INTRODUCING SOCIOLOGY AT WARWICK

OUR DEPARTMENT
We are a friendly, lively and interactive department with a stimulating environment where postgraduate students connect with staff and students at all levels of study. Ranking 44th in the world in the QS World University Rankings 2017, we are internationally renowned for our research and teaching in sociology. We are also rated as one of the top UK departments, as confirmed by our consistently high placing across the range of national league tables; rated 6th in the UK by the Guardian University Guide 2018 and 10th by the Complete University Guide 2017.

OUR TEACHING
Our postgraduate programmes are designed by high-calibre academics whose research is published and discussed around the world. Our courses are fresh and relevant and they’ll introduce you to the latest thinking, underpinned by cutting-edge research. Whether you’ve studied sociology at undergraduate level or not, we will expand your knowledge and give you an enhanced sociological education. Also, with dozens of modules to choose from it is possible to customize your degree according to your own intellectual pursuits or career objectives. So, whether you’re looking to do a Masters in order to go on to the world of work, or whether you are set on further academic study, you’ll develop important transferable skills that are essential for either field.
OUR RESEARCH

Our research areas are varied. We have considerable strengths in areas such as: gender studies, social theory, health and illness, migration and ethnicity, work and employment, political sociology, the sociologies of religion, bioscience, markets, knowledge, media, quantitative sociology, criminology and education. This is important and relevant to you because our research informs our postgraduate teaching. As you’ll see later in this brochure, all of our masters programmes have compulsory core modules. In addition to these, you’ll have the freedom to select from our specialist choices. These core and specialist choices are informed by our diverse research interests.

Research within the Department of Sociology covers the broad span of the discipline and is organised in terms of three main areas as outlined below:

- Economy, Technology, Expertise
- Inequalities and Social Change
- Justice, Authority and the Geopolitical

Each research theme has its own specific orientation and way of working in terms of collaborating on research grant applications, discussing work in progress, and organising seminars and symposia. Colleagues also participate in the activities of the two Research Centres hosted within the department - the Social Theory Centre and the Centre for the Study of Women and Gender - as well as in interdisciplinary programmes across the university and beyond. Active participation in the research themes, centres, and broader research programmes and networks demonstrates the strength and dynamism of our research culture. You can read more about our centres on the web pages: warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/sociology/research/centres

EVENTS

In addition to your seminars and independent study, you are invited to get involved in the intellectual life of the department. Events include regular seminars as well as conferences, documentary screenings, workshops, and debates. By engaging with these areas beyond the classroom, at various events throughout the year, you will widen your perspective and explore the diverse reach and applications of sociology.

Sociology departmental seminar series - these are held regularly during term time and offer an opportunity to interact with staff and other students. There are often guest lecturers from beyond Warwick and recent events have included:

- What is race doing in the UK’s stem cell inventory?
- From war grave to peace garden: militarised citizenship and cultural heritage
- Tracing Autism: Uncertainty, Ambiguity, and the Affective Labor of Neuroscience
- The Secularisation of the Environment: Darwinism as sociology

We also have a Graduate seminar series, with regular events including presentations from Warwick and visiting postgraduates on their work in progress. Past events have included:

- Sexuality, Desire and Care Work
- Bodies and Identities of Struggle
- Motherhood, Queer Femininity and Autobiography
- Spaces of Fear, Inequality, and Gender

Our research centres and themes also host their own visiting speaker programmes. Previous sessions include:

- How Could We Truly Live and Talk Together: Beyond Idealist Dreams and Pseudo-materialists Dictates
- Breaking our silences on the neoliberal academy: facilitating change from a postgraduate perspective
- STS and Environmental Politics
- Women and beyond war: justice, conflict and peacekeeping
You’ll be joining an intellectually stimulating environment, where many scholars are well known internationally. We are as committed to teaching as to research. As teachers, our aim is to be student-friendly, to bring our own research into the seminar room and to encourage you to begin to engage in your own research. You’ll be given scope to take your work in the directions that attract you.

**SUPPORT**

As you progress to the next level as a university student, you’ll find plenty of support on offer to develop and enhance your study skills, and provide you with advice and feedback.

Your **personal tutor** will support your academic development throughout your programme. They will discuss your academic progress, advise on matters such as module choices, and act as your referee for job or further academic applications.

**Module tutors** can provide specific advice about the subject matter of individual modules and also advice in terms of specific essays and assignments.

You’ll have **workshops** throughout the year to equip you with the skills you need to successfully complete your degree. Workshops include essay writing, planning and writing your postgraduate dissertation. You’ll have the chance to present your dissertation work.

Your **academic support librarian** provides targeted support in your subject area, helping you to develop information and research skills during your course. You can also make requests for book purchase, skills training or assistance with your research.

**Warwick skills programmes.** Warwick also provides a number of excellent academic programmes to support you in your studies and personal and professional development, including the Master Skills Programme, Warwick Skills Portfolio Award and the Academic Writing Programme.

