcomes (shall be deemed a non-valid attempt and module must be re-sat).
0%	Non submission or plagiarised	A categorical mark representing either the failure to submit an assessment or a mark assigned for a plagiarised assessment

Mode of study

Full time; on campus.

Programme structure

Academic year of study 1

Autumn	Spring
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SO5100XX Methods of Worldmaking 1 Compulsory 30 credits Level 4
SO51003A Modern Knowledge, Modern Power Compulsory 30 credits Level 4
PO51012D Political Theories and Ideologies Compulsory 30 credits Level 4
Level 4 optional modules in Politics to the value of 30 credits

Level 4 optional modules in Politics may include:

PO51009D UK and European Comparative Governance & Politics; PO51010D World Politics; PO51013E Colonialism, Power, Resistance; PO51016A Introduction to Political Philosophy; PO51017D Issues in Political and Cultural Economy.

Academic year of study 2

Autumn	Spring
SO52078C Social Change & Political Action compulsory 15 credits Level 5	-
SO5200XX Methods of Worldmaking 2 Compulsory 30 credits Level 5	
PO52002C Modern Political Theory compulsory 30 credits Level 5	

Level 5 optional modules to the value of 30 credits in Politics (either term)

Level 5 optional module in Sociology (either term)
15 credits

Students may select the Goldsmiths Elective as one of their options (15 credits), the Goldsmiths Social Change Module (15 credits), or a 15 credit optional module from a relevant Department in the School

Level 5 option modules available to BA Sociology and Politics students, may include the following (note: not all optional modules will run in any given year; these are subject to staff availability and student demand).

SO52120A Law and Contemporary Society; SO52078C Social Change & Political Action;; SO52103A London;; SO52001A Central Issues;; SO52123A Food & Taste;; PO52007A Political Economy; PO52037A International Trade ; PO52038A International Monetary Economics; PO52025A An(other) Japan: Politics, Ideology and Culture ; PO52021A Chinese Politics: The Revolutionary Era; PO52018A Contemporary International Relations Theories; PO52024A Europe Since 1945; PO52035A Global Governance and World Order; PO52044A Ideologies and Interests: Political Thought in Modern Britain; PO52043A Liberalism and its Critics; PO52015B Life: A User's Manual; PO52032A Modern Britain: Politics from 1979 - Today; PO52042A Politics and International Relations of the Middle East; PO52020A Politics of Vision; PO52033B Rough Politics; PO52039A US Politics and Foreign Policy; PO52053A Challenges to Democracy PO52046A Security Studies; PO52051A Making of Global Capitalism; PO52052A Politics & Technology; Goldsmiths Social Change Module.

Academic year of study 3

Autumn	Spring
SO53021C Confronting Climate Crisis Compulsory 15 credits Level 6	-
SO53035A Dissertation Compulsory 30 credits	

Level 6

Level 6 optional modules to the value of 45-60 credits in Politics (students may either take all 60 credits in Politics. Alternatively, students may select one 15 credit optional module from the Department of Anthropology)

Level 6 optional module to the value of 15 credits in Sociology (including the Sociology Work Placement in Autumn)

Level 6 option modules may include (note: not all optional modules will run in any given year; these are subject to staff availability and student demand):

