WHAT IS SOCIOLOGY AND WHY STUDY IT?

What does it mean to understand the world in which you live? What will your contribution be to this changing world? How do your own experiences and life chances compare to those of others? Welcome to Sociology.

Humans are social animals and Sociology – the study of humans in society – attempts to capture, perhaps more than any other discipline, the rich variety and complexity of human social life. Indeed, it is difficult to think of any area of social existence that a sociologist wouldn’t be interested in examining, from the most intimate of personal relationships to the worldwide circulation of ideas, beliefs, goods and people.

Sociologists are generally encouraged to cultivate a ‘sociological imagination’. This is the ability to see our own lives and the lives of those we study as intrinsically linked to wider social processes and structures. The food we eat, the clothes we wear, the relationships we form, the pets we keep, the money we use, the consumables we buy, the languages we speak, the ambitions we pursue, and even the opinions we hold are all dependent on the particular historical and social context in which we find ourselves. This context is the wellspring of sociology.

With the study of social life at its heart, the scope of sociology is almost limitless. Its subject matter encompasses family life, education, crime, work, war, religion, capitalism, power, food, leisure, love, health, sleep, the body, the self, human-animal relations, art, tourism and the media, to name just a few. Sociology also has an abiding concern with the main markers of social difference in modern society – class, gender, ‘race’/ethnicity, age, sexuality and (dis)ability – and how these often intersect in shaping the life chances and experiences of individuals.

In light of its very broad focus – the social behaviour of humans – sociology appeals to students from a wide range of backgrounds. You may be familiar with the subject or have taken other subjects such as psychology, geography, media studies, law, English, history and philosophy. As a sociology student you are taught to think critically and to understand social processes and people. You also learn how to generate and analyse quantitative and qualitative data. The skills you acquire along the way are very appealing to employers, and sociologists end up in an increasingly diverse and interesting range of careers, including: local and national government, public relations, NGOs, sales and marketing, education, charities, recruitment, human resources, social work, counselling, law, TV production, publishing, urban planning, journalism and politics.
What if... The interaction between people and their social world fascinates me?

Welcome to Sociology at Warwick
WHY STUDY SOCIOLOGY AT WARWICK?

TEACHING AND LEARNING

**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 leagues tables: rated 6th in the UK by the Guardian University Guide 2018 and 10th by the Complete University Guide 2017.

Our undergraduate teaching programme is designed by high-calibre academics whose research is published and discussed around the world. This means that our sociology courses are fresh, relevant and will introduce you to the latest thinking, underpinned by cutting-edge research.

We offer you a wide variety of classic and contemporary topic areas, refreshing our portfolio in line with student feedback and the latest developments in the subjects.

Your course will be interesting and well-taught, and we’ll make sure you get the feedback and resources you need to reach your potential. This is confirmed by the National Student Survey where 90% of our students said they were satisfied with the overall quality of their course; 90% said that staff are good at explaining things and 88% stated that they find the course to be intellectually stimulating. You’ll develop important transferable skills that are highly valued by employers, such as quantitative and qualitative research methods, critical analyses, advanced capabilities in oral and written communication, project management and team work.

You will be taught through a mixture of traditional and innovative methods, including undertaking your own research, which you will have the opportunity to publish in the student-led *Warwick Sociology Journal* or Warwick’s internationally refereed *Reinvention: A Journal of Undergraduate Research*.

So what’s it like being a Sociology student at Warwick? Well, for me, it’s a mixture of two things; the fantastic department and the great Sociology Society here on campus. Choosing to study at Warwick was by far the best decision I could have made. One of my favourite modules I’ve studied here at Warwick has been the 1st year module ‘Sociology of Gender’. I found I could walk into a lecture and leave an hour later with a different perspective on society. Sociology, I’ve found, hasn’t only engaged and interested me but has also changed me as a person. You’ll never lose that feeling of being a sociologist. However, Warwick isn’t all focused on studying, Warwick prides itself on its vibrant societies, including the Sociology Society. My favourite thing about the society is the warm, family-like atmosphere it has. Through the society I have made memories and friendships that will last me a lifetime.

Molly Inglis, BA Sociology 2017
BREADTH OF RESEARCH

Our research areas are diverse and wide-ranging; giving you the option to try out a mix of subjects or to specialise in specific areas that interest you. 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.

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

The research themes feed into the interdisciplinary and interdepartmental research centres, including: the Social Theory Centre; and the Centre for the Study of Women and Gender.

Our themes and centres organise activities on a wide range of research topics of global as well as national and local interest, including: public lectures; symposia; and seminars where you will be able to engage with nationally and internationally renowned academics.

We also host regular seminars during term time where topics have included:

- ‘Does school prepare men for prison?’
- ‘From war grave to peace garden: militarised citizenship and cultural heritage’
- ‘The secularisation of the environment; Darwinism as sociology’

Examples of recent lectures and symposia from our research centres include:

- ‘Women and beyond war: justice, conflict and peacekeeping’
- ‘Getting respect: responding to stigma and discrimination in the United States, Israel and Brazil’
- ‘Gender and the media: articulating experience and facilitating change’

OUR COMMUNITY

We are a friendly and welcoming department. Here, you can quickly settle in and get to know people from all levels. We also have a common room offering free tea and coffee, where you can catch up with friends or academics between lectures. What’s more, our department is based in the centre of campus, meaning that you can easily access a whole suite of other facilities.

