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You will find that the Department of Sociology is a lively, research-intensive department. Our research and teaching engage with major trends in society and offer distinctive and critical ways of thinking about the social world.

You can choose from a range of comprehensive and innovative undergraduate degrees as well as postgraduate taught courses and doctoral studies.

Our research is world class, with strengths ranging from gender to globalisation, health to crime, alternative societies to migration, childhood to sexuality, and identity to cosmopolitanism.

You benefit from being part of a department that is committed to the advancement of sociology, criminology and gender studies as interdisciplinary and globally orientated fields of scholarship.
Our courses equip you with the skills to analyse, assess and be critical, so that you can make sense of the world around you. You benefit from supportive faculty, teaching by top-class researchers at the cutting edge of their field, and the opportunity to choose from a range of inspiring modules and options.

You can choose to study themes and issues that include gender, deviance, health, globalisation, migration and identity – giving you experience of a wide range of topics before you specialise in your final year. Many of our final year students choose to take a year-long supervised research project in an area of their choice and our courses teach you how to generate and present data. These skills are highly regarded by employers, giving you the freedom and flexibility to choose whichever direction you wish to pursue in your future career.

Our department is recognised for its outstanding teaching. We place your learning experience at the centre of what we do. At Sussex, you are taught by experts who influence theoretical debates and inform policy and practice. They specialise on topics ranging from policing and terrorism, to gender inequalities and globalisation.

You will find that Sussex is a great place to study sociology, criminology, and related subjects. We’re friendly and accessible, intellectually diverse and lively, serious but also good fun.

Join us, be challenged and work at the cutting edge of our discipline.

WHY CHOOSE US?

When you join the Department of Sociology at Sussex you become part of one of the most lively and inspiring departments in the country.
Our degrees enable you to explore subjects in ways that inspire and interest you, developing your knowledge and understanding.

You can choose to study a single honours degree or combine your interest in sociology or criminology with another subject.

- BA Sociology
- BA Criminology
- BA Criminology and Sociology
- BA Sociology with a Modern Language (French, Italian or Spanish)
- BA Sociology and Cultural Studies
- BA Sociology and International Development
- BA Sociology with Media Studies
- BA History and Sociology
- BA International Relations and Sociology
- BA Philosophy and Sociology
- BA Politics and Sociology
- BSc Psychology with Criminology
- LLB Law with Criminology
Have you ever wondered about the effects of different political and economic institutions on our lives? How our gender or sexuality shape our experience? Why race and immigration are such enduring issues? Or how health care and criminal justice systems work?

Studying Sociology enables you to develop a heightened awareness of the importance of different ideas and institutions in shaping our societies. You gain a critical understanding of different institutions and movements that shape individual experience. You learn both quantitative and qualitative social research methods to enable you to carry out your own research and assess the research of others. You also develop transferable skills in understanding and assessing ideas and evidence, presenting your own work and ideas in written and oral forms, working independently and with others.

You study:
- theories and approaches to understanding different societies and economic systems
- the ideas underpinning different institutions and policies, including in health, education, migration and crime
- the experience and effects of both gender and sexuality in the contemporary world
- the rules, routines and interactions that shape everyday life and identity
- movements for political and social change at both national and global levels.

YEAR 1
In your first year you are introduced to sociology, learning about important concepts and theories as well as examining recent debates about contemporary Britain. Core modules also help you learn to ask sociological questions and ‘make the familiar strange’.

YEAR 2
In your second year you learn about major methods of data collection and their use in different contexts, and practise carrying out interviews, focus groups, observations and questionnaire design. You also learn about the analysis of both quantitative and qualitative data. You can choose to gain detailed knowledge of several areas in sociology.

YEAR 3
You deepen your knowledge and critical understanding by focusing on specialist topics reflecting cutting edge research within the department. You also have the chance to carry out your own piece of research in the form of a supervised project.
## Sociology BA

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## Sociology BA Joint Honours*

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*If you study Sociology as a joint honours you split your time equally between both subjects in each year.
Sociology

optional modules

In your second and final year you can choose a number of sociology options. The options offered reflect the wide range of research interests covered by faculty.