**DEDICATED SPACES**

The **Sociology Common Room** offers you a centrally located space where you can grab a tea or coffee and meet other students and staff in the Department.

The **PG Hub** is a space dedicated to Warwick postgraduate taught and research students. Not only does it offer a workspace and study support, it is a place to meet other postgraduate students and access resources including the many social and academic activities on offer. These include writing mentors, sessions such as EndNote training, Literature searching and other support workshops. We also offer Yoga sessions and a Summer Fête.

The **University Library** has a range of study spaces including informal spaces, collaborative spaces for group work, dedicated silent and quiet study floors, and a large number of computers, as well as other specialist technology. You’ll also find study spaces with computer clusters, multimedia resources and bookable rooms in the Learning Grid University House, Learning Grid Rootes and Learning Grid Leamington.
There are so many events for masters students at Warwick and in the Sociology department. I constantly get emails for events happening nearly every day, and many of them are really interesting. Events can range from sociology lunches, cake and tea meetings, to guest lectures with a reception at the end. They are great and give you a chance to meet new people. The sociology community is a bit like a big family.

Lea Linebaugh
MA Gender and International Development

Below are examples of current societies which may be of interest to Sociology students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Society Name</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHILD.org</td>
<td>warwicksu.com/societies/KOPWarwick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEDxWarwick</td>
<td>warwicksu.com/societies/TEDxWarwick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unicef on Campus</td>
<td>warwicksu.com/societies/unicefoncampus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwick Anti-Racism Society</td>
<td>warwicksu.com/societies/WARSoc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwick Anti-Sexism Society</td>
<td>warwicksu.com/societies/WarwickAntiSexism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwick Debating Society</td>
<td>warwicksu.com/societies/debating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwick Globalist</td>
<td>warwicksu.com/societies/17365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwick Inspire</td>
<td>warwicksu.com/societies/inspire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwick International Development Society</td>
<td>warwicksu.com/societies/internationaldev</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwick Pride</td>
<td>warwicksu.com/societies/WarwickPride</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwick Speakers</td>
<td>warwicksu.com/societies/warwickspeakers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwick Student Arts Festival</td>
<td>warwicksu.com/societies/WSAF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwick Think Tank Society</td>
<td>warwicksu.com/societies/WarwickThinkTank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwick Volunteers</td>
<td>warwicksu.com/societies/warwickvolunteers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women for Women International Warwick</td>
<td>warwicksu.com/societies/WomenforWomenIntl</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We offer five taught Masters programmes:
MA Sociology;
MA Social Research;
MA Social and Political Thought;
MA Gender and International Development;
MSc Quantitative Social Research.

Studying for a Masters provides you with the opportunity to engage with a particular area of sociology in more depth than you typically can as an undergraduate. It will also provide you with research skills in preparation for employment or further postgraduate study.

Whichever Masters programme you choose, you can study from a wide range of modules. Beyond any core modules your course has, you will be able to tailor your course to your interests and aspirations. Page 8 of this brochure lists the modules which are currently available across our Masters programmes.

All of our Masters programmes can be studied on a full-time basis, over 12 months, or a part-time basis, over a period of 24 months, starting in October each year. Each programme can also be taken as the Postgraduate Diploma (without the dissertation element).

HOW YOU’LL STUDY

Each of our Masters courses has specified core modules which will be studied alongside a range of optional modules.

All our Masters courses follow a consistent structure, meaning that you will follow a programme of taught modules making up 120 CATS (academic credits), followed by a 15,000 word dissertation worth 60 CATS. Our modules are generally 20 CATS, so you will cover 6 modules - although your exact pathway will depend on the programme you choose and your selection of optional modules. So, alongside your course’s core modules and your dissertation, you will be required to select a number of optional choices. Each course has different requirements for this. Some allow you free choice across the department and some will require you to select a number of modules from relevant lists.

For MA Gender and International Development, you’ll be required to take three optional modules, and two of these will have to be selected from two lists. For MA Sociology, you’ll be required to study four optional modules. You’ll need to choose one from two lists, and two other modules from those offered by our department. For MA Social Research, you’ll be required to select three optional modules of your choosing. For MA Social and Political Theory, you’ll be required to choose four optional modules from our departmental list. For MSc Quantitative Social Research, you’ll need to take at least two optional modules from within Sociology (40 CATS).

We offer a wide range of optional modules reflecting the great breadth of research areas we have in our department. So, beyond any core modules your course may have, you will be able to tailor your course to your interests and aspirations.
You will have a personal tutor who will be able to advise you on your academic progress as well as discuss aspects such as which modules are best for you.

If you’re a full-time student, you’ll undertake taught modules and submit assessed essays for these during the autumn and spring terms. In the summer term, you will begin planning and working on your dissertation. Most of your supervision sessions for your dissertation with your agreed supervisor will happen then. As long as you pass your taught components, you will then focus on completion of your Masters dissertation in the summer months.