Beyond your course, you’ll find plenty of opportunities to engage with our community on both an intellectual and social level. Our student-organised, student-led Sociology Society organises academic talks and social activities that you can be a part of. These events will provide you with a forum beyond the classroom to discuss all things relating to sociology. Or they can act simply as an environment for you to socialise with people who share your subject interest.

Each year a study trip is organised to an exciting location where you’ll be encouraged to exercise your sociological imagination. Past study trip destinations have included: Belgrade, Amsterdam, Prague, Lisbon, Budapest, Seville and Berlin.

With all this to offer, we encourage our undergraduate students to get involved with all aspects of departmental life.
WHAT CAN I STUDY?

Choose from two degree programmes offered by the Department of Sociology:

- BA Sociology
- BA Sociology and Quantitative Methods

There are also a number of related joint honours courses, where you can combine Sociology with your study in another department:

- History and Sociology
- Law and Sociology
- Politics and Sociology
- Sociology and Global Sustainable Development

COURSE STRUCTURE

Whichever programme you choose, you will receive a thorough grounding in sociology; the key theories, issues, and academic debates. All courses provide you with a strong core and a choice of specialist modules at later stages.

Core modules in sociological theory and research methods make up 75% of your first year. These will underpin your understanding of ‘how sociology works’, the social analysis it involves, and the processes through which this is conducted. You’ll learn about the classic and contemporary traditions, perspectives and techniques. You’ll also look at the situations from which they originated and how you might apply these to modern-day circumstances and issues.

You can also build in study abroad by adding an additional year of study at a partner University into your degree.

By completing a dissertation on a topic of your choice, you’ll undertake original research that fascinates you, in discussion with your supervisor. You’ll see from the wide range of dissertations our students have previously researched, that our broad expertise offers you choice, individuality and support in this final investigation.

More information on the individual programmes and options for joint degrees can be found through the hosting department pages (History, Politics and International Studies, Law, Global Sustainable Development), and on the University website: warwick.ac.uk/ug/courses
**BA IN SOCIOLOGY**

The BA Sociology course offers rigorous training combined with flexibility. Beyond the core modules, you will choose your own topics of study from our varied specialist modules.

In your first year, you will receive rigorous classical and contemporary social research training in theory and methods. Additionally, you will have the choice of taking two optional modules (you can also choose optional modules outside the department). By your second year, you will be choosing almost 60% of your modules as options. In your third year, you will do a dissertation (accounting for 25% of your final year mark) and the rest of your modules will be your choice from our list of options. The dissertation will be on a topic area of your choosing, developed and agreed upon with your supervisor.

You can select from the wide range of optional modules in the second and third years to retain a general degree, or you can concentrate on an area of particular interest, with a view to preparing for postgraduate study or entry to a particular field of employment.

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**BA IN SOCIOLOGY WITH SPECIALISM**

There are six optional pathways which you can choose to follow during your degree:

BA Sociology with **Specialism in Social and Political Thought**

BA Sociology with **Specialism in Research Methods**

BA Sociology with **Specialism in Gender Studies**

BA Sociology with **Specialism in Race and Global Politics**

BA Sociology with **Specialism in Social Inequalities and Public Policy**

BA Sociology with **Specialism in Technologies and Markets**

You select these once you are already here and studying by following a pathway of optional modules and completing a dissertation in the relevant area. You will then receive a degree certificate awarded with the relevant specialism. Selections of specialisms are confirmed at the beginning of your third year, so you can try a number of topics before choosing this route.

If you do decide to follow a specialism, you’ll still have room to choose modules outside of your specialist pathway. You might try a module from within a specialism pathway alongside other choices in years 1 and 2. This way you can keep your options open, and find out which areas you enjoy before you finalise your decision of whether or not to take a specialism.

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**BA IN SOCIOLOGY AND QUANTITATIVE METHODS**

You’ll cover all the core areas that the BA Sociology encounters, and also engage in advanced training in quantitative research methods.

Your first year includes five core sociology modules: Introduction to Quantitative Methods in Social Science I & II; alongside three required theory modules. After that, a third of your modules will be your choice, as you’ll select two optional modules.

In your second year, your core will be Advanced Quantitative Methods, developing expert skills including statistical models for social analytics and practice of qualitative research. In your final year your core will be Intermediate Quantitative Methods; developing expert skills in numerical research, and writing a dissertation. In year two, you will be able to select two-thirds of your modules from a range of specialist topics. In year three, you will be able to select specialist options for a third of your modules. You will also undertake a spring camp on quantitative methods and a research-focused work placement.
Why do people riot? Do tighter social boundaries govern the ‘right time’ to become a mother more than they do the ‘right time’ to become a father? How is consumption produced, and is there a global consumer culture? How is the internet changing power relations and dynamics between patients, publics and professionals inside and outside the health care arena? What role has media played in structuring knowledge and power in modern society? Does science need public relations?

Central to how we practice Sociology at Warwick is our interest in developing pioneering ways of understanding the relationship between the individual and society. You will be encouraged to develop a ‘Sociological Imagination’. This means not only exploring the patterns, ideas and findings of Sociology in books and articles, but learning to think as an active sociologist.

Your core learning will provide you with a strong base to understand how society and people have changed over time whilst also learning how the subject itself has grown and built. You’ll learn how new techniques, perspectives and traditions have developed on the knowledge of those before them, and learn to think critically yourself about them. You’ll understand ideologies, technologies and issues that have directly affected society and behaviour, and how people themselves have changed over time. Material will cover countries and societies across the world, looking at these comparatively and the interactions between countries and the global society.