This list shows examples of optional modules that have been offered in recent years. So that we can keep our curriculum fresh and driven by developments in our research, our modules are reviewed each year and we may run different modules in the future.

• Alternative Societies
• Beyond the Vote: Citizenship and Participation
• Classical Sociological Theory
• Contemporary Social Theory
• Death of Socialism
• Development, Human Rights and Security
• Identity and Interaction
• Migration and Integration
• Power, Deviance and Othering
• Race, Conflict and Change
• Resistance Movements in Conflict and War
• Restorative Justice and Desistance
• Sociology of Globalisation
• Sociology of Care: Caring and Work
• Sociology of Childhood
• Sociology of Everyday Life
• Sociology of Fun
• Sociology of Humans and other Animals
• Sociology of Medicine and Health
• Surveillance, Security and Control
• The Body: Current Controversies and Debates
• The Cultural Life of Capital Punishment

“I always loved Sociology but had a real interest in the slightly more obscure topic choices. Sussex most definitely offered these and it suited me better than other universities I looked at. You have the option to stick to classical topics but the other modules were the real pull for me.”

ROMI NAKKEERAN
BA SOCIOLOGY
“I viewed many universities throughout the year and none of them compared to Sussex, it offered me something different and it has been great so far, it is such a pleasure to be a student here.”

ZOE MENENDEZ-BUICK
STUDYING BA CRIMINOLOGY
Have you ever wondered why people commit crimes? Why certain acts are outlawed as crimes rather than others? Why attitudes to crime differ across time and place?

Criminology at Sussex gives you a critical understanding of crime, deviance, social control and punishment. You explore links between criminological theory and criminal justice practice, as well as analysing wider cultural meanings and portrayals of crime and punishment. You also explore other critical topics such as state crime and crimes against humanity, surveillance, victims and society, and terrorism.

You study:

- theories and approaches to crime and how society reacts to it
- the ideas underpinning different types of punishment and how punishments work in practice
- the different elements of the criminal justice system and their roles
- the significance of factors such as gender, class, ethnicity, age, politics and culture on the study of crime and punishment.

You gain an in-depth knowledge of criminology and an appreciation of how we address some of the important questions facing society. You also learn both quantitative and qualitative research methods so that you can carry out your own research and assess the research of others. In addition, you develop transferable skills in understanding and assessing ideas and evidence, presenting your own work and ideas in written and oral forms, working independently and with others.

YEAR 1

You are introduced to the subject, learning how to ‘think like a criminologist’. You develop an understanding of how the criminal justice system works and read and discuss classic criminological studies. You gain a grounding in the sociological theories and perspectives that underpin our thoughts, ideas and theories of criminology.

YEAR 2

You study a range of criminological perspectives from historical contexts to recent theories and approaches. You analyse issues associated with different forms of punishment, such as why they are used and what they are meant to achieve. You have the opportunity to focus on specific areas of criminology, such as victims and society, and policing. You also learn how to apply research methods to criminological research.

YEAR 3

You deepen your knowledge and critical understanding by focusing on specialist topics such as terrorism, capital punishment, and crimes against humanity. You also have the chance to carry out your own piece of research in the form of a supervised project.
### Criminology BA

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### Criminology and Sociology BA Joint Honours

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In your second and final year you can focus on what interests you most and choose a number of criminology options. The options offered reflect the wide range of research interests covered by faculty.

This list shows examples of optional modules offered in previous years. We may offer different modules in the future.

YEAR 2 OPTIONS
- Beyond the Vote: Citizenship and Participation
- Identity, Crisis and Transgression
- Policing and Society
- Punishment and Penology
- Race, Conflict and Change
- Resistance Movements in Conflict and War
- Restorative Justice and Desistance
- Victims of Crime and Society

YEAR 3 OPTIONS
- Alternatives to Incarceration
- Crimes against Humanity
- Crimes of Hate and Violence
- Critical Perspectives on Terrorism
- Surveillance, Security and Control
- The Cultural Life of Capital Punishment

“The seminars are great. The tutors encourage constructive discussion and ask us to question our assumptions.”

JESS KING
CRIMINOLOGY BA
When you join the Department of Sociology you have the opportunity to broaden your studies and experience. Through projects, placements, study abroad options and events you learn to apply your knowledge in a different context.