If you study part-time then you will study your taught modules over two years: with teaching taking place during the academic terms. The order in which you study your modules will be agreed following discussion with your course convenor. You will also begin planning your dissertation in year two.

YOUR DISSERTATION

After completing the taught part of the course, Masters students will go on to write a dissertation of 15,000 words. Your topic and title will be agreed by you in discussion with your supervisor. This is a chance to undertake original independent research, allowing you to focus in-depth on an area of your choice, developing a coherent and sustained argument and discussion as part of an extended project.

You will receive support in your dissertation through one-to-one sessions with your supervisor. You will also be prepared through research skills sessions and specific sessions on essay writing, dissertation planning and writing throughout your course.

From the start of your course you will begin considering possible dissertation topics and we will look to confirm a supervisor for your dissertation by the end of spring term. Part-time students will be allocated a supervisor for their dissertation by the end of the autumn term in their second year. You will be assigned a dissertation supervisor who has the appropriate expertise in your chosen area.
TABLE OF MODULES

This module list is for the 2017/18 academic year and is illustrative of the modules that might be offered in future years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>MSc in Quantitative Social Research</th>
<th>MA in Gender and International Development</th>
<th>MA in Social and Political Thought</th>
<th>MA in Social Research</th>
<th>MA in Sociology</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Qualitative Methods in Social Research</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>B*</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>CORE</td>
<td>A*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantitative Methods in Social Research</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>B*</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>CORE</td>
<td>A*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundamentals in Quantitative Research Methods</td>
<td>CORE</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Design, Workflow, and Data Management</td>
<td>CORE</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Quantitative Research</td>
<td>CORE</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender, Imperialism and International Development</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>CORE</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender Analysis and Development Practice</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>CORE</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politics and Social Theory</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>CORE</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology of Modernity</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rethinking the 20th Century</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology of the Body</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animals in Society</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capitalism, State, and Market</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>CORE</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Research for Social Change</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>A*</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of the Art of Sociology</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>CORE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding Social Science</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>B*</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>CORE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Sociology of End Times</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion, Militancy and Terror</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Theory and Social Justice</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>A*</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology in a Biological Age: Power, Sociality and Difference</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>A*</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CORE** core module for that degree (compulsory)

**A** indicates modules from which ONE must be chosen for this course

**B** for MA Gender and International Development at least one of these modules must also be chosen

**O** sociology module that can be taken as an option for that degree
MA IN SOCIOLOGY

Why are ‘private troubles’ also ‘public issues’? You’ll explore and answer questions just like this on our MA Sociology programme.

MA Sociology is a lively and engaging programme for students interested in how social life shapes individuals’ experiences of the world around us.

Focusing on cutting-edge areas of the discipline, our teaching is carried out by leading, research active sociologists. From across sociology and allied social sciences, you’ll gain a thorough understanding of theories and methodologies. Then, by choosing from our wide range of specialist modules, you’ll tailor your programme dependent on your own specific interests.

The work you will do during your Masters study will include: examining individuals’ experiences, and encounters with structures and institutions; reading new empirical research; exploring social theories; and assessing innovative methodologies. The skills you will develop in doing this will stand you in good stead as you progress into your career.

The taught modules on this programme provide you with a detailed understanding of a range of traditional and emerging social research methods; you’ll then apply this knowledge to your dissertation. The dissertation is your chance to carry out an independent research project on a topic that inspires you, supervised by one of our academics.

You may have already studied sociology, or perhaps you are considering a new intellectual home. Students from different humanities and social science disciplines, who have an interest in obtaining a deep and complex understanding of the social world, are welcomed on to this programme.

CORE MODULE #1

STATE OF THE ART OF SOCIOLOGY

This module will introduce you to current and cutting-edge developments and debates in the field of sociology, linking them to older traditions and currents of the discipline.

In the State of the Art of Sociology, you’ll receive a lecture/workshop from a different member of academic staff in the Department each week, focusing on their particular area of specialism, the work in which they are currently engaged, and how this work relates to developments in the wider discipline and beyond. This will enable you to gain an understanding of the limits and possibilities of Sociology as a discipline, through engagement with a wide range of approaches (in terms of methodology, empirical focus and theoretical approach), to develop your own interests in specific areas of work (in preparation for the dissertation) and to relate these specific interests to other sociological approaches.

By linking the innovative research currently conducted in the Department with longer-standing questions in Sociology, the module will challenge you if you have studied Sociology at undergraduate level, as well as acting as an engaging introduction to the discipline if you are new to it. You’ll have the opportunity to hear from a range of experts teaching and researching within the Warwick Sociology Department, and to benefit from their wide-ranging interests and styles of teaching.