You’ll learn about the social analysis through which sociology developed as a subject, and the further techniques and methodologies now available to us today. In applying these for yourself, you will build and gain the skills to undertake your own research. You will become ‘research minded’, critical and involved; and you will be guided and inspired by academics who are energetic, forward-looking and passionate as researchers, sociologists and teachers.

From the outset, you’ll be able to choose options from a range of specialist topics. This will allow you to develop a feel and understanding for how different fields approach important sociological questions at large. First year topics such as the media, gender, race, and the building of identity allow you to gauge your interests in these areas and build a base for more in-depth material in later years.

The later years of study are tailored by you and consist of: core research modules; a dissertation chosen by you in discussion with your supervisor; and a choice of specialist module options. You can follow one of our six specialisms (see page 10-11).

Develop and follow your interests through optional modules. Examples of 2017/18 modules offered include: Crime and Society; Politics of Asylum; Racism and Xenophobia; Political Sociology; and Life of Media: Past, Present and Future.

Examples of undergraduate dissertations our students have researched and written

- The Divided Self: A research investigation into personal identity and mental illness
- Gendered Discourse of Domestic Violence and Abuse: A study of gendered language that frames the common understandings of domestic violence and abuse
- The Evolution of the One Child Policy in China: Its Past and Its Future
- Private Schooling: A sociological assessment of parental school choice decision-making and expectations
- Pop-Feminism in Post-Communist Europe: How do young adults in Lithuania react to the current wave of western pop-feminism?
Is income inequality in the UK growing? Does marriage improve health? Can your social class predict your lifestyle and eating habits? Do women still conduct most housework chores at home? These are just a few of the sociological questions that you will empirically address during your studies on this course.

Sociologists seek to describe and explain social trends and social phenomena. These tasks are often possible only by analyses of large-scale datasets. For example, we would not be able to know the prevalence of child poverty in the UK or the socio-economic profile of offenders without access to representative large-scale data. Quantitative skills are essential for social scientists of the new century and are also highly valued in the global job market.

This degree will provide you with advanced skills on a wide range of quantitative methods, alongside training in key theoretical and substantive sociological topics.

The degree offers a balance between core sociology and quantitative methods modules. Sociology modules will provide you with a strong grounding on the critical analysis of society and the development of the discipline itself. Quantitative methods modules will follow an incremental approach, from elementary to advanced statistical topics. From the outset, you will be able to choose options from a range of specialist topics within sociology.

You will acquire excellent technical expertise in the management and analysis of social survey and administrative data. Acknowledging that sociology students are often anxious about statistics, we follow a pedagogical approach consisting of hands-on-learning and lab time designed to support progression and build confidence.

This course offers you the unique opportunity to undertake a four-week credited placement between the second and third year of your studies (with bursary). We collaborate with prestigious local and London-based think tanks, research organisations, and private employers, enabling you to gain valuable work experience in a non-academic setting.

We also offer annual Spring Camps, consisting of experts from the academic and the private sector, careers talks, and training workshops on quantitative methods. Spring Camps will enable you to explore the wide range of career options in different sectors.

This degree will be highly valued by a wide range of employers including international organisations, think tanks, and the civil service.

Being able to have a larger focus on quantitative methods is really interesting for me, especially in the modern world where data exists everywhere.

I chose this programme as I was looking to try something a bit different at university and I liked the fact that Warwick had a degree dedicated specifically to quantitative skills.

Employers are currently experiencing a shortage of graduates with these skills, which allows you to really stand out in the job market.

The sociology modules accounted for 75% of my year, and the Quantitative Methods modules 25%, providing a nice balance. I’ve always liked the research side of Sociology, and this degree programme really allowed me to engage in that process.

Although some may feel apprehensive about a course which is statistics based, I needn’t have worried. Lecturers start with the very basics, allowing you to build up statistical knowledge throughout the course of the year.

Gemma Ford
BA Sociology and Quantitative Methods
2017
The electives can be chosen to concentrate on an area of particular interest or with a view to preparing for postgraduate study or entry to a particular field of employment. You will be taking a minimum of four modules related to the specialism and your dissertation project will explore research in the relevant specialism.

You will be able to choose from one of six elective specialisms and this elective can be added to your final degree title.

**BA IN SOCIOLOGY WITH SPECIALISM IN SOCIAL AND POLITICAL THOUGHT**
How do sociologists think? And what do they think about? What theories about the social and political world do sociologists offer? This elective specialism offers students the opportunity of developing literacy in social and political theory. Students will be able to draw on and understand key classical, historical and contemporary critical social and political concepts and theories which have been formulated to understand a variety of sociological concerns. These topics include theories and philosophies of science, media, religion, markets, gender, race, class, and sexuality.

**BA IN SOCIOLOGY WITH SPECIALISM IN RESEARCH METHODS**
How do sociologists do social research? What methods do sociologists employ in conducting social research? This elective specialism allows students to develop a broad range of practical research skills and a strong methodological understanding in relation to the core research traditions within sociological research. Students will gain experience in developing social research projects; research design and process; the development and application of quantitative and qualitative research methods and instruments, and the potential for the combination of quantitative and qualitative methods. Modules in this specialism address the practicalities of undertaking data gathering and field work, questions of ethics; the analysis of quantitative and qualitative data, writing reports and presenting research findings. This combination of understanding and skills is further pursued through project work.