**CHOICE AND FLEXIBILITY**
If you’re on a single honours course you can enrich your studies by taking an elective, a module from a different subject area to your main subject. Each elective lasts for one term and is normally studied in your first and second year.

If you prefer a more coherent programme you may choose to study a pathway. This is a combination of electives from a single subject area, distinctive from your main subject. Again, a pathway is studied in your first and second year.

For more information on customising your course visit [www.sussex.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/sussex-choice](http://www.sussex.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/sussex-choice)

**SEEING THE WORLD**
You also have the opportunity to extend your sociological or criminological understanding within different social, cultural and political environments through work placements or exciting study abroad options.

For more information, visit [www.sussex.ac.uk/study/undergraduate](http://www.sussex.ac.uk/study/undergraduate)

For further information on studying abroad, visit [www.sussex.ac.uk/sabroad](http://www.sussex.ac.uk/sabroad)

**YOUR THIRD YEAR PROJECT**
In your final year you have the chance to link the knowledge and experience you’ve gained over your degree to the key issues affecting third sector organisations, local and central governments, and the private sector. Your third year project gives you the opportunity to address the important questions being asked by academics.

**EVENTS AND SOCIAL MEDIA**
You benefit from our regular events, hosting speakers from outside the university. We have an active student society, which organises social events, talks, debates and film showings.

To find out more about the department visit our Facebook page ‘Sussex Sociology’ for discussions, networking, organising socials and campaigns. We are also on Twitter @SussexSociology where you can find news and updates from the department.

(right) Students celebrating the Hindu festival of Holi on campus
As a postgraduate student at Sussex you will be welcomed into a lively and intellectually stimulating department. We have a longstanding history in postgraduate study and research, with particular strengths in social theory and gender studies.

Sussex has a tradition of critical and interdisciplinary studies. Faculty in the Department of Sociology have a wide range of research interests, covering the main areas of sociology and criminology, as well as fields such as health, science and technology, migration, gender, childhood, and identity as well as the philosophy and methodology of social science.

Our Masters courses include the MA in Criminology and Criminal Justice, the MA in Gender Studies and the MSc in Social Research Methods. We also offer PhDs in Sociology and in Gender Studies and we are involved in a number of research centres on campus.
MA in Criminology and Criminal Justice

One year full-time
Two years part-time

This MA offers you an advanced study of criminology and criminal justice. You study a unique blend of related criminology subjects, covering both theory and policy. You can also select modules from the Sussex Law School, giving you real choice in your postgraduate studies.

Our MA is underpinned by our research expertise. You’ll be taught by experts in a wide range of theoretical and methodological areas. Our criminology research has focused on topics such as sexual violence, hate crime, sex work, women who kill, terrorism, policing, capital punishment, restorative justice, cultural criminology and existential criminology.

We use a variety of teaching, learning and assessment methods to enhance and develop your skills. Teaching methods include lectures, workshops and seminars. Assessment methods include presentations, essays and briefing papers, as well as a 12,000-word dissertation.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Our core modules give you the necessary theoretical, methodological and empirical foundations. They cover criminology and criminal justice, debates in law and research methods. Our options – from both law and criminology – are taught by specialist academics based on their areas of expertise. In both the autumn and spring terms you take two modules and in the summer term you undertake work on the MA dissertation under faculty supervision, exploring themes in an area of your own criminological interest.
MA in Gender Studies

One year full-time
Two years part-time

This course gives you a complete overview of gender/feminist theory and methodology, taught through the discussion of contemporary social issues. You explore:

- the contribution of feminist/gender/queer theory to a range of academic disciplines
- methodological approaches to researching gender
- identity and the social construction of gender across different cultures and societies
- gender as an embodied social relation and experience
- the political aspects of gender and feminist research.

You are taught by a combination of seminars, lectures, tutorials and individual supervision. Assessment methods include concept notes, book reviews and presentations, as well as essays and term papers. You are also required to submit a 15,000-word dissertation.

Course Structure

Core modules familiarise you with key debates on gender issues and present feminist challenges to established disciplines, as well as exploring important theories and methodological approaches.

