SOCIOLOGY

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES
WELCOME TO SOCIOLOGY AT WARWICK

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.

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 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.
WHY STUDY SOCIOLOGY AT WARWICK?

You will be joining one of the world’s top Sociology departments, located in the heart of Warwick’s central campus in the vibrant city of Coventry. Our Sociology courses are fresh, relevant and rewarding sociological experience at the West Midlands’ number 1 University (Complete University Guide 2019).

We are internationally renowned for our research and teaching in sociology, ranking 57th in the world in the QS World University Rankings 2018. We are rated as one of the top departments in the UK, as confirmed by our consistently high placing across the range of national league tables: ranked 6th in the UK by the Guardian University Guide 2018 and 12th by the Complete University Guide 2019.

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

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 99% 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 found the course to be intellectually stimulating. At Warwick Sociology department you will learn from a range of dedicated academic staff. All are experts in their respective fields, and several have been consistently nominated for teaching, publications, leadership and public engagement awards. 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 teamwork.

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 Reinventions A Journal of Undergraduate Research.

Teaching and learning

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; Dawenism as sociology’
- ‘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.

Anna Bray

Hums of Sociology creative task

The specialisms drew me to the sociology department here at Warwick. I always had an interest in social inequalities and public policy, and was optimistic that this course would allow me to study many modules on the subject. But since being here I have not been restricted to just those modules. I’ve since learned about gender inequalities, how we remember war, and even the criminal justice system, whilst still being able to zone in on an area I feel incredibly passionate about. I feel it is a real opportunity to engage in what I love and see it in the world around me. And no matter what happens, I’m immersed in a specialist that is going to allow me a future doing something I really enjoy doing, and that will allow me to make a difference in a field that’s important to me.
What can I study?

**BA in Sociology**

Why do people riot? Do tighter social boundaries govern the ‘right time’ to become a father? How is consumption produced, and is there a global market in modern society? Does science need the ‘right time’ to become a father? How is crime produced, and is there a global crime system? What role has media played in structuring knowledge and power in modern society? Does the subject itself have changed over time? Material will cover topics such as social demographic and power in modern society.

From the outset, you’ll be able to choose options from a range of specialist modules. This will allow you to develop a feel and understanding of how different fields approach important sociological questions at large. First-year topics such as 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 pages 10-11).

**Examples of undergraduate dissertations that 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
- Gender Equity in Posts-Communist Europe: How do young adults in Lithuania react to the current wave of western pop-feminism?

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 laboratory 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 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.

Making the step to university can be daunting, but Warwick has an excellent support system to help whenever you need it. As a disabled student, I communicate with disability services often. They are very friendly and offer a wide range of support for a variety of disabilities and conditions.

It’s normal to feel overwhelmed in your first year, but reaching out for support always helps. The university has a counselling service which offers non-judgmental support to anyone, and have helped me to overcome my anxieties and I am quickly settling in. Student support and involvement are at the heart of the community.

Central to how we practice sociology at Warwick is our interest in 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 base you are given. You’ll learn to think critically 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 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. By applying these for yourself, you will build on the knowledge of those before them, and learn to think critically yourself. 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 global society.

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COURSE STRUCTURE

Whichever sociology programme you choose, you’ll receive a thorough and holistic grounding in the key theories and methods used in the social sciences. All of our courses provide you with a mix of both core and optional modules in all stages of the degree.

First year
Our first year in sociology will include a range of core modules that give you the necessary foundations for this degree programme but will also let you choose some optional modules. 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.

Year 2 onwards
Later on in the degree you can also build in study abroad by adding an additional year of study at a partner University into your degree. By the final year of your degree, you will be ready to conduct your own independent sociological research.

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 students the opportunity to develop their own research interests.

Choose from two degree programmes offered by the sociology department:

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

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 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 marks) made up of your modules with freedom of 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.

BA in Sociology with Specialism

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

- BA Sociology with Specialism in Research Methods
- BA Sociology with Specialism in Social and Political Thought
- 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
- BA Sociology with Specialism in Social and Global Sustainable Development

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 one and two. 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.

BA in Sociology and Quantitative Methods

On this degree, you’ll cover all of the core areas that the BA Sociology encounters, and also engage in advanced training in quantitative research methods.

