University of Suffolk

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	**BSc (Hons) Sociology**
Awarding Bodies	**University of Suffolk**
Level of Award[1]	**FHEQ Level 6**
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	**None**
Credit Structure[2]	**360 Credits** **Level 4: 120 Credits** **Level 5: 120 Credits** **Level 6: 120 Credits**
Mode of Attendance	**Full-time**
Standard Length of Course[3]	**3 years full-time**
Intended Award	**BSc (Hons) Sociology**
Named Exit Awards	**BSc Sociology** **DipHE Sociology** **CertHE Sociology**
Entry Requirements[4]	**Typical Offer:** **112 UCAS tariff points (or above), BBC (A-Level), DMM (BTEC) or Access to HE Diploma - a minimum of 45 Level 3 credits at merit grade or above.** **All applicants are required to hold GCSE English and Maths at Grade C/4 or above.**
Delivering Institution(s)	**University of Suffolk**
UCAS Code	**L301**

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the BSc (Hons) Sociology course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2026-27 academic year[5].

Course Summary

Sociology developed with the modern world and its key task is to analyse the changing nature of our social world. Sociology at the University of Suffolk emphasises the real world and underpins skills needed for careers in the private and public sectors. You will study important

[1] For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies (2024)
[2] All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the Higher education credit framework for England.
[3] Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information about mode of study and maximum registration periods can be found in the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards.
[4] Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the Admissions Policy and further details about Disclosure and Barring Checks (DBS) can be found on the University's DBS webpage.
[5] The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the Admissions Policy.

aspects of the real world that are complex and challenging such as inequality, violence, unfairness, or injustice. Sociology students study these challenging areas when examining social change, globalisation, migration, gender and sexuality, technology and social theory.

By studying sociology at the University of Suffolk you will become sensitive to the wider social context of our lived experience and learn to look beyond a narrow focus on the individual in any life situation. This attention to context will allow you to make more informed decisions. Studying sociology equips students with analytical, decision making and research skills necessary for many vocations. This course will allow you to be innovative, ask awkward questions, and develop good group working skills. It is this combination that makes sociology graduates employable. It is an education for a thoughtful and useful life.

Course Aims

1. To investigate the changing nature of social life with its consequences for patterns of diversity, inequality, and injustice
2. To study and develop a critical account of the key features and debates in social theory that aim to explain social life
3. To develop an ethical framework and a questioning and critical approach to the social life at the local, national, regional and global levels
4. To encourage cognitive development and autonomous learning.
5. To develop subject specific, cognitive and information management skills of value in employment, further study and personal development.
6. To promote increasing participation in education by supporting a range of learners, including non-traditional entrants, at degree level

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the BSc (Hons) Sociology course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 4/5/6 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)[6].

1. Show deep and proficient knowledge, critical analysis of a range of sociological approaches, theories, concepts, research, and their applications
2. Critically examine a range of processes that underpin social change
3. Give a thorough account of social diversity and inequalities
4. Use, develop and critically evaluate sociological arguments, perspectives, and evidence in a range of social contexts
5. Develop and critically discuss a sociologically informed ethical framework and awareness of major social problems and challenges at the local, national, regional, and global level
6. Design, conduct, analyse, and report sociological research using quantitative, qualitative, comparative, or mixed method approaches and primary and secondary sources using appropriate data analysis techniques and software

[6] As set out in the QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies (2024)

7. Develop sociologically informed questions and undertake and critically evaluate a research project
8. Manage own learning and communicate it effectively through finding and making good use of academic literature, reliable data, competent and ethical use of AI tools and sociological arguments

Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following QAA Benchmarks:

- Sociology (2019)

Course Structure

The BSc (Hons) Sociology comprises modules at levels 4, 5 and 6.

Module Specifications for each of these modules is included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

	Module	Credits	Module Type[7]
Level 4			
	Sociological and Criminological Imagination	30	R
	Introduction to Criminology	30	R
	Migration, Ethnicity and Population	30	R
	Research Methods	15	R
	Media and Crime	15	R
Level 5			
	Social Theory	30	R
	Racialisation, Social Justice and Policy	30	R
	Globalisation	15	O
	Technology and Artificial Intelligence	15	O
	Environment	15	O
	International Law and Human Rights	15	O
	Work Placement	15	O
	Drugs and Society	15	O
	Mental Health Policy and Practice	15	O
	Violence, Order and Freedom	15	O

[7] Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards

	Research Design, Analysis and Visualisation	30	R
	Individual Literature Paper (Recovery Module)	30	O (Recovery)
Level 6			
	Independent Project	30	M
	Gender and Sexuality	30	R
	Globalisation	15	O
	Technology and Artificial Intelligence	15	O
	Environment	15	O
	International Law and Human Rights	15	O
	Work Placement	15	O
	Drugs and Society	15	O
	Mental Health Policy and Practice	15	O
	Violence, Order and Freedom	15	O
	Victimology and Victimisation	30	R
	Applied Studies (Recovery Module)	30	O (Recovery)

The Optional Recovery modules are only available in the exceptional circumstances where a student must retrieve credits to ensure progression or where a standard optional module cannot be delivered.

Optional modules available in any year will be communicated to you prior to your enrolment to facilitate module choice. Some optional modules may not run in every year of study, and the availability of optional modules depends on the level of student demand, the availability of specialist staff and timetabling constraints. In addition, we regularly review our curriculum to ensure it is up-to-date, relevant, draws on the latest research and addresses contemporary issues. As a result, the modules we offer may change over the course of your degree.

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a BSc (Hons) Sociology. Students who leave the course early may be eligible for a BSc Sociology on successful completion of 300 at level 4 or above with at least 180 credits at Level 5 or above and at least 60 credits at Level 6 credits, a DipHE Sociology on successful completion of 240 credits including all mandatory modules at levels 4 and 5; a CertHE Sociology on successful completion of 120 credits including all mandatory modules at levels 4.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at Ipswich. Students studying full-time on BSc (Hons) Sociology are likely to have approximately 12 contact hours for level 4, 9 contact hours for level 5 and 9 contact hours for level 6. The contact hours will be a mix of lectures, seminars, practical activities, tutorials, workshops and guided learning activities through the online learning

environment. Students will normally be expected to undertake 32 hours of independent study in an average week but should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module's intended learning outcomes.

Course Team

The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute.

Course Costs

Students undertaking BSc (Hons) Sociology will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK	£9,790 per year
Part-time UK	N/A
Full-time EU/International	£15,900 per year
Part-time EU/International	N/A

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

Students are likely to incur other costs for essential reading materials amounting to approximately £240 per year.

Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the website.