**BA IN SOCIOLOGY WITH SPECIALISM IN GENDER STUDIES**
How does gender (a society’s ideas about masculinity and femininity) shape the social world you live in, your identity and desires, and the relationships and experiences you will have throughout your life? This elective specialism allows students to develop a critical understanding of key concepts of feminist thought and the ways these are informed by, and inform, sociological enquiry; a sensitivity to the pervasiveness of gender divisions and their articulation with other major social divisions such as class, sexuality or ‘race’; an ability to situate this understanding internationally, with a knowledge of the different forms that these articulations may take in specific cultural and historical contexts.
BA IN SOCIOLOGY WITH SPECIALISM IN RACE AND GLOBAL POLITICS

Have you been racially profiled since birth? How are issues of race and ethnicity part of our contemporary global world? This elective specialism offers students the opportunity of developing literacy in theories, practices and debates within Race and Ethnicity Studies in relation to historical contexts and contemporary global politics. Studies will develop a critical understanding of the ways in which understandings of race and ethnicity have been informed by, and inform, sociological enquiry; the ways in which race and racialism constitute a shifting category through articulation with other social divisions such as class, sexuality or gender in the context of social and political structures and practices. Discussions of raciality and ethnicity will also necessarily reference global and postcolonial sociology especially in relation to theories and practices of nationalism and transnationalism, and the role that these practices play in contemporary global politics.

BA IN SOCIOLOGY WITH SPECIALISM IN SOCIAL INEQUALITIES AND PUBLIC POLICY

How are inequalities part of our social world? What can we do about it through public policy? This elective specialism allows students to develop a critical understanding of social inequalities and public policy with a particular emphasis on contemporary social concerns in relation to education, crime, health, welfare, and social movements. Social divisions regarding the above issues will be examined in terms of historical and comparative contexts, and the implications of these social divisions may be discussed in relation to relevant policy debates.

BA IN SOCIOLOGY WITH SPECIALISM IN TECHNOLOGIES AND MARKETS

What do scientific concerns or commercial issues have to do with Sociology? How and why are technologies and markets part of sociological research? This elective specialism offers students the opportunity of developing literacy in a variety of debates regarding technologies and markets, which draw upon Media Studies, Science and Technology studies, and Economic Sociology. Students will be able to learn the ways in which theories and philosophies of science, knowledge, commerce, economics, work, the body, animals and the environment constitute sociological concerns. Literacy regarding technologies and markets will enable a sensitivity to the manner in which these sociological concerns contribute to changing understandings of ourselves and others in the local, national, global political and transnational context.
FEATURED 2017/18 SOCIOLOGY MODULES

As a strong sociology department with broad research interests, our optional modules cover a wide range of areas. Our research-led teaching means you’ll find fresh, up-to-date modules added in line with research developments and student feedback. You’ll be choosing from varied, interesting and current topics covering the latest approaches and theories.

This selection is from the 2017/18 academic year and is illustrative of the types of modules offered in future years.

SOCIOLOGY OF HEALTH AND MEDICINE
What does ‘health’ mean to you? Are we living in a ‘medicalised’ society? Is there a health gap to rival the wealth gap today? And are we on the verge of a new era of biomedical enhancements to improve our bodies and optimise ourselves? Health and medicine, you’ll discover, are ongoing sociological matters.

This module will consider a wide range of sociological angles on topics including: lay beliefs and concepts of health, risk and the body; the ‘doing’ of health in everyday life; the changing relationship between ‘lay’ and ‘medical’ worlds in the digital information age; the medicalisation of society; consumerism, trust and the doctor-patient relationship; contemporary health inequalities; the meaning and experience of chronic illness and disability; the future of the medical profession; and new medical technologies and the body.

BODIES, PROPERTY AND POLITICS
Does the relationship between bodies, property and politics differ across national forms of governance and regulation? How are the relationships between knowledge and value, along with the kinds of social differences (such as race and gender), being transformed in such markets?

Globally, capitalism and biotechnology are becoming increasingly interconnected, with ever widening markets in human and animal bodies and body parts. The patenting of human cells and DNA, the use of embryos in reproductive technologies, the recruitment of humans in clinical trials and trade in human organs are all part of emerging ‘bioeconomies’.

You’ll consider the idea of ownership of bodies, bringing together work from economic sociology, science and technology studies and biomedical sociology. Through studying the application of markets to biological materials, you’ll examine why bodies becoming a saleable commodity is an ongoing problem for politics.

RACE AND THE MAKING OF THE MODERN WORLD
The Haitian Revolution (1804) is one of the most important world-historical events, but it is likely that you have never heard of it although it occurs around the same time as the French (1789) and US (1776) revolutions. Why this silence? Perhaps because it was the first revolution undertaken by enslaved Africans asserting their rights for liberty, equality, and political self-organisation against their European colonisers?

This module focuses on aspects of history that are missing from the more usual descriptions of our past. This involves some tough questions about global processes of dispossession, genocide, enslavement, appropriation, and extraction of primary resources. We ask why such processes have been left out and also consider how the world remains structured by them in the present.
EDUCATIONAL INEQUALITIES

Should a high quality education be for everyone, or just for a chosen few? Is education part of the problem of an unequal society, or does it help provide ways to make the world a fairer place? We all know that education is vital to us as individuals and a society, but does it matter that people’s access to, experiences of, and outcomes from education are so unequal? If we have uneven educational provision, will we necessarily have an unequal society, or is it the other way around?