SO53149B Race, Racism & Social Theory; SO53044A Law, Identity, Ethics SO53115A; Globalisation, Crime and Justice; SO53174A Crimes of the Powerful; SO53056 Privacy, Surveillance, Security; SO53022B; Identity & Contemporary Social Theory; SO53048A Visual Explorations of the Social World; SO53043A Childhood Matters; SO53158A Thinking Animals; SO53156A Migration, Gender and Social Reproduction; ; PO53010B New Radical Political Economy; PO53044B Finance and the Global Political Economy; PO53046A Ethics and Economics of Environmental Protection ; PO52040A International Political Economy; PO53049A Liberal Government and Power ; PO53029A An(other) China: Streetscenes of Politics; PO53055A An(other) IR: Views from the South; PO53022A Anarchism; PO53011B Beyond All Reason; PO53034A Britain and Europe; PO53026A Colonialism and Non-Western Political Thought; PO53045B Critical Security Studies; PO53056A Feminist Politics; PO53041A International Political Economy; PO53052A Movements and Conflict in the Middle East: from the Arab Spring to ISIS; PO53024A Nationalist Conflict and International Intervention; PO53057A Politics of Conflict and Peacebuilding in Contemporary Africa; PO53028A Rhetoric and Politics; PO53062A Political Islam: Ideology and Discourse; PO53063A Philosophy, Freedom and Existence; PO53064A Boom and Bust: Economic Crises in Theory and History; PO53066B Migration, Technology and Humanitarianism; PO53070A Fascisms Old and New; PO53018C Radical Philosophy: Discourse, Power, Desire; PO53043B The Politics of Memory; PO 53046A The ethics and Economics of Environmental Protection; PO53056B Feminist Politics; PO53060A (An)other Japan: Politics, Ideology, Culture; PO53068A The Politics of Popular Music.

Academic support

Support for learning and wellbeing is provided in a number of ways by departments and College support services who work collaboratively to ensure students get the right help to reach their best potential both academically and personally.

All students are allocated a Personal Tutor (one in each department for joint programmes) who has overall responsibility for their individual progress and welfare. Personal Tutors meet with their student at least twice a year either face-to-face, as part of a group and/or

electronically. The first meeting normally takes place within the first few weeks of the autumn term. Personal Tutors are also available to students throughout the year of study. These meetings aim to discuss progress on modules, discussion of the academic discipline and reports from previous years if available (for continuing students). This provides an opportunity for progress, attendance and assessment marks to be reviewed and an informed discussion to take place about how to strengthen individual learning and success.

All students are also allocated a Senior Tutor to enable them to speak to an experienced academic member of staff about any issues which are negatively impacting their academic study and which are beyond the normal scope of issues handled by Programme Convenors and Personal Tutors.

Students are provided with information about learning resources, the [Library](#) and information available on [Learn.gold \(VLE\)](#) so that they have access to department/ programme handbooks, programme information and support related information and guidance.

Taught sessions and lectures provide overviews of themes, which students are encouraged to complement with intensive reading for presentation and discussion with peers at seminars. Assessments build on lectures and seminars so students are expected to attend all taught sessions to build knowledge and their own understanding of their chosen discipline.

All assessed work is accompanied by some form of feedback to ensure that students' work is on the right track. It may come in a variety of forms ranging from written comments on a marked essay to oral and written feedback on developing projects and practice as they attend workshops.

Students may be referred to specialist student services by department staff or they may access support services independently. Information about support services is provided on the [Goldsmiths website](#) and for new students through new starter information and induction/Welcome Week. Any support recommendations that are made are agreed with the student and communicated to the department so that adjustments to learning and teaching are able to be implemented at a department level and students can be reassured that arrangements are in place. Opportunities are provided for students to review their support arrangements should their circumstances change. The [Disability](#) and [Wellbeing](#) Services maintain caseloads of students and provide on-going support.

The [Careers Service](#) provides central support for skills enhancement, running [The Gold Award](#) scheme and other co-curricular activities that are accredited via the Higher Education Achievement Report ([HEAR](#)).

The [Academic Skills Centre](#) works with academic departments offering bespoke academic literacy sessions. It also provides a programme of academic skills workshops and one-to-one provision for students throughout the year.

Placement opportunities

SO53167A Sociology Work Placement is offered as an optional module at both Level 5 and 6 to maximise the possibility of student uptake. The central objective of the module is to enable students to take up a workplace learning experience designed to enhance their studies and by bringing theory and organisational practice together. The work placement you select can either be in-person or remote depending on your preference. Placements also help expand students' networks and provide valuable insights into potential work environments for after graduation, as well as the space and guidance to reflect on what it means to apply sociology to the contemporary world of work.

