

Course Information

Award:

BSc (Hons) Psychology and Sociology

UCAS Code:

L340

Location:

Southend Campus
South Essex College of Further and Higher Education
Luker Road,
Southend-on-Sea
Essex
SS1 1ND

Awarding body:

UEA

Professional body accreditation:

N/A

Duration:

3 years

Academic year:

2019/22

Work placements:

Work placements are encouraged throughout the duration of the course. However work placement as a course requirement feeds through the modules PS4-05 Work-Related Skills during the 1st year and then PS5-06 Work-Related Practice in the 2nd year. Work placements that form part of the PS5-06 module are to be negotiated with students and external employers using the standardised placement learning processes and therefore may vary in duration and length.

Timetables:

Timetables are normally available one month prior to registration, though we endeavour to let you know an outline as soon as possible. Please note that we make every effort to ensure timetables are as student friendly as possible, scheduled teaching can take place on any day during the week .

Typically timetables are scheduled for 13 hours per week across 2 days between 9am-5pm (however there may be events during the year, for example guest speakers that may run until 6pm). We expect students to build on their learning through Independent study for which we have space available within the campus or at the Forum in Southend.

Entry Requirements**Entry requirements 2019-20:**

A Minimum of 64 UCAS Points from one or more of the following

- at least two A-levels
- BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma/Diploma/Subsidiary Diploma/Certificate [QCF]

- BTEC National Award/Certificate/Diploma [NQF]International Baccalaureate
- International Baccalaureate
- Access to Higher Education Diploma (a minimum 15 credits at Merit or above)

For any qualification not identified above the HE Admission Team will determine equivalences through UKNARIC

You will also need GCSE English and Maths at grade C (old specification) or Grade 4 (new specification) or above OR a Level 2 equivalent such as functional skills

Exceptional Entry

Applicants wishing to be considered for entry to the second or third year of study, or wishing to import credits or evidence of prior learning into the course for which they are applying, will be considered in accordance with the awarding bodies policy on Accreditation of Prior (Experiential) Learning. In the first instance we suggest you contact HEAdmissions@southessex.ac.uk to discuss your application.

International applicants

If English is not your first language you will need an IELTS score of 7.0, with a minimum score of 6.5 in each component (Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking), or an equivalent English Language qualification.

Additional requirements:

Credit transfer and accreditation of prior learning or experience:

If you have achieved a qualification such as a foundation degree or HND, or have gained credit another higher education institution, you may be able to enter the course at level 5 or level 6. Other qualifications and relevant work experience may also count for academic credit. Further information is available at in the Higher Education Admissions Policy & APL Policy for students studying on the University of East Anglia Degree.

Course Overview

Course Name:

BSc (Hons) Psychology and Sociology

The underpinning philosophy of the BSc (Hons) Psychology and Sociology programme is to provide students with the ability to apply theory, concepts and ideas across psychological and sociological disciplines. The programme will enrich the students' knowledge and research skills to enhance their understanding of human behaviour and society.

At its core the BSc (Hons) Psychology and Sociology programme adopts a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary approach. The programme is structured across 4 distinct strands; Psychology, Sociology, Research Methods and Employability. The four strands enable the student to analyse contemporary issues from a range of perspectives, providing essential transferable skills for employment. Although delivered as 4 separate strands, the programme also focuses on the application and linking of these areas. This provides students with opportunity to investigate the impact of the individual on society and how, in turn, society can shape the individual. The design of this course provides the students with the unique opportunity to use applied research to understand the world and human behaviour across the lifespan.

