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# **SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL POLICY**

BA (Hons)



**ARE YOU STIRLING?**

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## REASONS TO CHOOSE THIS COURSE

### 1 OUR EXPERTISE

Our modules are taught by acknowledged experts in their various academic fields and teaching is closely informed by the latest developments in social research.

### 2 OUR FLEXIBILITY

The Stirling degree structure is very flexible in the first two years allowing you to experiment with new subjects.

### 3 STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES

You will have an opportunity to spend a semester (usually Semester 6) at another university in Europe, USA, Canada or Australia.

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## WHY STUDY SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL POLICY?

Sociology concentrates on analysing and understanding the way in which society works; Social Policy is concerned with the analysis of the purposes, processes and outcomes of social welfare.

Stirling's international and comparative approach means that you will encounter topics that analyse society and welfare issues in a range of countries. Stirling offers particular expertise on Scotland, the UK, the European Union, Western and Central Europe, Australasia, North America and Latin America. Sociology and Social Policy lend themselves particularly well to study by students returning to education whilst still at work.

## COMBINED HONOURS DEGREES

Sociology can be studied with Criminology; Film & Media; History; Politics; Psychology; Religion; Spanish. Social Policy can be studied with Politics.

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## 3RD IN SCOTLAND AND TOP 25 IN THE UK FOR SOCIOLOGY

The Guardian University Guide 2019

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## COURSE DETAILS

In your first two years you will take three subjects each semester. One of these subjects is core to your degree, but you can choose the other two from Faculties across the University. For example, you could take Sociology with English or another language, Social Policy with Marketing or Criminology with Law. The key benefits of this system are that you can change the emphasis of your degree as you progress, change from full-time to part-time if you need to, change your degree subject(s) and not until midway through your second year do you need to decide what your final degree subject(s) will be.

In years three and four, you will specialise in your chosen area. As well as taking core modules you will choose from a list of optional modules. Over the course of years three and four, you will also have the opportunity to develop practical research skills through two intensive core courses on qualitative and quantitative research skills. You will also have the opportunity to undertake your own research dissertation, which will provide you with highly valued transferable skills.

Examples of recent dissertation topics include: Sectarianism in Scottish Society, Understanding Binge Drinking, the Criminalisation of Muslims in Britain, Body Image, Obesity, Anti-social Behaviour Orders, Young Female Bullying and Violence, and the Impact of Adoption on Personal Identity.

## DELIVERY AND ASSESSMENT

Teaching for each course in Sociology and/or Social Policy usually consists of two lectures plus one workshop per week. Assessment in each course is normally based on a combination of coursework and examinations for example, one essay (30 percent) and an examination (70 percent). The final-year dissertation counts for two modules and provides you with an opportunity to put research methods studied into practice within an area of particular interest.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Our graduates work in the private, public and voluntary sectors. There are some careers where a sociology degree is a requirement, for example working as a sociological researcher or a lecturer or teacher of sociology. However there are many more opportunities where the knowledge and understanding students acquire in studying sociology is highly valued, for example work in local government, for the police or prison service, social work, work in the voluntary sector, or in human resources.

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**“The undergraduate course in Sociology is a very wide ranging subject that allows students to choose paths they are most interested in and develop their knowledge in specific areas.”**

**Andrew Kinnell**

BA (Hons) Politics and Sociology

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**3RD IN SCOTLAND AND TOP 15 IN THE UK FOR SOCIAL POLICY**

The National Student Survey 2018

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## SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL POLICY

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[stir.ac.uk/1bs](http://stir.ac.uk/1bs)

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### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

#### YEAR 1 ENTRY – FOUR-YEAR HONOURS

##### SQA Highers:

ABBB – one sitting

AABB – two sittings

##### GCE A-levels:

BBB

##### IB Diploma:

32

##### BTEC (Level 3):

DDM

#### YEAR 2 ENTRY – THREE-YEAR HONOURS

##### SQA Adv Highers:

ABB

##### GCE A-levels:

ABB

##### IB Diploma:

35

##### Essential subjects:

To include Sociology

### OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

#### Scottish HNC/HND:

Minimum entry: Bs in graded units

Advanced entry: Please visit:

[stir.ac.uk/ay](http://stir.ac.uk/ay)

Access courses and other UK/EU and international qualifications are also welcomed

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

General entry requirements

apply. Please visit:

[stir.ac.uk/av](http://stir.ac.uk/av)

**PART TIME, ADVANCED ENTRY AND STUDY ABROAD OPTIONS AVAILABLE**

## TYPICAL TIMETABLE

YEAR	MODULES
1 (Autumn)	Social differentiation
	Any two optional modules from across the University
1 (Spring)	Social problems
	Any two optional modules from across the University
2 (Autumn)	Understanding social policy
	Two optional modules from combined degree course
2 (Spring)	The Development of Social Theory
	Two optional modules from combined degree course
3 (Autumn)	Research Process 1
	Two optional modules from combined degree course
3 (Spring)	Research Process 2
	Two optional modules from combined degree course
4 (Autumn)	One optional module from combined degree course
4 (Spring)	One optional module from combined degree course
4 (Autumn/Spring)	Dissertation
	Honours seminar (Sociology and Social Policy combined degree students only)

## YEAR 1 AND 2 OPTIONAL MODULES

Students in years 1 and 2 are able to choose from a range of modules available from other subjects across the University.

Modules include: Ageing, Society and Social Policy; Contemporary Social Issues in Practice; Co-operation and Society; Disability and Society; Drugs, Crime and Society; Gender, Work and Welfare; Health and Society; Housing Policy; Poverty, Income and Wealth; Race and Ethnicity Social Stratification; Social Network Analysis; Sociology of Childhood; Sociology of Development; Sociology of Youth; Urban Society; Work, Class and Society.

Final-year Honours students are also required to undertake a dissertation and the Honours seminar.

## CONTACT

**Dr Niall Hamilton-Smith, Course Director**

**Faculty of Social Sciences**

T: +44 (0) 1786 467681

E: [SSPC@stir.ac.uk](mailto:SSPC@stir.ac.uk)

W: [stir.ac.uk/social-sciences/](http://stir.ac.uk/social-sciences/)

**Student Recruitment and Admissions**

T: +44 (0) 1786 467046

E: [recruitment@stir.ac.uk](mailto:recruitment@stir.ac.uk)

[stir.ac.uk/65](http://stir.ac.uk/65)

**JOIN OUR COMMUNITY**



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