Throughout the module, you’ll be encouraged to make links and consider contradictions between and within different approaches to sociological research, theory and practice. What’s more, you’ll develop writing and presentation skills early in the module in order to share your analysis and learn from one another, taking a lead in shaping your own understandings and developing special interests within Sociology.
CORE MODULE #2

UNDERSTANDING SOCIAL SCIENCE

You’ll be introduced to some of the standard methodological and theoretical problems posed by social inquiry, the relationship between them and its significance for contemporary debates within the social sciences. The first half of the course will explore recurring questions within the social sciences, such as the possibility of naturalism and the nature of social explanation, as well as how successive theoretical innovations have striven to reposition social inquiry in relation to these questions.

These sessions will include social ontology and competing perspectives on its significance, or lack thereof, for social inquiry before moving on to key developments in contemporary social theory from structurationist theory onwards (relational sociology, realist social theory, actor-network theory and analytical sociology).

These issues will then be explored in terms of two substantive themes which have recurrently concerned the social sciences: social change and the relationship between self and society. It will address the history of the social sciences but also the social sciences as part of history, attending to the ways in which social scientific disciplines have been part of the very changes they also aim to study. In doing so, it will lay the groundwork to understand the pressing challenges facing the social sciences today: the crisis of social scientific authority, ‘transactional data’ produced via social media and the possibility for a computational social science.

Students will also take at least one of these modules

- Qualitative Methods in Social Research (see page 12)
- Quantitative Methods in Social Research (see page 12)
This programme offers a strong grounding in the methodologies of Sociology and allied social sciences, whilst allowing you to explore specialist aspects of the discipline. While you may wish to pursue a career in social research and many other fields, the degree also provides a firm basis for PhD-level research. If you follow the MA Social Research route, you will achieve a detailed understanding of a range of traditional and emerging social research methods, and the opportunity to apply this knowledge in an independent research project that forms their dissertation. This programme encourages you to focus on cutting-edge sociology, with teaching that directly relates to the research interests and activities of academic staff.

In order to provide a strong core in social research methods, there are three one-term mandatory modules in social research methods, beginning with Understanding Social Science and moving onto specialist modules in Qualitative and Quantitative Research Methods. Through these, you’ll learn about latest innovations and debates in methodology as well as practice-based learning. You’ll then be able to choose three optional modules from a range of specialist modules. You’ll also progress to research and write your own 15,000-word dissertation with personal supervision from one of our leading scholars.

Overall we aim to encourage a critical understanding of the possibilities of Sociology in terms of empirical research, methodological innovations, theoretical developments, and their interrelations.

CORE MODULE #1
QUALITATIVE METHODS IN SOCIAL RESEARCH

Qualitative methods are rooted in interpretivist approaches to the social sciences which state that to know the social worlds we study, we need to understand the meanings that human subjects hold. Qualitative traditions of social research thus stress the importance of gaining access to the meanings possessed by human beings, since it is on the basis of such meanings that human agency and sociability become intelligible. Ethnographic traditions of social research have thus emphasised the importance of studying social life in its ‘natural settings’ and through the participation of the researcher in those worlds. This has been complemented and revised by other qualitative research techniques and practices aimed at accessing the experiences, meanings and understandings possessed by human subjects, and how these are best represented through the construction of sociologically valid knowledge.

CORE MODULE #2
QUANTITATIVE METHODS IN SOCIAL RESEARCH

This module aims to develop practical quantitative research methods skills, and a critical appreciation of such methods. The module covers the generation of primary quantitative data, the secondary analysis of data from large-scale surveys, and the interpretation of published analyses. The evaluation of existing research instruments and the development of new questionnaires are discussed, as are the conceptual and contextual factors determining the meaning and value of data. By the module’s end, students are able, using statistical software, to carry out analyses addressing the kinds of important research questions that require the application of multivariate analysis techniques.
CORE MODULE #3
UNDERSTANDING SOCIAL SCIENCE

The module introduces students to some of the standard methodological and theoretical problems posed by social inquiry. It is divided into two parts with the first part being structured around problems in social science and the second part around the problem(s) of objectivity. Many of the issues to be discussed relate to one key question: are the methods of the social sciences essentially the same or essentially different from those of the natural sciences? Having successfully completed this module, students will be able to demonstrate the ability to critically evaluate philosophical debates in social science. They will be able to identify different value positions and their implications for research. They will be able to describe the relationship between philosophical standpoints and methodological strategies. They will be able to discuss the contribution of philosophical issues and knowledge bases to research practice, as well as identify a variety of social and political contexts and uses of research.
MA IN GENDER AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Our programme will give you a thorough understanding of the centrality of gender relations in development and how gender is cross-cut by other significant differences, such as sexuality, race, ethnicity, (dis)ability and social class. Through our two core modules you will achieve a rigorous theoretical and conceptual foundation linked to a strong practical focus on issues and policies of gender and development. A third optional core module will give you a detailed understanding of methodological debates in social research, and you’ll also take one more gender/development module, for example, Social Research for Social Change; Sociology in a Biological Age; Social Theory and Social Justice. You will then select from a wide range of exciting and cutting-edge specialist modules, including an optional module in law and development. Optional modules provide opportunities to explore substantive issues that excite you, such as human rights, religion, animals in society, global capitalism, State of the Art of Sociology, the body, modernity, feminist theory and epistemology, and postcolonial theory. With personal supervision from one of our leading scholars, you will then progress to research and write your own 15,000 word dissertation.

