

Programme Specification for
BA Sociology (Criminology)



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| 1. Programme title | BA Sociology (Criminology) |
| 2. Awarding institution | Middlesex University |
| 3. Teaching institution | Middlesex University |
| 4. Details of accreditation by professional/statutory/regulatory body | |
| 5. Final qualification | BA (Honours) |
| 6. Year of validation Year of amendment | |
| 7. Language of study | English |
| 8. Mode of study | Full-time/ Part-time/ Thick Sandwich Programme |

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

The University's standard entry requirement is 240 to 280 UCAS tariff points , however, mature applicants with relevant experience and qualifications, including access course qualifications are also welcomed, provided they can show evidence of ability to benefit from the programme.

International students who have not been taught in the English medium must show evidence of proven ability in English such as TOEFL grade 550 or IELTS grade 6.5.

University policies supporting students with disabilities apply, as described in the University Regulations 'Information for students with disabilities'.

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to:

- develop an understanding of major concepts and themes in contemporary sociology and an ability to relate them to life in the community;

- develop a critical approach to the subject matter of sociology and criminology, evaluating theory and evidence accordingly;
- prepare students to be participants in society through an awareness and understanding of crime and crime control in society;
- foster effective written, oral and IT communications skills;
- develop a range of analytical, research and graduate skills relevant to a range of professions;
- encourage students to develop as autonomous learners; and instil a culture of lifelong learning among students.

11. Programme outcomes

A. Knowledge and understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of :

1. A range of key concepts and theoretical approaches in sociology and criminology, and evaluate their application.
2. An analytical account of social diversity and inequality and their effects.
3. The strengths and weaknesses in the use of comparative Sociology.
4. The nature of social relationships between individuals, groups and social institutions.
5. The processes that underpin social change and social stability.
6. A range of research strategies and methods in sociology and criminology and assess the appropriateness of their use.
7. The relationship between sociological and criminological arguments and evidence in a range of contexts.

Teaching/learning methods

Students gain knowledge and understanding through:

- active participation in a combination of lectures, seminars, workshops, weekly assignments and practical exercises;
- tutorials;
- e-mail support;
- independent self-directed study and/or experiential learning.

Assessment methods

Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by:

- various summative assessment methods ranging from seen and unseen examinations, coursework essays and portfolios;
- formative assessment methods are employed in a range of modules covering core knowledge and understanding to aid students' developmental progress.

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| <p>8. The ways in which Sociology and criminology can be distinguished from other forms of understanding.</p> | |
| <p>B. Cognitive (thinking) skills</p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assess a range of sociological and criminological perspectives and discuss the strengths of each for the understanding of events. 2. Draw on materials from a range of sources in sociology and criminology and demonstrate an ability to synthesise them. 3. Draw on sociological and criminological evidence to evaluate competing explanations. 4. Evaluate the viability of competing explanations in sociology and criminology in explaining problems, and draw appropriate conclusions. | <p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>Students learn cognitive skills through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lectures, seminars and workshops; • exercises and presentations; • resource- based learning and self-directed study with one-to-one tutorial assistance. <p>Assessment methods</p> <p>Students' cognitive skills are assessed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • coursework and examinations; • formatively by the submission of reports and work in progress. |
| <p>C. Practical skills</p> <p>On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate ability to formulate sociologically informed questions. 2. Summarise and explain the findings of empirical sociological and criminological research, including a critical assessment of the methodology used. 3. Practically select and use appropriate research tools in sociological investigation. 4. Gather appropriate information to | <p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>Students learn practical skills through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • active participation in formal and informal learning environments that makes use of instructional lectures, workshops, seminars, student presentations and completion of exercises, tutorials, e- mail support and self-directed study; • practical skill C5 is further developed by dissertation supervision at level 3 <p>Assessment methods</p> <p>Students' practical skills are assessed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seen and unseen examinations, coursework, portfolios and web-based |