Prior to placement, in the Summer Term students attend a CV appointment and check with the Careers Service and sessions are delivered by the Module Convenor - as well as an 'Employability Skills' session with the Careers Service. The placement itself occurs between July – September; in Autumn Term, students receive two further lectures and tutorials, and the module assessment is completed during this term.

Assessment is via a Research Report (3000 words; 75% weighting) and oral presentation with supporting notes (20 mins; 25% weighting).

By the end of the module, students will be able to:

- Apply previously gained, theory-derived knowledge to provide a sociological perspective on the host organization
- Critically evaluate and apply the experiences they have acquired during placement to inform and enhance knowledge
- Demonstrate an insight into the working environment, as well as knowledge of the career options within an organisation, the competencies and traits required to enter these areas, and the ability to articulate response to these requirements
- Self-evaluate their placement experience, and articulate their transferable skills, values and personal traits
- Create a strategy for further skills development and career preparation
- Reflect critically on the role and effectiveness of an organization or field.

By the end of the module, students will also be expected to have developed a range of transferable skills, including the ability:

- To confidently communicate and discuss complex concepts and ideas

- To present logical arguments, to read and listen carefully and critically, and to offer critical assessments.
- To effectively apply learning and time management skills
- To work collaboratively as a member of a group
- To demonstrate the capacity for independent judgment and open-mindedness.
- To demonstrate information management skills.
- The ability to access and use a range of resources.

Employability and potential career opportunities

Students graduating from the BA (Hons) Sociology programme move on to a range of careers and employment areas, including the public and voluntary sector, the culture and media industries, marketing and corporate communications, arts administration, social research, teaching, and postgraduate study in sociology, politics, international relations, media, education, studies and related fields.

In your time at Goldsmiths, University of London, you will have the opportunity to develop a wide range of skills (through modules and student activities) which will be valuable in future. Within the BA Sociology programme, students will be encouraged to develop a range of transferable skills across the whole curriculum. They learn to reflect on their opinions, arguments and approaches with the aim of understanding how they can develop their own sociological arguments. They also have a variety of opportunities to develop skills in: planning and organising their time and managing assessment; developing academic, research, and writing skills; presenting their ideas to other people; working collaboratively; listening and responding constructively to the ideas and opinions of others; analysing problems and presenting solutions individually or in negotiation with other people; and learning to work and negotiate with people from different backgrounds, whom may have differing experiences and opinions from their own.

In addition, students are expected to develop:

- Reading, learning, research and study skills; including retrieval, selection and management of information from a variety of electronic and non-electronic sources
- The ability to express ideas and evidence clearly in written form, and in accordance with academic standards and guidelines (including managing the length of written work, identifying the sources of knowledge and attributing ideas accurately to these sources)

- Powers of verbal and written expression and presentation
- The ability to work on their own initiative, including learning about areas or methods for self-motivation
- Group-work skills, including communicating, negotiating and working with people from diverse backgrounds
- The ability to make judgements about the basis of different opinions, evidence, and claims
- Presentation skills, including skills in preparation
 - Demonstrate knowledge and skills in a range of traditional and emerging research methods for sociological research
 - Knowledge and skills in a range of traditional and emerging research methods for sociological research
 - Demonstrate skills in problem-solving
- The ability to plan, design, manage and complete an independent project
- Time management skills, including planning and organisation of their own work
 - Synthesise and convey complex ideas and information to different types of audience
- Information technology skills
- Skills in computer-assisted methods in social research
- Skills in basic statistical methods and numeracy

Programme-specific requirements

Not applicable.

Tuition fee costs

Information on tuition fee costs is available at: <https://www.gold.ac.uk/students/fee-support/>

Specific programme costs

Not applicable.