Our programme takes place in the unique academic context of both a Women and Gender Studies Research Centre, with an exciting programme of research seminars and events, and a thriving Sociology department, with a strong international research and teaching profile. You may be a development professional looking to progress your career, a student moving on to graduate study with an interest in development or a researcher seeking a relevant MA as preparation for a research degree. Students from a wide range of backgrounds have prospered on this course, and we welcome your application.
You then choose at least one optional gender/development module:
- Social Research for Social Change
- Social Theory and Social Justice
- Sociology in Biological Age, Power, Sociality and Difference

And at least one optional methodologies module:
- Qualitative Methods in Social Research (see page 12)
- Quantitative Methods in Social Research (see page 12)
- Understanding Social Science (see page 11)
This MA programme provides you with a thorough grounding in the classics of Social and Political Thought and a deep and varied engagement with their 20th and 21st Century offshoots. This course addresses a range of key concepts and ideas that are central to the analysis of contemporary society, politics and culture, including debates over the basis of contemporary capitalism, neoliberalism, biopolitics, ideology, and the fundamental question of what it means to be ‘social’ and/or ‘human’.

The degree is structured around two core modules. The first of these is State, Capitalism and Market, which uses theoretical resources such as Michel Foucault’s writings on biopolitics to think analytically and critically about capitalism and its recurrent crises. This module looks in particular at the recent financial crisis and the role this crisis has played in the reconfiguration of structural relations between the market and the state. A key part of this module is the critical analysis of political-economic discourses of neoliberalism that argue for the sovereignty of markets and economics over all things ‘social’. The second core module is Politics and Social Theory uses the work of a wide-range of classical thinkers (for example, de Tocqueville, Marx, Durkheim and Weber) and Twentieth Century writers (Arendt, Schmitt and Rorty) to consider the possibility of developing a sociological understanding of politics.

Beyond these two core modules, you can pursue your own research interests and specialisms by choosing four modules from a wide-range of options, and then progressing to research and write your own 15,000 word dissertation. Optional modules include, for example, ‘Rethinking the 20th Century’, ‘Social Research for Social Change’, ‘Feminist Theory and Epistemology’, ‘Market Life’, and ‘Death Sovereignty and Power in the (Post) Colony’.
CORE MODULE #1  
CAPITALISM, STATE AND MARKET  
This module uses a range of theoretical resources to think analytically and critically about capitalism and its recurrent crises. You’ll look at the recent financial crisis and the role it has played in the reconfiguration of structural relations between the market and the state. Drawing on Michel Focault’s lectures on biopolitics, the module will consider the different types of governmentality that underpin these changing relations: from classical liberal forms to new neoliberal ones. The module will centre on this question of neoliberalism and will pay close historical attention to political-economic discourses which argue for the sovereignty of markets and economics over all things ‘social’. Social science, and sociology in particular, has tended to dismiss neoliberal ideas without seriously engaging with them. This is not something that will be done on this module, which instead will pursue a critical reading of the neoliberal canon while at the same time exploring some of the unexpected sociological influences upon the neoliberal project.

CORE MODULE #2  
POLITICS AND SOCIAL THEORY  
The aim of this module is to introduce some classic statements on the relationship between state, civil society and the individual, but to do so in order to get a handle on one overriding question: what is the place of politics in human life? The relationship between political and sociological understandings of human affairs has been a source of some tension and ambivalence ever since sociology began to adopt some of the language and the agenda of political philosophy. We will begin with Hobbes, Hegel and Marx on the state, examine the sociological understandings of politics in de Tocqueville and Durkheim, particularly in their claims about voluntary associations, and finish by examining the work of Max Weber and Carl Schmitt on political leadership.
Social researchers use a wide range of quantitative methods to describe and explain societal trends and patterns of social behaviour. Applications of quantitative techniques have been crucial for substantive areas of enquiry such as poverty, social inequality, health, and social attitudes. At the same time, quantitative skills are also highly sought after in the global job market, given the increasing access to social surveys, administrative data, and ‘big data’.

Offered in association with the Warwick Q-step Centre, this course will equip you with a wide range of advanced skills in data management and analysis, alongside a thorough grounding in key theoretical and substantive sociological topics. You will develop a comprehensive understanding of methodological and analytical aspects of social research, and the ability to put them into practice in a variety of work settings.

