UNIVERSITY OF EAST LONDON
COURSE SPECIFICATION

Course Aim and Title	BA (Hons) Sociology
Intermediate Awards Available	Cert. HE Dip. HE Ordinary Degree (BA)
Teaching Institution(s)	UEL
Alternative Teaching Institutions (for local arrangements see final section of this specification)	N/A
UEL Academic School	School of Education and Communities
UCAS Code	L300 – Level 4 entry (3 Year full time route)
Professional Body Accreditation	N/A
Relevant QAA Benchmark Statements	Sociology
Additional Versions of this Course	N/A
Date Specification Last Updated	September 2022

Course Aims and Learning Outcomes

This course is designed to give you the opportunity to:

- Develop a critical understanding of social action, social practices, social structures and societies, cultural processes and the social construction of knowledges, discourses and cultures;
- Examine the major sociological theories which are deployed to explain social phenomena;
- Critically examine the interconnection between global and local social processes and problems;
- Encourage reflection, critical analysis and engagement with the social world;

- Develop skills transferable to a wide variety of career pathways, including housing, education, social work, policy analysis, social care, research, media, and human resources.

What you will learn:

Knowledge

- To understand theoretical approaches to social action, social practices, social structures and societies, cultural processes and the social construction of knowledges, discourses and cultures;
- To examine the interconnections between individuals and societies, and between global and local social processes and problems;
- To critique sociological approaches to key a range of key themes including: social class; inequalities; racialization; family; aging; culture; identity, capitalism; surveillance, and the welfare state.
- To be able to combine a variety of methodological and research skills
- To be able to construct a research plan, carry out and write up a research project

Thinking skills

- To critically evaluate a range of academic texts, policy reports and diverse cultural and social phenomena;
- To appraise and synthesise theories and evidence
- To analyse contemporary debates about the world and the interests and processes that inform them
- To assess the ethical dimensions of social research

Subject-Based Practical skills

- To generate, organise and deploy evidence, data and information from a variety of secondary and primary sources
- To identify, compare, compose and advocate solutions to social problems

- To construct reasoned argument, synthesize relevant information and exercise critical judgement
- To reflect on learning practices and seek and make use of constructive feedback
- To be able to effectively apply qualitative and quantitative social research skills
- To be able to conduct informed debate on current social issues

Skills for life and work

- To be able to communicate effectively and fluently verbally and in writing
- To use communication and information technology, including audio-visual technology, for the retrieval and presentation of information, including where appropriate, statistical or numerical information
- To be able to problem solve and present solutions in a clear and effective manner
- To develop an awareness of the underlying dynamics of communication processes in one-to-one and group context
- To be able to work independently, demonstrating initiative, self-organisation and time management.
- To be able to collaborate effectively with others to achieve common goals through group work and presentations
- To understand the process of job-hunting and career development in a relevant field

Learning and Teaching

We use a range of teaching and learning methods to guide you throughout the course.

Knowledge is developed through:

- Lectures and online learning materials
- Guided reading
- Knowledge-based activities with feedback
- Online discussions and activities
- Individual personal tutorial support
- Personal journals and reflective logs

Thinking skills are developed through

- Reflective activities with feedback
- Online discussions and activities
- Classroom workshops
- Engaging with a range of social research methods, including visual methods

Practical skills are developed through

- Research skills-based activities with feedback
- Writing in a range of formats and lengths
- Class debates and presentations

Skills for life and work (general skills) are developed through

- Planning activities with feedback
- Project work
- Presentations
- Use of new information technologies in assessment
- Social research

- Working with others

Assessment

On this degree we use a range of assessment methods to ensure students have engaged with the learning outcomes of our modules:

Knowledge is assessed by:

- Essays
- Plans
- Conference presentations
- Journals
- Blogs
- Portfolios
- Photography
- Case studies

Thinking skills are assessed by:

- Reflective logs
- Project work
- Poster presentations
- Research reports
- Case studies

Practical skills are assessed by:

- Research proposals
- Portfolios
- Presentations
- Practice learning log

Skills for life and work (general skills) are assessed by:

- Project work

- Group work

- Research reports

Students with disabilities and/or particular learning needs should discuss assessments with the Course Leader to ensure they are able to fully engage with all assessment within the course.

Work or Study Placements

The BA (Hons) Sociology course includes a core work placement module at level 6. At level 5, students on the course will take a module designed to support them in securing work experience/placement opportunities. At level 6 the work placement module is a central feature of embedding employability in our course. It has been designed in close consultation with employers to:

- Offer students the opportunity to apply their theoretical knowledge and technical and baseline skills they learn over the course of their studies at UEL to the workplace
- Support students in further enhancing their 'employability' (technical and baseline skills) to assist them with their career aspirations
- Enable students to critically reflect on their own professional skills and aspirations, as well as on some of the key issues facing professionals working in the public and third sectors, and in policy-related roles in the private sector
- Give students the opportunity to gain experience of relevant professional settings and tasks, and to ensure students can articulate their skills and their experiences to prospective employers.

Placement Management

The Placement module has been informed by the QAA Quality code, and designed in accordance with the UEL's Policy on Work Based Learning and Placement Management: https://www.uel.ac.uk/Discover/Governance/Policies-Regulations-Corporate-documents/Student-Policies/Policy-on-Work-Based-Learning-and-Placement-Management

Each placement is set up and managed by the module leader and the Social Sciences placement coordinator, as is the case with placement learning arrangements across the School.

