INTRODUCING SOCIOLOGY AT WARWICK

Our department
We are a friendly and lively department with a stimulating environment where postgraduate students connect with staff and students at all levels of study. Ranking 57th in the world in the QS World University Rankings 2018, 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 8th by the Complete University Guide 2018.

Our teaching
Our postgraduate programmes are designed by high-calibre academics whose research is published and discussed around the world. Our courses introduce you to the latest sociological debates and are underpinned by cutting-edge research. Whether or not you’ve studied sociology at undergraduate level, we will expand your knowledge and give you an enhanced training in sociological theory and research methods. With dozens of modules to choose from, it’s possible to customise your degree according to your own intellectual interests and career objectives. So, whether you’re looking to do a Masters in order to go on to the world of work, or you’re set on further academic study, you’ll develop essential transferable skills for both fields.

Our research
Our research areas are varied. We have expertise in: gender studies, social theory, the sociologies of religion, bioscience, media, health and illness, migration and ethnicity, political sociology, quantitative sociology, criminology and education. The core and specialist modules we offer are underpinned 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 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. We encourage and welcome postgraduate students to actively participate in our research activities. You can read more about our centres on the web pages: warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/sociology/research_centres

Events
In addition to seminars and independent study, you are invited to get involved in the intellectual life of the department. Every year we organise a wide range of research seminars, conferences, arts performances and film screenings. By engaging with sociology beyond the classroom, you’ll widen your perspective and expand your knowledge.

Our Sociological departmental seminar series are held monthly during term time and offer the opportunity to learn more about cutting edge sociological research from colleagues across Britain and beyond and to interact with staff and other students. 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
- Research in the Age of Big and Open Data
- Making Space at the (Queer) Academic Table?

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 War: Justice, Conflict and Peacekeeping

View upcoming activities in our events calendar: warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/sociology/news

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
- Agency, Resistance and Social Transformation
YOUR EXPERIENCE: SUPPORT, SPACES AND COMMUNITY

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 engage in your own research. You’ll be given scope to take your work in the directions that most interest you.

Support
As a postgraduate student in the department, 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 studies. They will discuss with you your academic progress, advise on matters such as module choices, and act as your referee for job or academic applications.

Module tutors provide specific advice about the subject matter of their 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 and planning and writing your dissertation. You’ll also have the chance to present your dissertation throughout your studies. They will discuss with you your academic progress, advise on matters such as module choices, and act as your referee for job or academic applications.

Your academic support librarian provides targeted support in sociology and helps you to develop research skills during your studies.

Warwick skills programmes provide a number of excellent workshops 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, 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 Room and Learning Grid Leamington.

The University House offers you a centrally located space for meeting both undergraduate and postgraduate students who are interested in sociology. You’ll find a range of activities on offer, from social and academic events, to mentoring and careers talks. The society also does charity work in which you can take part. Find out more at: warwicksu.com/societies/Sociology

Warwick has over 250 societies covering a wide range of academic and non-academic interests, which offer socials, guest speakers and other activities.

Our community and beyond the classroom
You’ll find a wide range of activities available beyond your course where you can get to know staff and students, form friendships and engage with your interests further. We have departmental end of term socials, which include Christmas and summer parties.

You may wish to take part in our annual study visit in March: in the past this has taken place in such cities as Krakow, Budapest, Seville, Berlin, and Prague. In 2017, we visited Amsterdam and the trip included lectures at the University of Amsterdam, a Dutch Black History Tour of the city and a project on urban ethnography in which students explored the city by bicycle.

The Sociology Society is a great way of meeting both undergraduate and postgraduate students who are interested in sociology. You’ll find a range of activities on offer, from social and academic events, to mentoring and careers talks. The society also does charity work in which you can take part. Find out more at: warwicksu.com/societies/Sociology

Warwick has over 250 societies covering a wide range of academic and non-academic interests, which offer socials, guest speakers and other activities.

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/warwicksvolunteers</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 course 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 eight of this brochure lists the modules which are currently available across our Masters courses.

All of our Masters courses 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.

How you’ll study
Each of our Masters courses has specified core modules which will be studied alongside a range of optional modules. All of our Masters courses follow a consistent structure, meaning that you will follow a course 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 course 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 four 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 of them from a choice of two modules. 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 that 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 1:1 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.
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>A*</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>CORE</td>
<td>A*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantitative Methods in Social Research</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundamentals in Quantitative Research Methods</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mastering Complex Real-World Data</td>
<td>CORE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundamentals in Quantitative Research Methods</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mastering Complex Real-World Data</td>
<td>CORE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Quantitative Research</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender, Imperialism and International Development</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender Analysis and Development Practice</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politics and Social Theory</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology of Modernity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rethinking the 20th Century</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology of the Body</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animals in Society</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capitalism, State, and Market</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Research for Social Change</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of the Art of Sociology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding Social Science</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Sociology of End Times</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion, Military and Terror</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Theory and Social Justice</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology in a Biological Age: Power, Sociality and Difference</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></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 more gender/development module must also be chosen.

**O** sociology module that can be taken as an option for that degree.
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 onto this programme.

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 and more current traditions 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.

Understanding Social Science

This 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 as 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.

Students will also take at least one of these modules:

- Qualitative Methods in Social Research (see page 13)
- Quantitative Methods in Social Research (see page 13)
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 your 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
This 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 as 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, disability and social class. Through our 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 module will give you a detailed understanding of methodological debates in social research, and you’ll also take at least one more gender/development module. Examples from previous years are shown on page 15 opposite. 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, Sociology of the Body, and of Modernity. 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.