This course consists of three core modules on data management and analysis, and a research dissertation on a topic of your own interest. You will be able to explore particular specialist areas in more depth by choosing optional sociological modules. You will also attend an annual Spring Camp. In previous years this consisted of talks from academic and private sector experts, and training workshops on quantitative methods.

The Warwick Q-step Centre will also organise specialist Master classes on different cutting-edge quantitative methods with leading global experts in the field. This course will prepare you for work in a range of careers that value analytical ability and quantitative methods skills. You will be particularly suited for roles within central and local government, academic and commercial research, journalism, and policy-making.
CORE MODULE #1
FUNDAMENTALS IN QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS
This module will provide a thorough grounding in fundamental concepts for statistical analysis and inference. Stages of research design such as sampling and measurement, as well as elementary descriptive and inferential statistical techniques will be covered. You will learn how to present data and how to critically engage with existing quantitative literature. This module will serve as the basis for learning more advanced quantitative methods that you can use to answer sociologically interesting questions.

CORE MODULE #2
RESEARCH DESIGN, WORKFLOW, AND DATA MANAGEMENT
Social researchers spend a large part of their time preparing data for analysis. This course will introduce the skills and techniques required to plan, organise, document, and execute research in a manner that will encourage efficiency, accuracy, and replication. You will discover the pitfalls encountered when analysing real-world data, and the importance of planning, organisation, and documentation for the research process. You will develop data management and statistical software skills and a better appreciation of the different steps of the research process.

CORE MODULE #3
ADVANCED QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH
This module will introduce you to a selected set of advanced statistical modeling techniques commonly used in quantitative social science. You will cover three advanced methods such as event history analysis, multilevel modeling, and agent-based simulation. You will apply these techniques to existing large-scale data in order to explore a sociological topic of interest, gaining hands-on experience with social surveys of complex data structure.
SOCIOLOGY OF THE BODY

Sociology might not be the first thing that springs to mind when you think about body matters. Bodies though are more than just flesh and blood matters, important as that is of course. They are social through and through: the animating principle of any and all things social indeed, from self to society; ‘projects’ even to be worked at and improved upon in these body conscious times of ours.

In this module we take a closer look at these body and society matters, drawing on sociology past and present in order to do so.

Some of the things we look at on the module for example, from a variety of sociological angles, perspectives and viewpoints, are: sociology, biology and the body; the socially constructed body; the ‘civilising’ and ‘disciplining’ of bodies through the centuries; Bodies, capital, distinction: Bourdieu and beyond; feminisms and the body; Emotional bodies/‘managed hearts’: The commercialisation of human feeling?; vulnerable bodies: pain, suffering and the human condition; optimised bodies: biomedical enhancements; sleeping bodies; mortal bodies: death and dying in late/postmodernity; and reflexive bodies: doing sociology as an embodied practice.

SOCIOLOGY OF MODERNITY

Sociological accounts of contemporary society have increasingly shifted away from talk of capitalism or industrial society towards a broader concern with modernity. The benefits of such an approach are most obvious in the attention which is given to the non-material aspects of the social, and in the attendant interdisciplinary character of theorising about modernity.

The aim of this course is to reflect some of these changes without at the same time sacrificing what has been gained through more traditional approaches. The first part, then, concentrates on the institutional analysis of modern society - its politics, economics and ideology. But at the same time it focuses upon a basic tension which runs through most of these mainstream accounts, namely the struggle between individual striving for personal freedom and autonomy, and the increasing capacity of human beings to master or control their surroundings. This tension has been played out, without always being acknowledged, in theories of functional differentiation, cultural contradictions, the civilising process and the disciplinary society.
STATE OF THE ART OF SOCIOLOGY
What does it mean to be human? How is what we know as sociologists shaped by legacies of colonialism? How are social norms affected by climate change and pollution?

If you are interested in exploring questions like this, guided by leading scholars conducting specialist research in their field, then this module is for you. The module provides an introduction to the broad field of Sociology for those who have not studied it before, but it avoids repetition for students familiar with the discipline by guiding you through the latest research in the discipline. Taught by a different expert each week, you will learn direct from researchers about their work in examining issues such as: the relationship between humans and technology; how we can understand human rights through a sociological lens; what it means to conduct activist sociology, and a range of other issues.

You will be encouraged to learn from and challenge the tensions between different aspects of the discipline of Sociology, and to develop your own knowledge, expertise and identity as an emerging sociologist in your own right. Through ongoing engagement and discussion with lecturers and your fellow students in seminars and online, you will be encouraged to formulate sociological questions which help you to think about the relationships between individuals and society, power and choice.

ANIMALS IN SOCIETY
Have you ever wondered why some people eat horses and others don’t? Do you think that animal experimentation is important to develop life-saving new medicines? Do you think that pet animals are family members? And do you believe that the British are a nation of animal lovers?

In this module we explore questions about our relationships with other animals, the way we differentiate between humans and animals and between different categories of animal, and the symbolic significance of animals.