Employability and work-related practice is embedded within every module, to provide a solid underpinning of skill development. An integral part of the programme is not only to embed employability but to assess it at an early stage (PS4-05 Work-Related Skills). The assessment is designed to foster ambition not only within the programme but beyond. This aspect of the programme has been reinforced by discussions with external employment providers enabling focus on current and succinct skills within the relevant sectors

A copy of the rules and regulations governing the University of East Anglia course is available at <https://www.southessex.ac.uk/higher-education/higher-education-policies>

Module Information

Year 1 for full-time students (Level 4)

Module	Title	Credit	
PS4-01	Foundations of Psychology	30	Compulsory
<p>What is Psychology? How has psychology developed to help us understand human behaviour? This module introduces students to classical and contemporary approaches to psychology and fosters an awareness of key concepts, methods and debates involved in shaping modern day psychology as a discipline. Students will be introduced to the major schools of thought within psychology, including: Behaviourism, Humanism, Cognitive, and Psychodynamic approaches.</p>			
PS4-02	Classical and Contemporary Sociology	30	Compulsory
<p>What is social theory and how can the use of social theorists facilitate a deeper understanding of societies and human social behaviour? This module seeks to introduce students to the key sociological theories and theorists. Beginning with the ‘founding fathers’ of sociology – classic 19th century sociologists Durkheim, Marx and Weber, and their theories Functionalism, Marxism and Social Action theory respectively, the module moves on, in its second half, to explore the evolution of contemporary social theories and the work of contemporary sociological thinkers. Students will explore symbolic interactionism, postmodernism and feminism, together with the key ideas of theorists such as Goffman, Bernstein, Giddens, Foucault, Butler and Bauman. As students are committed to the sociology strand for the full three years of the programme, and may, in the final year, undertake a substantive dissertation in an area of interest in sociology, it is essential that they obtain a firm grounding in the theoretical and conceptual tools of the discipline. This module seeks to do just that, providing a thorough theoretical foundation for the remainder of the degree programme, whilst also enhancing students’ analytical and critical thinking skills.</p>			
PS4-03	The Individual and Society	20	Compulsory
<p>Do we shape society or does society shape us? The purpose of this module is to connect the disciplinary strands of Psychology and Sociology for students in order that they acquire an appreciation of the ways in which the disciplines, while distinct, are also closely related. Hence, students will explore the interaction between the individual mind and the social world we live in, noting how an understanding of social life can be broadened through the study of psychology, whilst our understanding of human behaviour is simultaneously enhanced through the study of sociology. The intention will be to explore the intellectual relationship between the two disciplines by examining how aspects of individuals (e.g. personality, language and thought, intelligence,</p>			

creativity and difference) are associated with and informed by sociological concepts (e.g. class, gender, religion and 'race'). The module will run alongside and complement the two introductory modules PS4-01 Foundations of Psychology and PS4-02 Classical and Contemporary Sociology, which together provide an introduction to the theoretical and conceptual tools of each discipline.

PS4-04	Introducing Research Methods in Psychology and Sociology	20	Compulsory
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How and why is research conducted in Social Sciences? This module will equip students with social science research skills and abilities. Students will develop skills to constructively evaluate social research studies, both qualitative and quantitative. The module will also provide students with the foundation knowledge surrounding ethical considerations for researchers. Finally, the module will ensure students are provided with the skills required to conduct data collection and analysis.

PS4-05	Work Related Skills in Social Sciences	20	Compulsory
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What skills are employers looking for? Do I possess those skills? If no how do I acquire them? Jobs are no longer for life, knowledge is growing and changing at a faster and faster pace. Consequently, developing graduates to be flexible and adaptable to cope with these changing demands is of paramount importance, preparing them to take responsibility for lifelong learning. The purpose of this module is thus to effectively underpin and deepen learning across the programme through highlighting and developing transferable skills for employment. The student will be encouraged to assess and develop skills and qualities that are essential to be an effective not only within Higher Education but also as an employee.

Year 2 for full-time students (Level 5)

Module	Title	Credits	
PS5-01	Qualitative and Quantitative Research	20	Compulsory

Which is best: quantitative or qualitative research? This module further develops students' knowledge, skills and competencies within psychological and sociological research methods. Both qualitative and quantitative research methodologies are explored to provide students with an insight into the methodological approaches available to researchers. Students will explore the underlying principles in application, data collection and data analysis, and the strengths and weakness of each. Students will then be able to apply their understanding to a proposal for either a dissertation or action-based research project in PS6-01 Final Major Project (Dissertation).

