

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	BA (Hons) Applied Psychology and 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 and Part-time
Standard Length of Course ³	3 years full-time
Intended Award	BA (Hons) Applied Psychology and Sociology
Named Exit Awards	None
Entry Requirements ⁴	Typical offer: 112 UCAS tariff points
Delivering Institution(s)	University of Suffolk at West Suffolk College
UCAS Code	LC39

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the BA (Hons) Applied Psychology and Sociology course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2018-19 academic year.⁵

Course Summary

Who am I and how do I live with others? The answer is in the link between our minds, our bodies, our “selves”, and other people. This is the central task of discovery involved in studying Applied Psychology and Sociology and this “joint” degree enables study of both disciplines in equal measure.

Psychology is a scientific discipline dealing with human behaviour, cognition and action. In Applied Psychology you will explore and examine the interaction between mind and behaviour, the nature of the unconscious, the functioning of memory, individual behaviour in social situations, prejudice and altruism. Applied Psychology equips students with a thorough grounding in each of the major fields: social psychology, developmental psychology, biological psychology, and cognitive psychology.

Sociology seeks to understand all aspects of human social behaviour, including the social dynamics of small groups of people, large organisations, communities, institutions and even entire societies. Sociologists are typically motivated by their desire to better understand the

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

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](#)

⁵ The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the [Admissions Policy](#).

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fundamental principles of social life, believing that an understanding of these principles will help improve people's lives through more enlightened and effective policies.

Studying Applied Sociology will help students to discover how to investigate these kinds of questions for themselves and begin to understand more about your own motivations and behaviours, gaining a wide range of very valuable skills that can be applied to almost any career.

The focus of the teaching and learning in both subjects is on allowing students to explore fundamental questions about human behaviour, while learning about the importance of research, evidence collection and adherence to ethical codes. Combination of Applied Psychology and Sociology at all levels develops critical understanding of "the individual" and "society" as an integrated whole.

Course Aims

Applied Psychology

- To provide the opportunity for students to develop an understanding of major concepts and themes in contemporary Psychology and an ability to relate them to life in the community and globally
- Students will develop a critical approach to their studies in Applied Psychology, evaluating theory and evidence accordingly
- To ensure that students develop autonomous learning and research skills which provide a basis for lifelong learning
- To develop and enhance skills in written, oral and IT communication
- To ensure that students have the opportunities to develop a range of analytic and graduate skills adequate for a range of professional and life situations

Applied Sociology

- To provide the opportunity for students to develop an understanding of major concepts and themes in contemporary sociology and an ability to relate them to life in the community and globally
- Students will develop a critical approach to their studies in sociology, evaluating theory and evidence accordingly
- To ensure that students develop autonomous learning and research skills which provide a basis for lifelong learning
- To develop and enhance skills in written, oral and IT communication
- To ensure that students have the opportunities to develop a range of analytic and graduate skills adequate for a range of professional and life situations

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Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the BA (Hons) Applied Psychology and 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 6 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA).⁶

Applied Psychology

1. Recognise the inherent variability and diversity of psychological functioning in applied settings
2. Demonstrate sound knowledge and critical understanding of a range of influences on psychological functioning, and how they are conceptualised in real world terms
3. Demonstrate knowledge of a range of research paradigms, research methods and measurement techniques, including statistical analysis and how these may apply to everyday life
4. Reason scientifically and demonstrate the relationship between theory and evidence in applied settings
5. Adopt multiple perspectives to enable evaluation of the application of psychology to everyday life
6. Demonstrate competence in research skills through practical activities and understand the importance of these skills in the real world
7. Reason statistically and demonstrate competence in a range of statistical methods to increase understanding of the application of statistics in everyday life

Applied Sociology

1. Sound understanding of a range of key concepts and theoretical approaches in Applied Sociology and the ability to evaluate their application
2. Critical understanding of social diversity and inequality and their effects
3. Evaluation of the processes that underpin social change and social stability
4. Ability to critically assess a range of research strategies and methods in applied sociology and assess their appropriate use
5. The relationship between, and strengths and weaknesses of, sociological arguments and those of other social science/humanities disciplines
6. The ways in which Applied Sociology can be distinguished from other forms of understanding

⁶ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

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7. The ability to assess a range of sociological perspectives and discuss the strengths of each for the understanding of events
8. The ability to draw on materials from a wide range of sociological sources and demonstrate an ability to compare, synthesise and critically evaluate them
9. The ability to draw on evidence to compare and critically evaluate competing explanations in sociology

Generic and graduate skills

10. Critical evaluation of arguments, assumptions, abstract concepts and data (that may be incomplete), to make judgements, and to frame appropriate questions to achieve a solution - or identify a range of solutions - to a problem
11. Confidence to communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialist and non-specialist audiences
12. Be aware of contextual and interpersonal factors in groups and teams
13. The qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility, decision-making in complex and unpredictable contexts and the learning ability needed to undertake appropriate further post-graduate study and/or training of a professional or equivalent nature
14. An ability to design, research, and present a sustained and independently conceived dissertation/project in accordance with the academic conventions of Applied Sociology, or an *interdisciplinary* dissertation that includes Applied Sociology in accordance with appropriate academic conventions
15. An ability to design, research, and present a sustained and independently conceived dissertation/project in accordance with the academic conventions of Applied Psychology, or an *interdisciplinary* dissertation that includes Applied Psychology in accordance with appropriate academic conventions

Course Design

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

- Psychology (2016)
- Sociology (2016)

Course Structure

The BA (Hons) Applied Psychology and Sociology comprises modules at levels 4, 5 and 6.

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

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Module	Credits	Module Type ⁷		Module	Credits	Module Type
Applied Psychology				Applied Sociology		
Level 4						
Introduction to Applied Psychology	20	R		Introduction to Applied Sociology	20	R
Psychology in Action	20	R		Contemporary Social Inequalities	20	R
Psychology and Society	20	R		Making Sense of Modernity	20	R
Level 5						
Dissertation/Project Preparation (20 credits) NB This is a mandatory module pre-requisite for the final year undergraduate Dissertation. For the remaining modules at Level 5, choose the mandatory options and then choose two modules from one subject and two module from the other						
Methodology for Social Science: Applied Psychology	20	M		Research Methodology for Social Science: Applied Sociology	20	M
Criminality, Psychopathology and Deviance	20	O		Theorising Social Life	20	O
Cyber Psychology	20	O		Understanding Crime	20	O
Level 6						
Undergraduate Dissertation/Project (40 credits, Mandatory) <i>The Dissertation/Project for this joint combination should be registered as being interdisciplinary, i.e. in Applied Psychology and Sociology.</i>						
Individual differences in the Workplace	20	R		The Sociology of Work and the Professions	20	R
Psychology of Health	20	R		The Sociology of Health and Illness	20	R

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a BA (Hons) Applied Psychology and Sociology.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at the University of Suffolk at West Suffolk College. Students studying full-time on BA (Hons) Applied Psychology and Sociology are likely to have approximately 10 contact hours per week. The contact hours will be a mix of lecture, seminar discussion and site visits where appropriate. Students will normally be expected to undertake 25 hours of independent study in an average week if studying full-time, but should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

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

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Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the BA (Hons) Applied Psychology and Sociology 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. Assessment on the course overall will be mainly coursework including essays, reports, presentations and group work, along with 3 written examinations.

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 BA (Hons) Applied Psychology and Sociology will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK/EU	£9,250 per year
Part-time UK/EU	£1,454 per 20 credit module
Full-time International	£11,500 per year
Part-time International	£1,915 per 20 credit module

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

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](#).