We explore the place of animals in society and culture and how this varies cross-culturally and over time. We consider the significance of animals to social development and look at the moral and philosophical underpinnings of our relationship with animals. We challenge sociology’s focus on the human and explore whether post-humanism can help us think more constructively about how we relate to the other living creatures on this planet.

You will develop knowledge of these topics through reading but also by undertaking your own research. You will explore the place of animals in people’s lives by carrying out interviews and using images to prompt reflection. Through interviewing people about the way they relate to animals and/or photographing humans and other animals, you will gain experience of different research methods.

RELIGION, MILITANCY AND TERROR
Why is it the case that most religions profess peace and harmony, as a central aspect of their practice, yet many adherents to a faith find no difficulty in justifying violence in its name? If you are interested in the relationship between religion, militancy and terror then this course will be thought provoking. To fully explore these ideas the case study of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan will provide substance to the theoretical terrain being explored. Pakistan has come to prominence in the 21st century, partly due to the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, but for our purposes also because it is one of two states with an explicitly religious cause to its formation (the other being Israel). An overview of the state formation, the economic development and social institutions of Pakistan provide the base for a fuller understanding of the crucial questions of religion, militancy and terror which have wider resonance to other parts of the world. The aim of the course is to develop a critical awareness of the different approaches to conceptualising the relationships between religion and politics; a basic understanding of the social institutions of Pakistan and a sensitivity to the distinctions and continuities between militancy and terrorism.
WHAT DO WARWICK SOCIOLOGY MASTERS GRADUATES DO?

Six months after graduating, 96% of 2014/15 Warwick Sociology Masters graduates were in jobs or further study.

Examples of Sociology postgraduates’ job titles include:
Assistant Housing Needs Officer, Editorial Systems Coordinator, Junior Account Manager Intern, Leadership Support Team Worker, Lecturer, Management Graduate Trainee, Market Researcher, Programme Experience Manager, Project Coordinator, Research Analyst, Researcher / Campaigner, Senior Political Analyst Assistant and Research Officer, Social Researcher, University Teacher, Volunteer

Companies and Organisations where Sociology postgraduates work include:
Birmingham City Council, Brent Council, Citizens Advice Bureau, Civil Service, Concordia, Nielsen, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, Porter Novelli, Surrey County Council, Taylor & Francis Group, Teaching Leaders

Further study destinations:
Of the Sociology MA graduates who went on to further study, confirmed destinations for those who responded include, University of Warwick, the University of Manchester, the University of Edinburgh and the University of Exeter
On completion of my MA Social Research, I was keen to be able to apply what I’d learned in whatever employment I took up. My initial job search was extensive, covering many fields and disciplines including academia and further research. As my search progressed I found myself more and more drawn to jobs that used research creatively, having been particularly inspired by a module called Visual Sociology whilst I was at Warwick.

I now work as a freelancer in documentary film making. Starting my career at Latimer, a youth-centred social enterprise, committed to affecting social change through creative media and film production. Here, alongside film campaigns on social issues, I got my first experience on a television documentary for Channel 4 looking at Dog Fighting. From there I moved to working at VICE Media on documentaries covering issues such as LGBT rights and culture, drag and gender play and body modification. I’m now a freelance Assistant Producer for TV documentary and am currently working on a BBC 2 series about social mobility. Although many of my colleagues came to filmmaking through studying media or at film school, I’ve found that the process of social research lends itself to documentary. Most importantly, this MA provided me with broad experience that opened up many avenues for work on graduating.

Sophie Perrins
Freelance Documentary Film-maker
MA Social Research
Studying at Warwick was an opportunity to build my theoretical understanding of programme work while developing expertise on gender and development theory and practice. The MA part-time allowed me to apply what I was learning directly to my work at Oxfam, particularly for the dissertation which I did as a joint project with Oxfam. I enjoyed looking at my work in a new light from post-colonial and feminist perspectives, challenging myself to critique traditional approaches and do things in different ways.

Warwick is one of a few UK universities recognising the importance of an international development course with a specific focus on gender justice. There was flexibility to take a variety of gender-focused modules across the Sociology, Law and Politics departments, which brought different perspectives to the issues we were studying. There were about 12 of us on the course, so we got to know each other really well; going for lunches, studying together and meeting up in the Sociology common room. Being a small group also meant we had a lot of contact time with academic staff. All the tutors were fantastic in providing support and guidance, especially during essay and dissertation meltdowns!

I am currently working at Oxfam as a Youth Active Citizenship Adviser, focusing on young women’s political participation, gender-based violence and youth sexual and reproductive health rights. The course modules enriched my understanding of these thematic areas, especially the importance of feminist and participant-led approaches.

Imogen Davies
Youth Active Citizenship Adviser at Oxfam
MA Gender and International Development

Following on from my previous work for UN Women, I chose to study MA Gender and International Development to gain more profound knowledge of feminist theoretical frameworks and how they translate into gender mainstreaming, whilst at the same time, continuing to enhance the practical skills I obtained with the UN.