In the UK, despite decades of political and financial intervention in the schooling system, we know that the education a young person receives is shaped by their family background, social class, ethnicity, race, gender, perceived ability, religion, sexuality and other social differences. We explore the ways in which these differences make a difference in educational terms, drawing on a range of research evidence.

Debate can be lively and contentious. It seems as though education is never out of the news these days, with discussion raging about Islam in schools, the UK government’s Academy programme, university tuition fees, if/when/how to teach sex education, and so on. We locate these contemporary issues in a political and historical context and draw on policy, media, and academic evidence to investigate a range of important topics of national and international relevance.

PUNISHMENT, JUSTICE AND CONTROL

Have you ever thought why we think punishment is the right response to crime and why we think it helps us achieve justice?

We may have these ideas connecting crime and justice through punishment because we have been exposed to them via news stories, television series, books or films, or may have been influenced by political and other public figures. In many cases our own personal experiences, feelings and beliefs influence our perspectives on criminals and the criminal justice system, and issues of fairness, inequality, justice and injustice, criminal responsibility and punishment are themes we have all thought about and discussed at some point. This module looks at the relationship between the idea and practice of punishment and it explores key concepts in criminology and criminal justice in order to examine what punishment is, whether it works, how, and what consequences it has for those who experience it and for societies.

This module covers a range of topical issues. Particularly as prison populations in England, the US and elsewhere remain unprecedentedly high, and as technologies and practices that focus on the isolation, regulation and control of populations extend well beyond the physical boundaries of prison walls, and are mostly affecting those who are disadvantaged in society, the stakes of these debates are high.
STUDY ABROAD

Experience different cultures. Meet new people. Explore another part of the world. Develop your sociological imagination.

Sociology at Warwick is part of a global network of exchange partners enabling you to spend time studying in another country during your degree. We have long-standing agreements with prestigious universities in countries around the world.

Studying abroad will add one year to your degree programme, as you’ll spend your third year abroad.

COUNTRY OPTIONS FOR STUDYING ABROAD

This list details places available for the 2017/18 academic year. The list is illustrative of what might be on offer in future years, as places and availability are always subject to change on an annual basis.

Europe – study at a European partner institution.
- École Normale Supérieure de Cachan, France
- Charles University Prague, Czech Republic
- Friedrich-Schiller-Universitat Jena, Germany
- Goteborg University, Sweden
- Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain
- Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain
- Universitat Bremen, Germany
- University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Worldwide – please note these study abroad opportunities are agreed annually following discussions with our partners.
- Monash University, Australia and/or Malaysia
- Western University, Canada
- University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
- Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
- Sun Yat-sen University, China
- Tsinghua University, China
- Xiamen University, China
- Hokkaido University, Japan
- Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia

WHY STUDY ABROAD

Studying and living abroad will allow you not only to learn more about other cultures, but also notice and question – perhaps for the first time – the many things you take for granted about your own culture... and about yourself.

You will have the opportunity to immerse yourself in life in another country and grow as a ‘global citizen’, gaining exposure to other cultures and languages, understanding global connections and inequalities, meeting staff and students from many backgrounds, and developing skills that you can transfer to future study and career opportunities.

You will even have the chance to expand your knowledge by studying other subjects and experimenting with new teaching and learning methods. You will gain confidence and independence as you explore a new country (with plenty of support from us along the way)... and you will also have fun.
I chose to do an exchange in Australia, because of many reasons. Firstly, I wanted to explore the social issue of race, and its implications in the Australian political and social culture. Through my exchange I divulged in indigenous perspectives that allowed me to learn more about the history and development of the country. Moreover, I wanted to wander in the Oceania and Asia region which I had never had the opportunity to, and this study abroad provided a perfect platform for me to do that.

Visiting these regions has made me become more of a global citizen. It sounds clichéd but it really has enthused my interest in learning more about cultures different to mine, which I plan to continue doing after my study abroad. Finally, Melbourne is the ‘most liveable city’ in the world (a simple google search will help explain), and Monash is an amazing University. Because of the strong alliance, the transition is smooth, and the study abroad team are always helpful if you have any questions or suggestions to the exchange scheme.

Chris Bhatti
BA Sociology
WHAT DO SOCIOLOGY GRADUATES DO?

83% of 2014/15 Warwick graduates in Sociology were in jobs or further study six months after graduating.

Examples of Sociology graduates’ job titles include:
Careers and Employability Assistant, Customer Representative, Directorate Administrator and PA, Estate Agent, Event Administrator, Events Assistant, Gap Assistant and Resident Tutor, HR Graduate, Management Trainee, Marketing & Development Coordinator, Research Associate, Senior Sales Consultant, Teaching Assistant

Companies and organisations where Sociology graduates work include:
Cambridge Judge Business School, Centrica PLC, Choice, Common Vision UK, Credo Care, Girlguiding, Hawkins Estate Agents, Holmfirth Junior and Infants, Imperial College London, National Counties Building Society, Oslo University Hospital, Qualia Analytics, Spotify, Teach first, Orange Tree

Sociology graduates go onto the following Masters Programmes:

…at Warwick and other leading universities in the UK, Europe, North America and throughout the world.

As I look back at my undergraduate experience, I can say with certainty that Warwick gave me the best foundation to push onwards into other opportunities. Coming from Singapore, the small city-state I call home, I struggled at first to adjust to the secluded campus environment. But it was exactly this environment that allowed me to foster close relationships with my peers and professors, and immerse myself in the diverse clubs and societies that this university had to offer. It did not take me long to find comfort in my dance families from Warwick Contemporary and Modern Dance, as well as Warwick Latin and Ballroom.

