Sociology and Criminology*
BA Joint Honours

Course Introduction:
This course is an exciting opportunity to develop the knowledge and understanding of two of the key disciplines in the field of social sciences. The programme is a broad-based social science degree that will enable you to develop a comprehensive understanding of societies, crime and how both develop in the global arena.

Sociology and Criminology today, as disciplines, cover traditional areas such as inequality, social stratification, deviance and punishment, but also more contemporary fields such as terrorism, environmentalism, global politics, sexuality and childhood studies.

The programme covers the core elements of Sociology and Criminology. By utilising a range of disciplinary approaches and experienced academics it allows you to tailor your degree to suit your interests and career aspirations.

The degree offers placement opportunities in each year of study and provides a range of progression opportunities for you in employment and further study. You will also be offered the opportunity to spend one semester at one of our international partner institutions.

Course Benefits:
• You will be taught by lecturers who are experienced sociologists and criminologists.
• This is a career-focused degree that offers professional placements.
• Assessment is by coursework only - there will be no exams on the programme.

Year 1
On this course you will study a range of modules which may include the following:

Introduction to Criminology
Demonstrate knowledge of key concepts and theories for the analysis and measurement of crime; explain how crime is constructed as a social category; relate controversies about the causes of and responses to crime to social divisions; and evaluate the relation of theoretical analyses of crime to other perspectives, such as from the media, political ideology and common sense.

Introduction to Sociology
This module allows you to demonstrate an understanding of social structures and how they shape and influence social interactions; to distinguish different sociological perspectives, and be able to specify the theoretical components, key theorists and historical settings of each perspective; to examine and evaluate alternative sociological perspectives and opinions while challenging established as well as personal assumptions about social issues and to develop analytical and interpretive skills through writing and other fora of public discussion.

Professional Placement
Gain knowledge of how to present information effectively for professional contexts, such as a CV, covering letter and interview process; reflect on personal strengths and weaknesses; prepare an action plan for the future; and apply knowledge and skills in the workplace, performing to a satisfactory standard during your six-week placement.

Changing Contexts for Sociology
This module facilitates you to demonstrate comparative understanding of classical sociological concepts and theories and those of the present day; to demonstrate an ability to apply sociological concepts and categories, on the broad scale such as gender and class, and on the small scale, such as style or material culture; to explain the role of technology in contemporary global culture and to demonstrate an ability to present ideas and arguments through appropriate media.

Recent Developments in Global Sociology
Develop your understanding of the constituent aspects of sociological/criminological surveys, such as design, scale, delivery, analysis of data and presentation of conclusions; perform basic analysis, evaluation and interpretation of statistical data through analysis of a sample case study; perform basic analysis, evaluation and interpretation of qualitative data; and demonstrate an understanding of the principles of data visualisation and the nature of persuasive presentation.

Critical Thinking Skills
Demonstrate an ability to learn from your own and others' experience (critically reflect) (as a platform for later learning in the placement); begin to integrate critical thinking and critical reflection in relation to some major contemporary issues; identify theoretical approaches to debate and persuasion, including aspects of emotional intelligence and confidence practice; show an ability to evaluate scholarly arguments for and against a given topic; demonstrate a sustained ability to be aware of different perspectives on contemporary issues and engage with critical debate beyond subject-specific disciplines; and use primary and secondary texts to convey a particular argument.

The Criminal Justice System
Demonstrate an understanding of the key elements and components of the criminal justice system in England and Wales, including the hierarchy and workings of the criminal courts; analyse and comment on procedures and rules pertaining to the collection and presentation of police evidence and the role of the Crown Prosecution Service in England and Wales; and evaluate police and judicial procedures and the legal principles which underpin the workings of the criminal justice system, including the right to trial by jury and rights of audience in court.

Year 2
On this course you will study a range of CORE and OPTIONAL modules from:

Recent Developments in Global Sociology
This module enables you to analyse contemporary trends in global society through the use of current social theory, contemporary global inequalities through the use of appropriate contemporary social theories; to evaluate debates about global society within the framework of globalisation and to critically appraise the usefulness of conceptual frameworks in understanding global societal issues.

*Subject to validation
Politics, Culture and Everyday Life
In this module you will be able to discuss political, cultural and social issues in relation to the topic of everyday life; to understand how theory and policy are interlinked for the understanding and explanation of everyday life; to be critically aware of the theoretical and policy debates concerning everyday life and to communicate and argue effectively in both oral and written forms.