Warwick’s MA Gender and International Development was the perfect solution for me, because it combined theory and practical knowledge. As I was focusing on enhancing my research skills, the module “Quantitative Methods in Social Research” was of significant importance to me. I have since applied this knowledge within my consultancy for UN Women and it has been particularly helpful during the data analysis process in my current doctoral research.

After graduation, I enhanced my academic background with a legal degree in international human rights law and embarked on doctoral studies. I’m a part of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action – a doctoral training programme aimed at cultivating the next generation of experts.

My MA programme was a starting point for my doctoral studies. It equipped me with the knowledge and skills necessary for a researcher and gave me an impetus to do further research. Before my masters, I was involved in the only implementation level of my field, I can now act at the policy level, i.e., analysing the specificity of the problem, thinking critically about the change the programmes bring to women, and proposal alternative pathways.

Maira Zeinilova
PhD Candidate, Dublin City University
MA Gender and International Development
WHAT DO WARWICK SOCIOLOGY MA GRADUATES DO?
NEXT STEPS

Once you have decided which MA programme is right for you, you can begin preparing your application. There are three basic questions to ask before you submit your application:

- Do I meet the entry requirements?
- Do I have all of the necessary documents to hand?
- Will I be able to submit my application in time?

Once the answer to these questions is ‘yes,’ you can head to the Warwick website and submit your application electronically at warwick.ac.uk/pgapply.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

There are four entry requirements that you must meet in order to be eligible for our masters programmes:

1. An upper-second class (2:1) honours degree or equivalent. Your undergraduate degree should be in the area of sociology or a closely related subject. However, all serious applications from other disciplines will be considered.

2. A strong academic reference. When you apply, you will be able to supply your referee’s contact details, and we will request a reference from them directly. If you graduated more than two years ago, you may supply a professional referee instead if you are no longer in touch with your undergraduate tutors.

3. A good statement of purpose. This personal statement is your opportunity to explain why you would make a great MA student. Typical statements are 1-2 pages long; you should include:
   a. Your motivation. Why this particular MA, and why Warwick?
   b. Your background. How has your education, extracurricular activities, and/or professional experience prepared you for rigorous postgraduate study in this area? This is particularly important if your undergraduate degree is not in the area of sociology.
   c. Your expectations. How does this degree fit into your future plans—what do you hope to gain from it?

4. Fluency in English. If English is not your first language, you must have an IELTS score of 7.0 with no more than two components at 6.5 or 6.0, or another accepted language test - see the website: warwick.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/apply/english/englishlanguagealternative If your previous education was in the UK or another English speaking country, you may be exempt from this requirement, but please enquire to be certain. Please also note that taking a pre-sessional English course at Warwick or elsewhere is not sufficient to replace an IELTS score at the required level.
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS
In order to make a decision on your application, we will need to see some documents that demonstrate you meet our requirements. You should supply these electronically in the first instance; when you receive an official offer. Admissions will tell you precisely which original hard copies are required to secure an unconditional offer. When you submit your application, you will receive a link where you can upload your documents for review:

1. Transcript. If you have not yet finished your degree, you can send us an interim transcript and simply state in your application what your final classification, GPA, or average is expected to be.
2. Reference. As mentioned above, we will contact your referee directly, but if they do not respond in a reasonable timeframe we may contact you and ask that you remind them to submit your reference.
3. Statement of purpose. You can paste your statement into the space provided on the application form; if it’s too long to fit in the allocated space, upload it as a pdf or Word document.
4. English test (if applicable). You do not need to supply your IELTS certificate straight away; however, please ensure you arrange to take your English test sooner rather than later so that you can secure an unconditional offer in time to apply for your visa (if needed) and start your course on time.

TIMINGS
We review applications on a rolling basis, so you should submit your application as soon as you are ready. We will normally make a decision on your application within 4 working weeks of receiving all necessary documents.

Overseas candidates must apply no later than 31 July; while there is no deadline for Home/EU candidates, we strongly recommend applying by 31 July as well in order to ensure enough time is left to sort out logistics such as accommodation.

If you plan to apply for funding, please read the scholarship criteria carefully; if you need an offer in order to apply for funding, please allow enough time for your MA application to be processed. Deadlines and details about scholarships available can be found at warwick.ac.uk/sociology/prospective/pgtstudy/feesfunding

FURTHER INFORMATION
- Further information about fees and funding, including scholarships available for MA students can be found on our fees and funding webpages: warwick.ac.uk/sociology/prospective/pgtstudy/feesfunding
- Find out more detail about our courses and our department by visiting our departmental website: warwick.ac.uk/sociology
- Visit the university to get a feel for yourself. See warwick.ac.uk/pg/visits
- If you have any questions about your eligibility or about the application process, please don’t hesitate to get in touch with us at socpgt@warwick.ac.uk