Learning style and contact time
Your first year includes five core modules: Introduction to Quantitative Methods in Social Science I & II; Researching Society and Culture; History of Sociological Thought; Class and Capitalism in a Neoliberal World. After that, you’ll choose 45 CATS worth of optional modules from our first year selection.

In your second year, your core modules will be: Intermediate Quantitative Methods for Social Sciences I & II; Designing and Conducting Social Research. After that, you’ll have the freedom to select 75 CATS of optional modules from our second year list. You will undertake a ‘Numbers in the Workplace’ placement between years two and three.

In your final year, you will take the following core module: Advanced Quantitative Methods. Alongside this module, you will complete a dissertation and you will have undertaken a ‘Numbers in the Workplace’ placement. This will then leave you with 45 CATS to choose from our third year modules list.

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 1:1 basis with the tutor and follow up on seminars, coursework and feedback on your essays, and ask questions about feedback you have received.

www.warwick.ac.uk/sociology

Dr Maria do Mar Pereira
Associate Professor, Sociology
You will be able to choose from one of six elective specialisms and this elective specialism can be added to your final degree title.

The elective specialism 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.

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, and considers questions of research 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 in which 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

How 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 racism 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 part of our contemporary world? This elective specialism allows students to develop a critical understanding of key concepts of feminist thought and the ways in which 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 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

How 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.
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.

Health and medicine, you’ll discover, are ongoing sociological matters. This module will consider a wide range of ongoing sociological matters.

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?

Globality, 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 is it 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-organization against their European colonizers?

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.

Punishment, Justice and Control

Have you ever thought about 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 perspective on criminals and the criminal justice system. 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.

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.
STUDY ABROAD

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

Country options for studying abroad

This list details places which were 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-Universität Jena, Germany
- Goteborg University, Sweden
- Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain
- Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain
- Universität 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.

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.

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
WARWICK SOCIOLOGISTS IN TODAY’S JOB MARKET

Warwick is the 3rd most targeted university by top employers for graduate employment
Highfliers 2018

95.8% Sociology students progressed into employment/further study
DLHE 2015/2016

Examples of Sociology graduates’ job titles include:
- Careers and Employability Assistant, Customer Representative, Directorate Administrator and PA, Estate Agent, Event Administrator, Events 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, Hawkins Estate Agents, Holmfirth Junior and Infants, Imperial College London, National Counties, Qualia Analytics, Spotify, Teachfirst, Orange Tree
  - Sociology graduates go on the following Masters Programmes:
    - Marketing, Organised Crime, Terrorism and Security, Economy, Risk and Society, Fluid Space, Environmental Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Management, Contemporary Identities, Journalism, International Social Policy. These programmes can be studied at Warwick and other leading universities in the UK, Europe, North America and throughout the world.

I chose to study sociology because I truly value the discipline and what it stands for. Sociology attempts to give a voice to minority groups, shed light on inequality and find effective alternatives to social problems. I specifically chose Warwick as I wanted to specialise my Sociology degree and the Warwick Sociology department is filled with interesting and inspiring academics.

In my second year, I was Vice President of Warwick Hitch Society, an organisation that encourages students to hitch-hike either to Morocco or to raise money for Education in Africa. The role taught me about the importance of planning and logistics and it developed my love of Europe and hitch-hiking. I have now moved to a European country and hitch-hiked in 10 different countries.

During my time at Warwick, I engaged in the Erasmus programme and spent a year studying Sociology and Social Policy at Charles University in Prague. I made lifelong friends from all over the world, I visited countries I never thought I would visit and I studied at a world famous institution. I attribute this year to being the best year of my life.

I graduated in July and started interning at KYNE in May before being offered a permanent position in June. KYNE is a health communications consultancy specialising in developing campaigns for a range of public health, pharmaceutical and NGO clients. My current job title is an Assistant Account Executive and I relocated to Dublin to take this role. Our work involves developing campaigns, for example, a behaviour change campaign that encourages parents in Nigeria to get their children vaccinated, through the use of football as a platform.

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, 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 1:1 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?’

