

Programme Specification and Curriculum Map for BA Sociology / Psychology



1. Programme title	BA Sociology / Psychology
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	Middlesex University
4. Programme accredited by	N /A
5. Final qualification	BA Honours
6. Academic year	2014/15
7. Language of study	English
8. Mode of study	F/t, P/T, TKSW

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 psychology and an ability to relate them to life in the community.
- ▶ Develop a critical approach to their studies in sociology and psychology, evaluating theory and evidence accordingly
- ▶ Develop autonomous learning and research skills which provide a basis for lifelong learning
- ▶ Foster skills in written, oral and IT communication
- ▶ Develop a range of analytic and graduate skills adequate for a range of professional and life situations.

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 psychology, and evaluate their application
2. 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 psychology and assess the appropriateness of their use
7. The relationship between sociological and political arguments and evidence in a range of contexts
8. The ways in which sociology and psychology can be distinguished from other forms of understanding

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

Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by way of 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.

B. Cognitive (thinking) skills

1. Assess a range of sociological and psychological perspectives and discuss the strengths of each for the understanding of events
2. Draw on materials from a range of sociological and psychology sources and demonstrate an ability to synthesise them
3. Draw on evidence to evaluate competing explanations in sociology and psychology
4. Evaluate the viability of competing explanations in explaining problems, and draw appropriate conclusions

Teaching/learning methods

Students learn cognitive skills through lectures, seminars, workshops, exercises, presentations; resource- based learning and self-directed study with one-to-one tutorial assistance.

Assessment

Students' cognitive skills are assessed summatively by coursework and examinations; and formatively by the submission of reports and work in progress.

C. Practical skills

(Subject specific practical skills)

1. Demonstrate an ability to formulate sociologically informed questions.
2. Summarise and explain the findings of empirical sociological 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 answer sociologically and psychologically informed questions
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 and psychological work with regard to social, public and civic policy issues

Teaching/learning methods

Students learn subject specific practical skills through 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.

Assessment

Students' subject specific practical skills are assessed by way of seen and unseen examinations, coursework, portfolios and web-based assignments. Formative assessment methodologies are also employed to assist students' development of these practical skills.

D. Graduate Skills

On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to demonstrate:

1. Effective learning
2. Communication
3. Teamwork
4. Information Technology
5. Numeracy
6. Career Development

Teaching/learning methods

Students acquire graduate skills through practical work and structured opportunities for learning offered by assessment schemes

Assessment

Graduate skills are developed and assessed in our core skills level 1-3 modules using a variety of assessment methodologies.

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

12.1 Overall structure of the programme

The BA (Hons) Sociology with Psychology programme is studied over three years full-time, 4 years in sandwich (placement) mode, or between 4, 5, and 7 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 Psychology degree.

12.2 Levels and modules

Level 4

COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following: SOC1400 SOC1430 CRM1420 PSY1111	N/A	The core SOC1400, CRM1420 and PSY111 modules must be successfully completed to progress to Level 5 study.

Level 5

COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following: SOC2500 SOC2510 CRM2530 PSY2014	N/A	The core SOC2530, SOC2510 and SOC2500 modules must be successfully completed to progress to SOC3760

Level 6		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following: SOC3760	Students must also choose at least 2 from the following list: LAW3330 SOC3700 SOC3701 SOC3720 SOC3703 SOC3740 SOC3750	N/A
12.3 Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)		
Level 4	SOC1430, CRM1420, PSY1111	
Level 5	SOC2500, SOC2510, SOC2530	
Level 6	SOC3760	
13. Curriculum map		
See Curriculum Map attached		
14. Information about assessment regulations		
The Department of Criminology and Sociology adheres to the Middlesex University Guide and Regulations on all assessment regulations.		
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

18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)

L3C8

19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)

Sociology

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 programme handbook and the University Regulations.