Placement Structure, Assessment and Supervision

An advantage of studying in London is that there are multiple opportunities for undertaking work experience or a placement while studying for your degree. At level five, students on the course will take a module designed to support them in securing work experience/placement

opportunities. At level six students will complete a work experience module where they will be supported in finding an appropriate placement.

Students are supported with regular supervision from a member of UEL academic staff, namely the module leader. At the end of term, work placement employers will offer written feedback on the student's performance vis a vis a reference form completed by their workplace mentor.

Course Structure

All courses are credit-rated to help you to understand the amount and level of study that is needed.

One credit is equal to 10 hours of directed study time (this includes everything you do e.g. lecture, seminar and private study).

Credits are assigned to one of 5 levels:

3. Equivalent in standard to GCE 'A' level and is intended to prepare students for year one of an undergraduate degree course.
4. Equivalent in standard to the first year of a full-time undergraduate degree course.
5. Equivalent in standard to the second year of a full-time undergraduate degree course.
6. Equivalent in standard to the third year of a full-time undergraduate degree course.
7. Equivalent in standard to a Masters degree.

Courses are made up of modules that are each credit weighted.

UNIVERSITY OF EAST LONDON
COURSE SPECIFICATION

The module structure of this course:

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit Weighting	Core/Option	Available by Distance Learning? Y/N
4	SY4000	What's going on (how do we know, and what can we do about it)? Mental Wealth 1	20	Core	N
4	SY4012	Constructions of Identity	20	Core	N
4	SY4003	Social Theory 1	20	Core	N
4	SY4004	The Mess We Are In (And How We Got Here)	20	Core	N
4	SY4005	Digital Sociology and the 4th Industrial Revolution	20	Core	N
4	SY4014	Issues in Contemporary Society	20	Core	N
5	SY5009	Mental Wealth 2: Social Enterprise	20	Core	N
5	SY5005	Research Methods for Social Sciences	20	Core	N
5	SY5008	Social Theory 2	20	Core	N
5	SY5007	Space, Power, Bodies	20	Core	N
5	SY5011	The Sociology of the City	20	Option	N
5	SY5012	Understanding Social Change	20	Option	N
5	SY5014	Intersectionality and Digital Culture	20	Option	N
5	SY5010	Generations Age and Meaning	20	Option	N

UNIVERSITY OF EAST LONDON
COURSE SPECIFICATION

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit Weighting	Core/Option	Available by Distance Learning? Y/N
6	SY6002	Applied Research Project in Social Sciences	40	Core	N
6	SY6007	Mental Wealth 3: Placement Reflections	20	Core	N
6	SY6008	Constructions of 'Race' in Culture and Politics	20	Option	N
6	SY6011	Bordering and Governance	20	Option	N
6	SY6012	Surveillance and Society	20	Option	N
6	SY6014	Culture, Media and Politics	20	Option	N
6	SY6016	Gender, Power and Politics	20	Option	N
6	SY6017	Conflict, Intervention and Development	20	Option	N
6	SY6018	African Politics and Development	20	Option	N
6	SY6022	Global Security for the 21st Century	20	Option	N
Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, in order to create the best learning experience.					

Additional detail about the course module structure:

A core module for a course is a module which a student must have passed (i.e. been awarded credit) in order to achieve the relevant named award. An optional module for a course is a module selected from a range of modules available on the course.

The overall credit-rating of this course is 360 credits. If for some reason you are unable to achieve this credit you may be entitled to an intermediate award, the level of the award will

depend on the amount of credit you have accumulated. The University Student Policies and Regulations are available on the UEL website.

How the teaching year is divided

The teaching year begins in September and ends in June

A typical student, in full-time attendance mode of study, will register for 120 credits in an academic year. A student in a part-time mode of study may register for up to 80 credits in any academic year.

What you will study when

A student registered in a full-time attendance mode will take 120 credits per year. Typically, this will be comprised of six 20 credit modules. An honours degree student will complete modules totalling 120 credits at level four, modules totalling 120 credits at level five and modules totalling 120 credits at level six.

Course Specific Regulations

N/A

Typical Duration

It is possible to move from full-time to part-time study and vice-versa to accommodate any external factors such as financial constraints or domestic commitments. Many of our students make use of this flexibility and this may impact on the overall duration of their study period.

The expected duration of this course is 3 years full-time or 4 years part-time

A student cannot normally continue study on a course after 4 years of study in full time mode unless exceptional circumstances apply, and extenuation has been granted. The limit for completion of a course in part time mode is 7 years from first enrolment.

Further Information

More information about this course is available from:

  •   The UEL web site (www.uel.ac.uk)
  •   The course handbook
  •   Module study guides
  •   UEL Manual of General Regulations (available on the UEL website)
  •   UEL Quality Manual (available on the UEL website)
  •   School web pages

All UEL courses are subject to thorough course approval procedures before we allow them to commence. We also constantly monitor, review and enhance our courses by listening to student and employer views and the views of external examiners and advisors.

Additional costs: The course might include walks and visits to locations off campus. Entrance fees *may* be covered, and you will need to pay for public transport within London.

Alternative Locations of Delivery

N/A