Autumn term
- Feminism, Law and Society
- Gender Politics and Social Research

Spring term
You take two options from a list that has previously included:
- Activism for Development and Social Justice
- Anthropology of Childbirth and Reproductive Health
- Culture and Identity Rights
- Critical Perspectives in Global Public Health
- Feminism and Film
- Gender, Sexuality and Family Law
- Gender, Inclusion and Educational Development
- Gender, Sexuality and the Postcolonial
- Global Queer
- Hate Crime and Sexual Violence
- Queering Popular Culture
- Sex and Constitutions
- Sex and Violence
- The Body: Current Controversies and Debates
- The Cinematic Body
- Women and Human Rights

So that we can keep our curriculum fresh and driven by developments in our research we review our list of options every year. We may run different modules next year.

Summer term
You undertake work on the MA dissertation under faculty supervision.
One year full-time
Two years part-time

If you’re interested in studying for a research degree in the social sciences, or want to learn about research methods, you can benefit from our MSc in Social Research Methods. The course gives you a thorough grounding in the philosophy of social science and data collection and analysis.

If you want to study for a PhD, and are seeking ESRC funding, you will need to take this or one of our other ESRC-recognised research-training Masters degrees, unless you have already achieved a similar level of research training at a university elsewhere. At the end of your first year, you graduate with a Masters degree before proceeding to the PhD.

COURSE STRUCTURE

You study the philosophical underpinnings of research, research design, research ethics, and both quantitative and qualitative methods. Following on from these core elements, you take options in advanced research methods.

Autumn term
You take modules in quantitative and qualitative methods, as well as Philosophy of Science and Social Scientific Research Practice or Gender Politics and Social Research.

Spring term
You take Research Design and Ethics and either three intermediate methods modules or one intermediate methods module and a subject-specific module. Recent modules have included:

- Action Research
- Comparative Method
- Discourse Analysis
- Ethnographic Methods
- Evidence for Policy and Practice
- International Relations Theory
- Participatory Methods

So that we can keep our curriculum fresh and driven by developments in our research we review our list of options every year. We may run different modules next year.

Summer term
You take a series of advanced methods options and undertake supervised work on a dissertation focused on research methods. This dissertation can be the full research outline for doctoral study.

- Policy and Programme Evaluation Research
- Researching Childhood and Youth
- Self, Voice and Creativity in Research Writing
- Socio-legal Research Methods
- Theories of Development and Underdevelopment
- Understanding Processes of Social Change
We welcome applications from students planning doctoral research in sociology, criminology or gender studies, whether they relate to our research groups or to our individual areas of research expertise.

Students from across the UK and from all around the world come to join our research community.

Our research groups are:

- Criminology, violence and transgression
- Gender politics and society
- Social theory, identity and culture
- Health, medicine and care
- Political sociology, migration and human rights

Interdisciplinary projects are strongly encouraged.

We run two of our own PhDs:

- PhD in Sociology
- PhD in Gender Studies

The South East Network for the Social Sciences, offers some funding for these PhDs, including 1+3 studentships which include the MSc (see page 21).

The individual interests and expertise of faculty can be found on our website:
▶ www.sussex.ac.uk/sociology/research

The Centre for Gender Studies is hosted by the Department of Sociology. Other centres of interest to the department include:

- Centre for Social and Political Thought
- Centre for Global Health Policy
- Centre for Migration Research
- Centre for Innovative Research in Childhood and Youth
- Centre for Cultures of Reproduction, Technologies and Health
POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH

The Centre for Gender Studies

If you’re interested in gender as an area of research you will find that Sussex is the perfect place for postgraduate study. Gender is a key theme for our research and our faculty are leaders in the field. We research and teach on gender issues throughout the University, which makes for fresh and innovative debate and diverse approaches to teaching and learning.

We also have a strong policy, community and media presence through a number of high-profile research projects.

Research within the Centre is organised through four interlinked strands:

• Gender and the law
• Gender, crime and violence
• Gender and the body
• Gender theory and politics

As a student within these research groups you are able to network and develop exciting collaborative projects. The Centre also enjoys strong links with the Sussex Centre for Cultural Studies, the Centre for the Study of Sexual Dissidence and the Centre for Life History and Life Writing Research.