PS5-02	Social Division and Inequalities	20	Compulsory
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How does inequality affect our prospects for success and advancement? To what extent does it affect our health and lifestyle? Is advantage and disadvantage passed on to our children, and if so, with what effects? These and other questions will inform and underpin the module as students engage with issues of inequality and social justice, the structure of the society around us, and the diversity in life experiences faced by people of different races, genders, social classes, ages and sexualities. Hence, the module's central aim is to assist students to understand the systematic structuring of inequalities in contemporary Britain, and to recognise that there are contending understandings of social structures, with reference to evidence based debates around a series of contentious themes.

PS5-03	Social Policy	20	Compulsory
<p>Does social policy create social equality or inequality? The module's central aim is to build upon students' knowledge of social division and social inequalities. The module will relate current social policy provision within an historical context which explores the philosophical and political beliefs about the provision of services as a government responsibility and a private responsibility. Private issues become public concern. Students will explore and apply the 6 domains (housing, employment, income support, health, education and personal social services) of social policy and the instruments which may be employed to analyse current provision, and propose solutions to areas of inequality in modern Britain. Students will also apply models of policy analysis including institutionalism, political activity, group equilibrium, elite preference, incrementalism vs. comprehensive change, game theory, collective decision-making and systems theory.</p>			
PS5-04	Developmental Psychology	20	Compulsory
<p>What factors influence the development of a child into adolescence? Is a child a product of both nature and nurture? This module focuses on the study of the development of the child through exploration of theories, models and research findings. Students will focus on developmental aspects of birth, early infancy and early experiences; social-emotional development, including relationship development; and cognitive development, including perception and cognition.</p>			
PS5-05	Social Psychology	20	Compulsory
<p>How can social psychological theory explain current world issues and concepts? The module focuses on providing students with an opportunity to investigate human behaviour across social and cultural contexts, starting with the early social psychological theories and research across European and North American traditions. The module will also focus on providing an in-depth understanding of the key concepts in social psychology, including social perception, interpersonal relationships, prosocial behaviour, social influence, and group processes.</p>			
PS5-06	Work Related Practice	20	Compulsory
<p>How do my skills fit within a work-place environment? The module aims to extend and develop students' learning experience through practice. Students will have the opportunity to develop, reflect and evaluate the knowledge and transferable skills within social science related employment. There will be opportunity to experience work within a practice environment across 20-24 weeks of the academic year</p>			

Year 3 for full-time students (Level 6)

Module	Title	Credits	
PS6-01	Final Major Project (Dissertation)	40	Compulsory
<p>Do I have autonomy, choice and responsibility in and for my research? This module will provide students with the opportunity to undertake a substantial piece of work related to their chosen field of practice, either as action-based research, or a dissertation project. Whatever the choice of students here, the objective of the module is to foster students' sense of autonomy in their work through choice of topic and research question/hypothesis, and emphasis upon personal responsibility for decision-making and time-management. In addition to developing and undertaking an in-depth piece of research effectively, students will be encouraged to draw from</p>			

the disciplinary strands studied throughout the degree to produce a contextualised and fully synthesised response to the Psychology and Sociology programme. All projects will be supervised by a subject-specialist tutor, while the module as a whole will be overseen by the Module Leader. Prior to commencing any work, students will work collaboratively with specialist staff and supervisors to develop an effective research question or hypothesis, and aim.

PS6-02	Current Issues and Trends in the Contemporary Society	20	Compulsory
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What are the current issues and trends affecting our society today? This module will examine and explore the current trends and issues in society including Political Economy and Transformation, Globalisation and the environment, intersection of class, gender, race ethnicity and religion on identity and life chances. Formation of identity in changing times (crisis of masculinity, LGBT issues and changing nature of intimacy and relationships). The module will also cover aspects of the digital culture (including issues around fake news and spread conspiracy theories for example)

PS6-03	Sociology of Crime and Deviance	20	Compulsory
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Why does crime happen? How does society control crime? The nature and extent of crime and deviance in contemporary society, together with its definitions and measures, forms the basis of this module. Using both classical and contemporary theories, students will be encouraged to engage with the debates regarding the different ways in which individuals and society respond to crime and deviance. The social contexts in which crime (and victimisation) takes place, together with ways of controlling crime from police, prisons, probation services, through to housing, education and welfare/rehabilitation, will also be explored and analysed.