With its diversity in module options, Warwick Sociology gave me the interdisciplinary skill sets and just the right amount of flexibility to explore my intellectual interests. To be able to mature through different knowledge systems gave me the affirmation to why I chose a broad undergraduate degree as opposed to a narrow vocational one, and that curiosity for the world left me wanting more. This is why I decided to pursue further studies and am currently in New York City completing my M.A. in Global Thought at Columbia University.

In Fall 2016, I joined a culturally diverse cohort of 22 candidates for the M.A. in Global Thought degree and have had the honour to be under the mentorship of several distinguished professors – such as the former United Nations Undersecretary-General and the Senior Advisor to the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation, amongst other renowned scholars. Specialising in international affairs and cultural development, I am looking to enter the field of intergovernmental services or arts administration upon graduating from Columbia University. Thus far, I have interviewed with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and have also accepted a 2-month work placement opportunity at Rio de Janeiro for researching on Brazil’s arts sector.

Elena Ho Yan Yee
BA Sociology 2016
WHAT CAN I DO WITH A DEGREE IN SOCIOLOGY?

People who study Sociology go into a wide variety of jobs. You will gain a range of very valuable skills, including: how to work independently and how to find information, extract what is important from it and turn it into an argument. You’ll learn to work in collaboration with others, but also how to work effectively without close supervision. All Sociology degrees teach research methods. These allow you to generate new knowledge from both quantitative and qualitative sources. You will learn how to analyse results from various data ranging from large statistical studies to in-depth one-to-one and group interviews. You will also learn to carry out your own research both individually and in groups.

The study of Sociology will change the way you see the world around you and how you relate to others. The skills you learn are relevant to the workplace and are valued by employers.

Given that 94% of all Warwick Graduates end up in either employment or further study, and that 70% of graduate recruiters do not require graduates to have a specific degree, perhaps the most important question to ask is not “What degree will get me a good graduate job?” but “How can I make the most of my time at Warwick so that I can get the job I want?

Starting at Warwick was incredible. I was taught by fantastic academics and I adored my modules, studying about food, gender, politics and media throughout my three years. I decided to do my dissertation on social justice and the pharmaceutical industry.

After finishing at Warwick I moved to London and worked for a few years whilst figuring out my next steps. I then moved back to Leamington Spa and worked at a secondary school, then began working at the University of Warwick. I worked in governance, teaching quality and finally widening participation. I worked as an outreach officer, working with local disadvantaged young people to encourage them to make informed decisions about their education.

Whilst working at Warwick, I was also lucky enough to take a career break and travel across the world for six months!

In September 2016, I returned to education. Currently, I am studying full time at the University of Bristol for an MSc in Education Policy and International Development. I feel privileged to have had such a strong education in Sociology as it definitely gives advantage to my masters. I am also working at the University of Bristol part-time on evaluating their widening participation projects. The work gives me an opportunity for me to use my sociological skills and design pieces of research myself.

Anna Burchfiel
BA Sociology 2010

Each Department at Warwick has a senior careers consultant assigned to it. The consultants develop an expertise in careers relevant to the particular students.

Sociology as a degree teaches students a wide range of employability skills relevant to the subject and students’ interests. Careers support includes one-to-one career guidance appointments, small group seminars, alumni evenings and many opportunities to meet many potential employers - we are the No. 1 targeted University by employers - Highfliers 2017.

Planning for your future career after University begins in year one and Student Careers and Skills and the Sociology Department work together to encourage and support you to get involved early on. Support continues following graduation with no time limit on accessing Student Careers and Skills comprehensive services.

You can even make a start now, access our blog careersblog.warwick.ac.uk. We look forward to meeting you!

Marjorie Walsh
Senior Careers Consultant

WHAT DO SOCIOLOGY GRADUATES DO? 17
HOW WILL I LEARN?

For each of your modules you will have a combination of lectures and seminars. The lectures will introduce you to a particular topic and then you will spend time reading around the topic in preparation for seminar discussion. During these weekly seminars, you will build on the knowledge, theories and ideas from the lecture and readings, sharing your views about the topic and debating the issues. Your seminar groups are kept small enough so that you have personal access to the tutor as well as space to have your say during each session. There will also be lots of opportunities for individual and group work as part of your modules.

Research training, personal development, and professional development are embedded in your degree programme. Through modules, extra seminars, skills workshops, careers presentations, one-to-one advice sessions, and guest speakers, you will be able to sharpen the skills that employers are looking for.

WHAT LEARNING SPACES ARE AVAILABLE?

In addition to the excellent range of teaching and learning spaces provided by the university (e.g. a number of fully resourced Learning Grids, open 24/7, providing areas for both collaborative and individual study), sociology utilises a range of traditional and innovative teaching spaces close to the department. There is also a very popular Departmental Common Room, providing free tea and coffee for students and a place where you can relax, meet fellow students and mix informally with lecturers and other members of staff.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Although methods of assessment vary for each module, you will generally be expected to write essays and/or take a two to three-hour examination in some modules. You will be given plenty of advance notice regarding these assignments and examinations.

In your second year, depending on your module choices, you may have the option of choosing the method of assessment. This may be 100% examination, 100% assessed essay, or 50% exam and 50% essay. Please be aware that there may not always be this choice, but you will be given full information about assessment at the time of choosing your modules. As well as essays and exams, you could also be assessed through other methods like online quizzes, group presentations, research projects or podcasts.

