

Sociology

Sociology helps us to understand not only the unparalleled changes that are occurring throughout the world and the changing patterns of relationships between peoples, but also our own lives, predispositions, values and expectations. At LSE, you will explore specific examples of social action, social processes and institutions; compare different types of social life and societies; examine theories about the nature of social existence and change; study different methods of social research and undertake some research of your own.

Departmental Facts

The Department of Sociology at LSE was the first to be established in Britain and has played a key role in establishing and developing the discipline - nationally and internationally - since 1904. Today, the Department has around 25 teaching staff, together with a number of research fellows, visiting professors and visiting scholars from all over the world. The Department is committed to empirically rich, conceptually sophisticated, and socially and politically relevant research and scholarship, building upon the traditions of the discipline, and playing a key role in the development of the social sciences into the new intellectual areas, social problems, and ethical dilemmas that face a globalised post-modern society. The Department of Sociology aims to provide a teaching and learning environment in which students are encouraged to think critically and independently. We recognise that many of the key issues in the discipline worldwide are the subject of contestation, and our teaching aims to equip students to understand and evaluate these disputes and adopt a position in relation to them. Rigorous, critical, independent thought is the most transferable skill of all, and the overarching objective of the learning experience offered all students. The Department is also home to several international journals, including *The British Journal of Sociology* - one of the world's leading sociology periodicals; *Economy and Society*, the UK's

leading interdisciplinary social science journal; *BioSocieties*, an innovative new journal in the social sciences, and the *Journal of Consumer Culture*.

In the 2008 national Research Assessment Exercise (RAE), 20 per cent of the Department's work was deemed 'world-leading' and 25 per cent 'internationally excellent'. Sociology at LSE is rated, on this measure, in the UK's top 20 sociology departments.

Careers

Students studying sociology gain a plethora of transferable skills, including:

- being able to judge and critically evaluate evidence;
- the ability to make reasoned arguments and analyse and assess empirical information;
- the ability to work effectively in a team through group project work;
- IT skills;
- problem solving skills developed through regular analysis of case studies

Jobs where a degree in sociology may prove directly applicable include teacher; lecturer; social worker; probation officer, social researcher and community officer. Graduates may similarly pursue roles within retail management; public relations; banking; welfare advice; research, accountancy and systems analysis.

Sociology courses available to General Course students include:	
SO100 Key Concepts in Sociology: An Introduction to Sociological Theory	SO215 Evolution and Social Behaviour
SO110 Key Issues in Contemporary Societies: An Introduction to Contemporary Sociology	SO221 Issues and Methods of Social Research
SO201 Sociological Analysis	SO224 The Sociology of Race and Ethnicity
SO203 Political Sociology	SO250 Multi-Culture and Multi-Culturalism
SO208 Gender and Society	SO305 Environmentalism: Theory, Politics and Practice
SO210 Crime, Deviance and Control	SO306 Atrocity, Suffering and Human Rights
SO211 Sociology of Health and Medicine	PS102 Self, Others and Society: Perspectives on Social and Applied Psychology
SO212 Work, Management and Globalisation	PS203 Societal Psychology: Theory and Applications