You have the opportunity to become active in a number of student-led groups and also to work part-time or volunteer for various local organisations including Survivors’ Network, RISE (previously the Women’s Refuge Project), and the Allsorts LGBT youth project.

Studying gender opens up good employment opportunities. Our graduates go into a variety of professions within fields such as the media, policy, NGOs, teaching, the civil service, the arts and trade unions.

At undergraduate level, gender issues are taught in many disciplines and departments including Sociology, Anthropology, Media and Film, English Literature and International Relations.

“The Centre for Gender Studies is a vibrant and inclusive hub of research and activity. My colleagues are inspiring and are committed to social justice and the inclusion of diverse voices in academia. It’s a great place to carry out research.”

HANNAH MASON-BISH
DIRECTOR OF GENDER STUDIES
As sociology or criminology graduates you will leave Sussex with many skills and aptitudes that are valued in contemporary job markets. A Sussex degree provides a foundation from which our graduates build their lives.

When you study sociology or criminology at Sussex you graduate with skills and aptitudes that are highly valued in the job market. Not just in the practical abilities embedded in the degree – such as statistical analysis or qualitative approaches to research – but also in the development of critical and problem solving capabilities.

“Sussex has great reputation in social research and in many social science disciplines with an interesting interdisciplinary focus. ...it also has a fantastic campus, and is near a fun and vibrant city.”

JOSE MANUEL ROCHE
HEAD OF RESEARCH AT SAVE THE CHILDREN UK

You will be challenged to work around problems from a variety of perspectives and positions, using theory and rigour to bring clarity to situations and suggest alternatives or solutions. Our graduates apply these skills in a range of different careers in the public, private and voluntary sectors.

Recent graduates have gone on to careers in: health and social welfare; housing; local, national and European government; the legal system; the police; public relations and personnel/human relations. We’ve also seen our graduates go into journalism, media and music industries, web design, financial services, marketing and fashion.

Many of our graduates go on to further study. At Sussex you can choose to take a Masters degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice, Social Research Methods, Social and Political Thought, Gender Studies or Global Health. Others take a more vocational route with law conversion courses, PGCE teacher training or social work.

Whatever direction you decide to take, a degree from Sussex will give you the strong foundations to build your future.

“My time at Sussex made me realise the value of education and also the marvellous opportunities that a good university can provide.”

SAIMO CHAHAL QC (HON)
PARTNER AND JOINT HEAD OF THE PUBLIC LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS TEAM AT BINDMANS LLP
LIFE AT SUSSEX

Beyond campus

When you study at Sussex you get the best of both worlds – a campus set in the beautiful South Downs and Brighton, the city by the sea with its exciting culture and nightlife.

If you’re living away from home for the first time you will soon settle down into its community atmosphere, where everything you need is on your doorstep. The bars, cafes and sports facilities are only ever a short walk away.

Sussex is the only UK university surrounded by a national park, allowing you to step off campus and experience peace, serenity and breathtaking views.

At the same time you’re only nine minutes by train from Brighton with its beach, shops, bars, cafes and eclectic arts and music scene. Whether it’s the sea air or the stunning backdrop of the South Downs, Brighton feels special. The atmosphere is unique, relaxed and friendly. It is a city where individuality and diversity are valued and applauded.

But don’t take our word for it, come and see us and find out for yourself. To book onto an Open Day, visit
▶ www.sussex.ac.uk/visitors

We look forward to seeing you.
HOW TO GET TO SUSSEX

The University of Sussex is located at Falmer, on the outskirts of Brighton, within easy reach of London and major international airports (Gatwick and Heathrow). For more information, visit www.sussex.ac.uk/findus

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that the information presented in this brochure is correct at the time of going to print (September 2017), the University of Sussex cannot be held responsible for any errors and/or omissions. In addition, subjects are constantly developing and hence our degree courses are regularly reviewed and updated to reflect this. Acknowledgements: p8 mubus7 shutterstock.com; p14 Keith Gentry shutterstock.com. All other photography is by Stuart Robinson at the University of Sussex. © University of Sussex 2017
“Whether your interest is in everyday interaction or identity or in broad political debates and social movements, you’ll find people who are eager to discuss the issues with you”

DR CATHERINE WILL
SENIOR LECTURER IN SOCIOLOGY