We realise that feedback is important to your academic development, so throughout your degree you will receive regular and extensive feedback to help you progress, including: written comments on essays, the chance for one-to-one meetings with module tutors and informal feedback during seminars and group discussions. You will also write formative essays for which you will receive detailed feedback in preparation for your module summative assessments.
WHAT SUPPORT WILL I RECEIVE?

YOUR PERSONAL TUTOR
You will have a personal tutor who will be a first point of contact for you, offering you guidance and support for your general academic questions and any academic or personal difficulties you might have. They support your academic development throughout your course, and you will have regular meetings throughout the year so they should get to know you well. This means they have a complete picture of your strengths, experiences and skills, and will also provide references for you during and beyond your time as a student.

MODULE DIRECTORS
Your module tutors will be able to provide specific advice about the subject matter of individual modules along with advice in terms of specific essays and assignments. Module convenors/tutors have weekly Advice and Feedback Hours when you can sit down on a one-to-one basis with the tutor and follow up on seminar discussions, seek guidance on your essays, and ask questions about feedback you have received.

THE DIRECTOR OF STUDENT EXPERIENCE AND PROGRESSION (DSEP)
The DSEP can offer you additional tailored support, building on support offered by your personal tutor. This might be advice on study skills, including how to do well (or even better) in essay writing or exams, which modules might suit you best, or guidance on internships, careers, and postgraduate study.

YOUR ACADEMIC LIBRARIAN AND LIBRARY HELPDESK
The library helpdesk is available to help you day-to-day with searches, borrowing and reserving items, but you also have a specialist Academic Support Librarian to give you targeted support in your subject area. Your Academic Support Librarian will help you to research information in order to develop research skills during your course and can offer you training in literature searching, finding and using information, referencing and avoiding plagiarism and reference management tools.

ACADEMIC WRITING
As an undergraduate, your main form of assessment is via written assignments, mostly essays and exams. It is therefore essential to develop a good level of academic writing, so that the content of your piece is coherent, fluent, clear and, most importantly, academically literate. You will have access to a wide range of academic writing support throughout the university, both in group format (courses, lectures, seminars) and the opportunity for tailored one-to-one consultation/advice.

EMPLOYABILITY AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT
We want our students to be attractive to a wide range of employers and equally strong candidates if applying for further study. You’ll be supported throughout your degree in developing the kinds of transferable skills important to employers.

I find that the Sociology department provides me with great confidence and support in all my decisions. I went through an emotionally draining time due to personal issues and once I shared it with my module directors and my personal tutor, they all helped me as much as possible to get through it academically. Coming to university, you suddenly realise the huge difference between professors and teachers. Here at Warwick, there is a team of professors who truly want to share their passion with you and help you get through your 3 to 4 years at University, and this is truly comforting.

Rachel Lee
BA Sociology 2017

DEPARTMENTAL STUDY SKILLS SESSIONS
As well as general university support, the department’s Director of Student Experience and Progression (DSEP) runs a number of study skills workshops specifically for sociology students. These are on core topics such as ‘referencing’, ‘essay structure’, ‘summarising and paraphrasing’ and ‘critical reading and writing’ and will help you acquire the skills needed to research and write undergraduate-level essays. The DSEP is also available on a one-to-one basis to help and support students in further developing their academic skills.
OPPORTUNITIES

SOCIETIES
As a Warwick student, you can be involved in a wide range of Societies, ranging from those which are academic in nature to those relating to hobbies or other interests. There are over 250 societies at Warwick - who knows, you could be the next President of one of them!

The Sociology Society is an academic society aiming to offer a broad range of events and support for students through their degree.

EVENTS
Whether you’re an undergraduate, postgraduate or member of staff, you’ll be encouraged to attend our department seminars and other research activities which take place throughout the year. We host a range of fantastic sociological speakers from across the world at these seminars and events.

Our research centres and clusters organise exciting research events, including workshops, seminars and lectures, often with high-profile national and international speakers.

The Department also organises a number of events targeted at undergraduate students. For example, we host an Alumni event where past members of the Department come to talk with current students about their careers, and a range of social events such as a Welcome Party and an end-of-year BBQ.

Warwick Sociology Society is for anyone who studies the subject, is interested in Sociology, has friends who study Sociology or likes the look of any event we put on! We aim to create a welcoming, fun, inclusive and supportive atmosphere for all members no matter what stage of their degree they are in or which department of the university they study in. We currently have 125 official members.

We host a variety of events over the 3 terms, loosely falling into categories of academic and careers, social, charity and welfare events.

Examples of events we have run this year include, our joint ball with Warwick Politics Society; our annual Christmas meal; off campus trips, including bowling and nights out; talks from alumni and academic staff; our mentoring scheme; revision and exams skills sessions; film screenings; our charity raffle; and the selling of Sociology Society’s charity Christmas socks.

Check out our webpage: warwicksu.com/societies/sociology

and our Facebook page: facebook.com/SociologySociety
STUDY TRIP

Our annual study trip will give you the opportunity to interact with fellow sociology students in an international environment. The trip takes place in the last week of the spring term each year. In the past, we’ve travelled to cities such as: Belgrade, Lisbon, Berlin, Copenhagen, Athens and Seville... to name but a few.

In 2016 we travelled to Copenhagen, as a group of both undergraduate and postgraduate students and had the chance to learn about the city with a sociological eye.