Core module #1

Gender, Imperialism and International Development

This theoretical and critical module looks at how gender articulates with development within the context of the international political economy, as a means of understanding distinct analyses and forms of resistance. Early sessions are designed to provide you with a historical, discursive and political context, examining, for example, imperialism and orientalism; women’s movements for change; measures of gendered development. Thereafter we engage with feminist theories critical of the major approaches to development, including modernisation theory, Marxist perspectives, neo-liberalism, ecological approaches and post-modernism. We end the module by assessing approaches based around rights, entitlements and justice and by returning to our original question about what constitutes development and what the implications of this question are for a gendered approach. Group-presentations, role plays, debates and other activities are central to the module pedagogy, of both thinking by doing and working collaboratively to capitalise on your skills.

Core module #2

Gender Analysis and Development Practice

This module will give you experience in applying different concepts and theoretical perspectives to practical issues and problems in gender and development, as a means of learning how to undertake rigorous analysis and to work as a team. We will have focussed classes on relevant research literature, followed by group work analysing case studies from different parts of the world. The specific case studies used each year will be based upon current debates in the literature and topical issues in contemporary development practice, such as gender and disaster; women’s empowerment projects; managing NGOs from a gender-aware perspective; gender and peace-building; gender-mainstreaming. The module has been designed to help you bring together conceptual material and concrete empirical data and experiences, enabling you to make theoretically informed analyses of practical gender and development problems.

You then choose at least one optional gender/development module. Some previous examples are:

- Religion, Militancy and Terror
- Social Research for Social Change
- Sociology in a Biological Age
- Social Theory and Social Justice

And at least one optional methodologies module:

- Qualitative Methods in Social Research (see page 13)
- Quantitative Methods in Social Research (see page 13)
- Understanding Social Science (see page 13)
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 Capitalism, State 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, Politics and Social Theory, uses the work of a wide-range of classical thinkers (for example, de Tocqueville, Marx, Durkheim and Weber) and 20th 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 in 2017 include ‘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 Foucault’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, 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.
MSC IN QUANTITATIVE SOCIAL RESEARCH

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 skills in data management and analysis, alongside a thorough grounding in key theoretical and substantive sociological topics. You will develop a broad understanding of methodological and analytical aspects of quantitative social research.

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 substantive social science areas in more depth by choosing optional sociological modules.

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 data analysis 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.

Core module #2
Mastering Complex Real-World Data
This course will introduce the skills and techniques required to plan, organise, document, and execute research in a manner that will encourage efficiency, accuracy, transparency and replication. You will discover the pitfalls encountered when analysing complex real-world data resources. You will develop data enabling and statistical software skills and a better appreciation of the complexities of real-world social science data analysis.

Core module #3
Advanced Quantitative Research
This module will introduce you to a selected set of more advanced statistical modeling techniques commonly used in quantitative social science. You will apply these techniques to existing large-scale data resources in order to explore a sociological topic of interest, gaining hands-on data analysis experience.
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. 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 in this 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, addition: Bourdieu and beyond; feminisms and the body; emotion and the body; social spaces and identities; emotional bodies/`managed hearts': The commercialisation of human emotion; vulnerable bodies: pain, suffering and the human condition; optimised bodies: biomedical enhancements; sleeping bodies; mortuary 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, as far as possible, repeating any of the material you will already be familiar with. The module will provide an introduction to the broad field of sociology for those who have not studied the discipline 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; 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 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.

State of the Art of Sociology

What does it mean to be human? How is what we know as sociology shaped by legacies of colonization? 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; 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 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.
WHAT DO WARWICK SOCIOLOGY MASTERS GRADUATES DO?

Six months after graduating, 96% of 2014/15 Warwick Sociology Masters graduates were in employment 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
- 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 to whatever employment I took. 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
I graduated with an MA with the intention to go into research, but I felt that I needed a different theoretical and methodological framework to fully understand the questions of inequality and power that interest me. The MA in Social and Political Thought allowed me to use my background in cultural and critical theory while gaining new methodological skills, enabling me to study inequality as a social practice rather than as a question of representation.

The combination of sociology and political theory provided a very potent framework for engaging critically with issues such as neoliberalism and biopolitics both as bodies of thoughts and as every-day practices. I particularly appreciated the focus on capitalism and markets which made the course highly relevant for understanding contemporary economic, social and political changes. The department really listens to its students. I joined the Student-Staff Liaison Committee as a course representative which was a great way to help improve the programme for my course mates and future students.

Warwick is a very international university and offers good support for those moving to the UK for the first time. Another plus is the wide range of societies; I joined the Allotment Society which was a great way of getting a break from the books and meeting people across other disciplines and nationalities.
Entry requirements
There are four entry requirements that you must meet in order to be eligible for our master's 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. If English is not your first language, you can begin preparing your application.

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.

Once you have decided which MA programme is right for you, 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.

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.

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?

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.
CONTACT US

Department of Sociology
University of Warwick
Coventry
CV4 7AL
United Kingdom

☎️ +44 (0)24 7652 4771
✉️ socpgt@warwick.ac.uk

@SocioWarwick
Sociology@Warwick

warwick.ac.uk/sociology

This course information was accurate at the time of printing. Our course and module content and schedule is continually reviewed and updated to reflect the latest research expertise at Warwick, so it is therefore very important that you check the website for the latest information before you apply and when you accept an offer.