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| <p>answer sociologically informed questions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Analyse the ethical implications of social research in a variety of applied research settings. 6. Discuss sociological topics with an appreciation of theory, evidence and relevance to current debates, and to present the conclusions in a variety of appropriate sociological formats. 7. Identify and comment on the value of sociological work with regard to social, public and civic policy issues. | <p>assignments. Formative assessment methodologies are also employed to assist students' development of these practical skills.</p> |
| <p>D. Graduate skills</p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Effective learning. 2. Communication. 3. Teamwork. 4. Information Technology. 5. Numeracy. 6. Career Development. | <p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>Students acquire graduate skills through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • practical work and structured opportunities for learning offered by assessment schemes. <p>Assessment methods</p> <p>Students' graduate skills are assessed in our core skills level 1-3 modules using a variety of assessment methodologies; some graduate skills are not directly assessed but their successful attainment is essential to complete module assessments satisfactorily.</p> |

12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)

12. 1 Overall structure of the programme

The BA (Hons) Sociology (Criminology) programme is studied over three years full-time, four years in sandwich (placement) mode, or between four, five, and seven years part-time.

The programme is arranged into year-long modules, comprising two teaching terms in each academic year. The programme is divided into study units called modules. Each

module has a credit value of 30 credits, but the final year dissertation module has a 60 credit value. Placement year (sandwich mode) attracts a 120 credit value for the year.

Each 30 credit module represents approximately 300 hours of student learning, endeavour and assessment including formal teaching, for which hours vary across levels and modules.

Each stage of the programme has an equivalent of 120 credits, with a total of 360 credits required to obtain the BA (Hons.) Sociology with Criminology degree.

12.2 Levels and modules

Level 4 (1)

| COMPULSORY | OPTIONAL | PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS |
|--|----------|---|
| Students must take all of the following: SOC1400 SOC1430 CRM1410 CRM1420 | | The core SOC1400, CRM1410 and CRM1420 modules must be successfully completed to progress to Level 5 study. |

Level 5 (2)

| COMPULSORY | OPTIONAL | PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS |
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| Students must take all of the following: SOC2500 SOC2510 CRM2500 SOC2530 | | The core SOC2530, SOC2510 and SOC2500 modules must be successfully completed to progress to SOC3760 . |

| Level 6 (3) | | |
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| COMPULSORY | OPTIONAL | PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS |
| Students must take all of the following: SOC3760 | Students must also choose at least two modules from List 1 and one from List 2: <u>List 1:</u> SOC3580 SOC3700 SOC3701 SOC3720 SOC3703 SOC3740 SOC3750 SOC3780 LAW3330 <u>List 2:</u> CRM3501 CRM3530 CRM3540 | |

| 12.3 Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels) | |
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| Module level | Module code |
| Level 4 | SOC1430, CRM1410, CRM1420 |
| Level 5 | SOC2530, SOC2510, SOC2500 |
| Level 6 | SOC3760 |

13. Curriculum map

See attached.

14. Information about assessment regulations

The Department of Criminology and Sociology adheres to the Middlesex University Guide and Regulations on all assessment regulations. Modules that specify coursework and examination (or other assessment methodology combinations) in their assessment scheme require a pass in both components.

15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)

The Hendon Placement Office and Department of Criminology and Sociology built up a wide range of placement opportunities for sociology students in, for example, the home office, local authorities, voluntary agencies and research institutions.

16. Future careers (if applicable)

A variety of careers are open to sociology graduates by studying this discipline they are able to seek employment opportunities within such areas as Local Authorities; Town Planning; Social Services; research and analysis of economic, political and cultural influences; the use of current and development of future housing needs; the management of the environmental at both the national and international level; changes in education and the impact on inner city and more recently rural student development; the future developments of the health service as its deals with changes in provision, driven by advances in medical care and social changes; migration and the impact collapsing international barriers; impact of the media on social understanding of our environment; social, political, economic and cultural integration on our institutions.

17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

Our students are encouraged to take full advantage of University-level and student union learning support schemes and facilities.