The only choice of study for me was sociology because I enjoyed it so much at A-Level. I chose Warwick because it gave me this opportunity to choose modules from the very beginning – to tailor my study to my genuine interests. The year abroad was something that I was considering and Warwick had some of the best options. I had the opportunity to study abroad in Australia for a year – that was certainly the highlight of my time at university. I think it’s really important to stress that the sociology department is like a family – the friendly, supportive and committed establishment that thrive personally and academically. The common room, department events, study trips and many opportunities make the sociology department stand out in such a positive light.

I was also part of a number of sports and societies and was a member of the executive committee for the Sociology Society. I worked part-time on ‘Scoutiride’ at the SU, which was a really fun and social place to work. Warwick has had the perfect work-life balance. I made friends for life.

I am currently on a Retail Banking and Wealth Management Graduate Scheme for a global bank. A common misconception is that studying sociology can limit career opportunities – that is not true! I gained this Graduate Scheme half-way through my final year so I knew that I had career lined up for me after my graduation.

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 supports includes 1:1 career guidance appointments, small group seminars, alumni evenings and many opportunities to meet many potential employers. We are the 3rd targeted University by employers, according to Highfliers 2018.

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 by accessing our blog: careersblog.warwick.ac.uk

We look forward to meeting you!

Min Clare Holdsworth
Senior Careers Consultant Careers & Skills

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, 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 1:1 and group interviews. You will also learn to carry out your own research both individually and in groups.

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We look forward to meeting you!
WHAT 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.

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 utilise 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 test 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 1:1 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. Your personal tutor will 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 1:1 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 searching, 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 and 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 1:1 consultation/advice.

Employability and personal development

We want our students to be attractive to a wide range of employers and be 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. Your academic development will also take place through a range of careers and employability workshops and sessions. You can also attend them as part of your degree programme, student-led groups, or other opportunities provided by your personal tutor. This might be advice on applications for internships, careers, and postgraduate study.

The sociology department really helped me through every hurdle, whether it was applying for a visa or when I was feeling a bit homesick. Warwick has these great connections which help you feel at home. Due to the nature of sociology, you are encouraged to experience and soak up as much culture as possible (even if it’s sitting in a campervan, on a beach, or having a BBQ) in order to be fully immersed within the lifestyle. Which means that you can study what you want and do what you want and not worry about it!

Ellie Lavender

Sociology

www.warwick.ac.uk/sociology
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 throughout their degree.

Events
Whether you’re an undergraduate, postgraduate or member of staff, you’ll be encouraged to attend our department seminars and other activities which take place throughout the year. We host events including workshops, seminars and lectures, often with high-profile national and international speakers.

Our research centres and clusters organise exciting research events, seminars and events.

We host a variety of events over the three 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.

Examples of events we have run in the past 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.

OPPORTUNITIES

Warwick Sociology Society Executive Committee 2017/18

Warwick Sociology Society is for anyone who studies the subject, 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.

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

and our Facebook page: facebook.com/SociologySociety

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 scheme is named ‘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 (IALT) also offer funding directly to students for undertaking either individual or collaborative research, through their Student as Producer fund. In addition, IALT 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.

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.

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Example URSS research projects carried out by Sociology students

- Attitudes towards same-sex marriage among young heterosexual people in Cyprus: a qualitative study
- Refugee crisis in British newspapers: a cross-national comparison on the right to modification of fatherhood in Nordic countries. This was an excellent opportunity for students to learn about the sociological analysis they have been learning throughout their degrees.
- 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 throughout their degrees.
- In 2017 we went to Belgrade and attended various cultural activities as well as lectures from local academics. We are looking forwards to our trip in 2018 to Amsterdam.

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 Seoul but not all a few! In 2014 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 Free Town 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 for students to learn 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!

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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 of 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 of your courses, you must choose your first choice course (‘firm’ choice).

Unless you’ve already taken your exams, your offer will be conditional on you 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.

Entry requirements and typical offers

Check these before you apply via our website, so that you have the most up-to-date information, as these could change for the next admissions cycle: warwick.ac.uk/ug/courses

Offers normally exclude General Studies and Critical Thinking.

And also…

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

Visit Warwick to get a feel for it 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

For 2019/2020 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
CONTACT US

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

📞 +44 (0) 24 7652 4771
✉️ ugsocressource@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.