

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	BA (Hons) History and Applied 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) History and Applied Sociology
Named Exit Awards	None
Entry Requirements ⁴	112 UCAS points
Delivering Institution(s)	West Suffolk College
UCAS Code	VL33

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the BA (Hons) History and Applied Sociology course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2021-22 academic year⁵.

Course Summary

History and Applied Sociology is a joint combination in which both subjects are given approximately equal weight. Both have their own theoretical underpinning and academic conventions and their combination provides a valuable opportunity to develop more versatile skills and perspectives as well as an appreciation of interdisciplinary connections.

History is designed to develop students' understanding of historical processes through the study of a range of periods and geographical contexts, promoting awareness of continuity and change. Modules span the early modern period to the present and embrace two identifiable strands: British Social and Cultural History and Family and Community History. Over the course of study, students experience key varieties of history with their distinctive focus, theoretical underpinnings and methodological approaches.

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](#) 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](#).

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Applied Sociology considers the core concepts, theories and methods involved in sociological study and applies them to substantive subject areas such as the family, education, modernity, social inequalities, methodology, sociological theory and the sociology of crime, work and health. History also focuses chiefly on social and cultural history, often making use of sociological concepts such as gender, social class and aspects of social theory. It therefore complements the study of Applied Sociology very well and, at times, the two subjects may deal with the same subject matter, for instance regarding the history of social theory where “social history” and the “history of society” may merge.

Course Aims

History

- To provide an intellectually satisfying and worthwhile experience of studying and learning within the distinctive academic framework of History;
- To encourage the development of intellectual maturity, openness of mind and an imaginative and creative approach to problem-solving;
- To enable students to develop a capacity for sophisticated analytical thinking and judgement;
- To enable students to develop a range of subject specific and transferable skills of value in employment including high-order skills in oral and written communication and in the gathering, interpretation and presentation of information;
- To provide the opportunity for students to gain confidence in working both independently and as members or leaders of a group or team;
- To prepare students to undertake further study in History or in related fields.

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) History and Applied 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.

History

1. The ability to develop and sustain historical arguments in a variety of literary forms, formulating appropriate questions and utilising evidence.
2. An ability to interrogate, read, analyse and reflect critically and contextually upon contemporary texts and other primary sources, including visual and material sources like paintings, coins, medals, cartoons, photographs and films.
3. An appreciation of the complexity of reconstructing the past, and the problematic and varied nature of historical evidence.
4. An ability to analyse continuity and change over extended time spans.
5. A command of comparative perspectives, which may include the ability to compare the histories of different countries, societies, or cultures.

Generic and graduate skills

6. 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.
7. Confidence to communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialist and non-specialist audiences.
8. Awareness of contextual and interpersonal factors in groups and teams.
9. 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.
10. The ability to gather and deploy evidence and data to find, retrieve, sort and exchange new information.
11. An ability to design, research, and present a sustained and independently conceived interdisciplinary dissertation/project that includes History, in accordance with appropriate academic conventions.

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

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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.
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 interdisciplinary dissertation/project includes Applied Sociology in accordance with appropriate academic conventions.

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Course Design

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

- History (2014)
- Sociology (2007)

Course Structure

The BA (Hons) History and Applied 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	Module	Credits	Module Type
History			Applied Sociology		
Level 4					
From Cradle to Grave in England, 1560-1720	20	R	Introduction to Applied Sociology	20	R
Introduction to Historical Studies	20	R	Contemporary Social Inequalities	20	R
Introduction to Political Ideas	20	R	Making Sense of Modernity	20	R
Level 5					
Listening to the Past	20	O	Qualitative Methodology for Social Science	20	O
Shaping a Nation: Victorian Culture, Society and the State	20	O	Theorising Social Life	20	O
Mentalities of Empire 1750 - 1950	20	O	Understanding Crime	20	O
Dissertation/Project Preparation	20	M	NB This is a mandatory module. It counts towards <i>one</i> of your combined subjects		
Level 6					
The Spanish Civil War	20	O	The Sociology of Health and Illness	20	O
Aspects of East Anglian History and Heritage	20	O	The Sociology of Work and the Professions	20	O
Family Affairs: Blood, Contract and Intimacy in Britain 1837-2000	20	O	Gender and Sexuality	20	O
Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Dissertation/Project	40	M	In addition to an interdisciplinary Dissertation/Project choose <i>two</i> History modules and <i>two</i> Applied Sociology modules		

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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Awards

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

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at West Suffolk College. Students studying full-time on the BA (Hons) History and Applied Sociology course 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.

Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the BA (Hons) English and History 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 mostly coursework including essays, reports, presentations and group work, and up to 6 time constrained assessments and written examinations depending on the module options chosen.

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) History and Applied Sociology will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK	£9,250 per year
Part-time UK	£1,454 per 20 credit module
Full-time EU/International	£12,150 per year
Part-time EU/International	£2,025 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.

Students are likely to incur other costs for optional field trips and site visits, amounting to approximately £50.00 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](#).