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| 18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system) | L393 |
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| 19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s) | Sociology |
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20. Reference points

- QAA Subject Benchmark Statement for Sociology (2007).
- QAA Institutional Audit, 2003 and 2005.
- The Learning Framework Programme Design Guide (2006).
- Middlesex University and School of Law, Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy and Policies.
- Middlesex University and School of Law, Graduate Skills Strategy.
- The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland 2008.
- QAA Guidelines and Information.
- Student Feedback.
- External Examiner Feedback.

21. Other information

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

Appendix 2: Curriculum Map

Curriculum map for BA Sociology (Criminology)

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

Programme learning outcomes

| Knowledge and understanding | | Practical skills | |
|-----------------------------|--|------------------|---|
| A1 | A range of key concepts and theoretical approaches in sociology and criminology, and evaluate their application. | C1 | Demonstrate ability to formulate sociologically informed questions. |
| A2 | An analytical account of social diversity and inequality and their effects. | C2 | Summarise and explain the findings of empirical sociological and criminological research, including a critical assessment of the methodology used. |
| A3 | The strengths and weaknesses in the use of comparative Sociology. | C3 | Practically select and use appropriate research tools in sociological investigation. |
| A4 | The nature of social relationships between individuals, groups and social institutions. | C4 | Gather appropriate information to answer sociologically informed questions. |
| A5 | The processes that underpin social change and social stability. | C5 | Analyse the ethical implications of social research in a variety of applied research settings. |
| A6 | A range of research strategies and methods in sociology and criminology and assess the appropriateness of their use. | C6 | Discuss sociological topics with an appreciation of theory, evidence and relevance to current debates, and to present the conclusions in a variety of appropriate sociological formats. |
| A7 | The relationship between sociological and criminological arguments and evidence in a range of contexts. | C7 | Identify and comment on the value of sociological work with regard to social, public and civic policy issues. |
| A8 | The ways in which Sociology and criminology can be distinguished from other forms of understanding. | | |
| Cognitive skills | | Graduate Skills | |

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| B1 | Assess a range of sociological and criminological perspectives and discuss the strengths of each for the understanding of events. | D1 | Effective learning. |
| B2 | Draw on materials from a range of sources in sociology and criminology and demonstrate an ability to synthesise them. | D2 | Communication. |
| B3 | Draw on evidence to evaluate competing explanations. | D3 | Teamwork. |
| B4 | Evaluate the viability of competing explanations in sociology and criminology in explaining problems, and draw appropriate conclusions. | D4 | Information technology. |
| | | D5 | Numeracy. |
| | | D6 | Career Development. |

| Programme outcomes | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| A1 | A2 | A3 | A4 | A5 | A6 | A7 | A8 | B1 | B2 | B3 | B4 | C1 | C2 | C3 | C4 | C5 | C6 | C7 | D1 | D2 | D3 | D4 | D5 | D6 | |
| Highest level achieved by all graduates | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Module Title | Module Code by Level | Programme outcomes | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------|--------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | A1 | A2 | A3 | A4 | A5 | A6 | A7 | A8 | B1 | B2 | B3 | B4 | C1 | C2 | C3 | C4 | C5 | C6 | C7 | D1 | D2 | D3 | D4 | D5 | D6 |
| Understanding Contemporary Society: Issue and Debates | SOC1400 | X | | | X | | | | | X | X | | | | | | X | | | | X | X | X | | | |
| Explaining Crime | CRM1410 | X | | | X | X | | | X | X | | | X | X | X | | X | | | | | X | | | | |
| Researching The City | CRM1420 | | | | | | X | | | X | X | | | | | X | | | | | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Doing Things Together: Exploring Social Practices | SOC1430 | X | | | X | X | | | | X | | X | | X | | | X | | | | X | X | | | | |
| Approaches to research in Social Science | SOC2500 | | | | | | X | | | | | | | X | | X | | X | | | X | X | | | | |
| Contemporary Social Theory | SOC2510 | X | | | X | X | | X | | | X | | | | | | X | | | | X | X | | | | |