Trip activities focused on exploring the city and taking part in many engaging activities. A highlight for many was the visit to Christiania, a Freetown and autonomously run area of the city, which underlined the progressiveness of Danish society; and seeing the famous ‘Little Mermaid’ statue. Exploring on foot, we uncovered aspects of the city’s history and the industries on which it was built.

Denmark is well-known for being one of the most advanced nations in terms of paternal leave. We had the opportunity to listen to lectures at Copenhagen University on the subject of fatherhood in Nordic countries. This was an excellent opportunity to hear from experts researching this topic in such a liberal context. Listening to the stories from previous residents provided us with an insider’s perspective which also provoked a lot of questions and debates about the society we live in.

All of this was, of course, complemented with plenty of delicious food and lots of free time for students to explore the city independently!

The trip is generously subsidised by the Sociology Department and it’s an excellent chance for students to meet and build relationships with people at other stages of their studies, as well as to travel to a new city and apply the skills of sociological analysis they have been learning through their degrees.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SUPPORT SCHEME (URSS)

Imagine securing a bursary to carry out a research project of your choosing during your summer holidays whilst at University. This is possible through a scheme, offered at Warwick, which undergraduate students can apply to take part in ‘The Undergraduate Research Support Scheme’ (URSS).

If you are successful, you’ll get a bursary and skills development training to carry out your summer research project, as an addition to your Sociology degree course. All students are supervised by an academic member of staff for the scheme.

Undertaking a summer research project with URSS will give you a taste of research, which is invaluable if, after your undergraduate degree, you want to go on and study at postgraduate level. You’ll also develop a range of skills which will add further value to your degree study.

The Institute for Applied Teaching and Learning (IATL) also offer funding directly to students for undertaking either individual or collaborative research, through their Student as Producer fund. In addition IATL host an international, peer-reviewed journal for the publication of undergraduate research papers. Many of our Sociology undergraduates have gained academic publications alongside their degree.

Example URSS research projects carried out by Sociology student

- Attitudes towards same-sex marriage among young heterosexual people in Cyprus: A qualitative study
- Refugee Crisis in British Newspapers

WARWICK SOCIOLOGY JOURNAL

Our undergraduate and postgraduate students can showcase their work in our student-founded, student-led journal. Although the journal is student-led, the Sociology Society and our department support the initiative. We pride ourselves on providing students with the opportunity to achieve publication; a unique and fantastic addition to any CV - academic or otherwise. The journal encourages submission of work that is sociological in nature and can take the form of - but is not limited to - an academic essay, article, report or book review.
NEXT STEPS

THINKING ABOUT APPLYING?
There are a few things about the process you should know:

- All applications to undergraduate courses are made through UCAS (the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service), and you will be able to apply to up to five courses.
- You’ll submit one UCAS form with your qualifications, predicted grades, a reference and your personal statement.
- UCAS sends this to each of your chosen universities, who then decide whether to make you an offer for your chosen course.
- When considering your application, we can’t see which other courses and universities you’ve applied to.
- You receive a decision via UCAS Track.
- The UCAS deadline for our courses is 15 January; we give equal consideration to all applications received before this date.

You’ll have one personal statement for all your courses. This is where you demonstrate your interest in the subject and tell us why you would be a great student for our course. The more thought-through your course choices, the easier your personal statement will be to write.

Of course, taking the time to research and consider your options is also advisable to find the right course and place for you. Also check the typical offers and any essential subjects for each course.

YOU’VE RECEIVED AN OFFER...
Once you have received a decision from all your courses, you must choose your first choice course (Firm choice).

Unless you’ve already taken your exams, your offer will be conditional on your achieving specified grades. Your place at your firm choice is guaranteed if you meet these conditions at results time. So your firm choice needs to be where you want and intend to go, as long as everything goes to plan.

You might also select an insurance choice, in case you miss your grades for your firm choice. You will only go to your insurance if you are not accepted by your firm choice, but do meet the grades of your insurance offer.

You may want to bear this in mind when applying, and consider one or two courses with a lower typical offer to serve as a ‘back up’ for you.

AND ALSO
Check out studentblogs.warwick.ac.uk and read about daily life for our student bloggers.

Visit to get a feel for Warwick for yourself.
If you receive an offer we will invite you to come along to an offer-holders day so you can meet us, our students and see the department. But you are also welcome to come to see our campus anytime, or book onto a tour or visit day. See warwick.ac.uk/ug/visits

Find out more detail about our courses and department by visiting our departmental website warwick.ac.uk/sociology

Browse warwick.ac.uk/ug for information about university life, including finance, accommodation and campus life at Warwick.
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS AND TYPICAL OFFERS
Check these before you apply via our website warwick.ac.uk/ug/courses, so that you have the most up to date information, as these could change for the next admissions cycle.

Offers normally exclude General Studies and Critical Thinking.

FOR 2017 ENTRY:
BA Sociology: ABB/IB34
BA Sociology and Quantitative Methods: ABB/IB34
BA Politics and Sociology: AAB/IB36
BA Law & Sociology: AAB/IB36. Sociology at A level/Higher Level is preferred, but not essential

BA History and Sociology: AAB including A in A level History/IB36 including Higher Level 6 in History

BSc Sociology and Global Sustainable Development: AAB to include grade B in English and Mathematics at GCSE/IB36 to include Mathematics and English

We welcome a range of A level equivalent qualifications from across the world, so if you are unsure what the level is for you, just get in touch ugadmissions@warwick.ac.uk
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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.