Sociology and Anthropology of Religion
This module will cover key sociological and anthropological studies, methods and critiques as applied to the study of religions. It will enable you to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of sociological and anthropological approaches to the study of religions, and key themes and topics in the sociology and anthropology of religion; to analyse key issues in the sociology and anthropology of religion; to assess and produce appropriate tools for conducting research into religions; and to conduct research into sociological and anthropological approaches to the study of religion using online and library resources.

Children’s Rights, Young People and the Law
Explore synthesising children’s rights perspectives with the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989); summarise key legal principles and Acts affecting educational provision and practice; relate legal constructions of childhood with wider social, cultural, economic and political dimensions, which will include understanding approaches in different countries; and examine the construction of childhood in statute and case law as it relates to different theories of childhood and children’s rights.

Contemporary Research 2
Critically assess a range of primary and secondary sources from which qualitative and quantitative data concerning specific topics in sociology/criminology could be extracted, and the kinds of questions they could be used to answer; demonstrate an understanding of statistical techniques, producing spreadsheets, tables, charts and graphs in an appropriate form to answer typical sociological/criminological questions; use sector-standard statistics software packages, such as IBM SPSS, to analyse statistical data and to visualise that data clearly; collect and analyse qualitative data and carry out thematic coding of the findings; and produce an outline for a research project, including hypothesis/key question, sub-questions, basic methodology and a bibliography of relevant sources.

Cultures of Crime
Demonstrate a knowledge and appreciation of a range of cultural works in various media that focus on a specified criminological topic, selected for its ethical complexity; demonstrate an understanding of key debates concerning the specified criminological topic; and demonstrate an ability to analyse cultural representations of key criminological themes in the light of complex ethical debates and to work as part of a team on a shared task, allocating roles, conducting collaborative research and meeting deadlines to pre-agreed standards.

Professional Placement 2
Demonstrate the ability to apply, in the workplace, knowledge and skills gained from the academic study of Criminology or Sociology; reflect on and evaluate their strengths and weaknesses across a range of key employability skills, apply employability skills and produce written evaluations of professional and academic employability experience as part of a team.

Year 3
On this course you will study a range of CORE and OPTIONAL modules from:

Contemporary Cultural Issues
Explore contemporary cultural issues and examine ways in which they can be understood and engaged with. Critically evaluate the political and ethical implications of contemporary cultural issues; demonstrate systematic understanding of and an ability to apply and critically evaluate a range of contemporary cultural theories; undertake cultural analysis drawing on contemporary cultural theory and appropriate research methods; and research and present an academic essay making critical use of a range of appropriate sources.

Religions, Cultures and Complexities
Build upon the content of previous knowledge, focusing in further detail on the nuanced complexities of thought, practice and inter-religious relationships between major religious traditions. Demonstrate a detailed knowledge and critical understanding of the contextual practice of various religious traditions, as lived in contemporary cultures and various socio-political landscapes; demonstrate a critical assessment of the complex development of these religious traditions; and demonstrate a critical understanding of the challenges posed by political and cultural contexts to the development and living-out of these religions in the modern world and the academic study of these traditions and their categorisation.

Sociological Perspectives on Childhood
Understand the meaning of childhood and how that understanding has changed over generations. Engage in critically exploring historical and cultural perspectives of childhood, appraise social change and critically analyse major challenges to children’s lives.

Prisons and Punishment
Demonstrate an understanding of the penal system, both in Britain and in other countries; understand the relation of the contemporary penal system, including the pressures it faces, to the history of penology; critically evaluate significant theoretical explorations of criminality in relation to diverse forms of, and justifications for, punishment; evaluate, from sociological and ethical perspectives, a range of governmental policies and initiatives to reduce state expenditure on prisons; and identify and justify specific policy recommendations in areas where there is deep ethical conflict.

Violence in the Family
Explain violence in the family using appropriate theories and research; critically evaluate antecedents with the impact of violence in the family; and critically analyse the effect of domestic violence upon children and young people.
Keeping in touch

We hope this covers the majority of your questions. However, if we’ve missed something, please do get in touch.

If you have any general queries about Leeds Trinity, you can get in touch by emailing enquiries@leedstrinity.ac.uk or call 0113 283 7150.

You can also keep in touch with us by connecting with us on Twitter or following us on the Leeds Trinity Facebook page @LeedsTrinity

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The information in this publication can be supplied in alternative formats. Please call 0113 283 7150 or email enquiries@leedstrinity.ac.uk