The key theoretical perspectives for consideration include Control Theory, Labelling Theory, Rational Choice theory, Routine Activities Theory, Crime, Control and Space (i.e. Ecology theory of the Chicago School), and Cultural Criminology. These are used to underpin discussion of different kinds of criminal behaviour - from juvenile delinquency, white collar crime, state crime, hate crime and terrorism.

The ways in which theories on crime and deviance have impacted on the different institutions within the Criminal Justice System will also be examined.

PS6-04	Health Psychology	20	Compulsory
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Does our behaviour affect our health and can we control the outcomes? This module will enable students to engage with a range of health-related topics within the field of Health Psychology. Its aim is to foster an awareness of the distinct identity of Health Psychology in contrast to Behavioural Medicine, and to enable students to develop an understanding of the dominant methodologies and methods employed in the application of Health Psychology, whilst considering the appropriateness of their use in the analysis of specific health issues.

PS6-05	Psychology of Mental Health and Mental Disorders	20	Compulsory
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What is 'abnormal' behaviour? How are individuals assessed and diagnosed when displaying symptoms of mental health issues or mental disorders? What are their treatment options and are these effective? This module aims to develop clinical and critical understandings of the psychology of mental health and mental disorder. Students will examine a range of contemporary and historical approaches to mental disorder whilst fostering an appreciation of the debates concerning definitions, diagnosis, explanations and treatment of disorders.

Teaching and Learning

Teaching:

You are taught through a combination of lectures, seminars and workshops, which enable you to discuss and develop your understanding of the disciplines of Psychology and Sociology.

Typically across all years of the programme you will have 13 hours of contact time per week across 2 days. Contact time will consist of:

- 2-4 hour lectures/seminars;
- Tutorial and dedicated 1-2-1 support when necessary.

Independent learning:

When not attending lectures, seminars or workshops or other timetabled sessions you will be expected to continue to learn independently through self-guided, independent activities. This may typically include reading journal articles, books, periodicals and preparing coursework and presentations. A range of excellent facilities, including the library and online learning resources, the Learning Resource Centre and the Forum supports your independent learning. Typically Independent learning will approximately equate to 70% in Year 1 and 53% in Year 2 (with 17% making up Placement Learning) and 75% in Year 3.

Work Placement:

Placements form part of the 2nd year module PS5-06 Work-Related Practice. Work placements that form part of this module are to be negotiated with students and external employers using the standardised placement learning processes and therefore may vary in duration and length

Overall workload:

Across each year of the degree programme you will study 120 credits, this is split into 20, 30 or 40 credit modules. Each 10 credits equate to approximately 100 hours of taught and independent study. Class contact hours of 13 per week are included on the scheduled timetable, in addition independent study time, including assessment activity and group work, will equate to approximately 26 hours of independent learning per week across all studied modules in 1 year.

Level 4:

Total Timetabled Scheduled Hours per year: 390

Total Hours Taught Per Year: 360

Total Hours Tutorial: 30

Total Independent Learning/Assessment: 810 (Approximately 130 hours per module/4 hours per week)

Approximately 30% per cent of your time is spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity, with 70% of your time spent in guided independent study

Level 5:

Total Timetabled Scheduled Hours per year: 390

Total Hours Taught Per Year: 360

Total Hours Tutorial: 30

Total Independent Learning/Assessment: 810 (Approximately 130 hours per module/4 hours per week)

Approximately 30% per cent of your time is spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity, with 53% of your time spent in guided independent study and 17% of time on placements

Level 6:

Total Timetabled Scheduled Hours per year: 390

Total Hours Taught Per Year: 360 (including 4 hours Timetabled Activity for Final Major Project/Dissertation)

Total Hours Tutorial: 30

Total Independent Learning/Assessment: 810 (Approximately 130 hours per module/4 hours per week)

Approximately 25% per cent of your time is spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity, with 75% of your time spent in guided independent study

Assessment & Feedback

Assessment

Across the programme students are assessed using a variety of methods including; Essays, Research Projects, Presentations, MCQ Exams and Short Answer Tests and Portfolios. Please note that full assessment information can be found in the module descriptors.

Percentage of the course assessed by coursework

Year 1*

25% per cent course tests (PS4-01) and MCQ exams (PS4-04) and 75% coursework (please refer to the module descriptors for assessment methods)

Year 2

100% coursework (please refer to the module descriptors for assessment methods)

Year 3

100% coursework (please refer to the module descriptors for assessment methods)

Feedback

You will receive formative feedback as part of your modules and taught sessions with your Module Lead. You will also receive summative comments on all formal assessments undertaken by coursework. Written feedback is provided to students within 20 working days of submission through Turnitin. Alternative forms of feedback can be requested by students through 1-2-1 meetings with Module Assessors/Module Leaders.

Feedback on the Final Major Project/Dissertation module in Year 3 is provided throughout and through supervision meetings as scheduled.

Academic Support:

Our Academic Support Team provides help in the following areas:

- Study skills (including reading, note-taking and presentation skills)
- Written English (including punctuation and grammatical accuracy)
- Academic Writing (including how to reference)
- Critical Thinking and understanding arguments
- Revision, assessment and examination skills (including time management)

Our Senior Learning Mentor can provide advice and guidance for students with additional needs resulting from disabilities.

Teaching staff

You will be taught by an experienced team whose expertise and knowledge are closely matched to the content of the modules on the course.

Course Cost

Fees

For the academic year 2019-20 the tuition fees for this course are: £8,000

UK/EU Overseas

Full-time

Part-time N/A

(Full-time route only)

The following course-related costs are included in the fees:

- During year 3 as part of PS6-01 Final Major Project (Dissertation) PS6-04 health Psychology and students are required to produce a poster presentation to conference expectations. The professional printing of this poster is £12 each and will be provided through the Central Reprographics Unit at the College.
- You will receive an allocation of pages for printing. Once you have used your allocation, you need to charge up your account with more pages. This can be done using a Credit\Debit card via a web interface (<http://student-print.southessex.ac.uk/safecom>). There is a minimum charge of £10 using this method, or using the printer charging cash machine located in the learning centres.

The following course-related costs are not included in the fees:

- Students are expected to equip themselves with the necessary stationary required for successful study.
- Textbooks are provided through the library and the College continually reviews availability however students may wish to purchase their own textbooks.
- Optional Trips are likely to be arranged (both day and residential) to support your studies. It is likely that the majority of the trips arranged will be local and therefore students should factor in train fares and related costs at approximately £120 per year. These will be organised where required to enhance the learning experience
- Independent trips to assist (e.g. the final major project (Dissertation)) are encouraged where necessary but will need to be funded by the student.
- Travel costs to practice placements in year 2 should be funded by the student, however support for travel can be requested from student support services where a student's meets the support criteria.
- You will receive an allocation of pages for printing. Once you have used your allocation, you need to charge up your account with more pages. This can be done using a Credit\Debit card via a web interface (<http://student-print.southessex.ac.uk/safecom>). There is a minimum charge of £10 using this method, or using the printer charging cash machine located in the learning centres.

Accommodation and living costs not included in the fees

This information can be obtained from our Accommodation Services home page

<https://www.southessex.ac.uk/higher-education/accommodation>

Sources of financial support

If you receive funding from Student Finance you may be eligible to apply for additional benefits.

Details can be obtained from our Student Services home page
<https://www.southessex.ac.uk/higher-education/fees-and-funding>