



LEEDS  
BECKETT  
UNIVERSITY

# Course Specification

## BA (Hons) Sociology and Criminology

Course Code: BASCR

2024/25

[leedsbeckett.ac.uk](https://leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

# ***BA (Hons) Sociology and Criminology (BASCR)***

## **Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2024/25 Undergraduate Entrants**

Confirmed at DEC/2023

### **General Information**

<b>Award</b>	Bachelor of Arts with Honours Sociology and Criminology
<b>Contained Awards</b>	Bachelor of Arts Sociology and Criminology (Level 6) Diploma of Higher Education Sociology and Criminology (Level 5) Certificate of Higher Education Sociology and Criminology (Level 4)
<b>Awarding Body</b>	Leeds Beckett University
<b>Level of Qualification and Credits</b>	Level 6 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 120 credit points at each of Levels 4, 5 and 6 of the UK Credit Framework for Higher Education (360 credits in total).
<b>Course Lengths and Standard Timescales</b>	Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is confirmed below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 3 years (full time, campus based)</li><li>• 6 years (part time, campus based)</li></ul>
<b>Part Time Study</b>	PT students will be supported by the course team to determine an appropriate selection of modules from the level for each year of study. PT delivery is usually at half the intensity of the FT equivalent course, although there may be flexibility to increase your pace of study to shorten the overall course duration. Some modules may be delivered in a different sequence to that defined within this information set but the modules offered within each level are consistent. Please note that the work placement option is not generally available to PT students.
<b>Location(s) of Delivery</b>	The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus.
<b>Entry Requirements</b>	Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: <a href="https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning/">https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning/</a>

Admissions enquiries may be directed to:  
[AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk).

### **Course Fees**

Course fees and any additional course costs are confirmed in your offer letter. Fees enquiries may be directed to:  
[Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk).

## **Timetable Information**

Timetables for Semester 1 will be made available to students during induction week via:

- i) The Student Portal (MyBeckett)
- ii) The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions may be discussed with your Course Administrator.

## **Policies, Standards and Regulations** (<https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations/>)

There are no additional or non-standard regulations which relate to your course.

## **Key Contacts**

<b>Your Course Director</b>	Joseph Ibrahim <a href="mailto:j.ibrahim@leedsbeckett.ac.uk">j.ibrahim@leedsbeckett.ac.uk</a>
<b>Your Academic Advisor</b>	An academic advisor will be allocated to you at induction.
<b>Your Course Administrator</b>	The name of your Course Administrator/s will be confirmed during induction, their contact details are: <a href="mailto:sociologyadmin@leedsbeckett.ac.uk">sociologyadmin@leedsbeckett.ac.uk</a> .

## **Sandwich or Other 'In Year' Work Placement Information**

### **Summary**

At Level 6 students can elect to undertake the optional *Work-Based Learning in Criminology* module. This module provides students with an opportunity to engage with the practice of Criminology in a 'real world' context through a period of work-based learning and, in doing so, gain practical experience of a professional work area related to their course of study.

### **Length**

Students will undertake a period of work-based learning amounting to 70 hours in total.

### **Location**

The nature, format and location of the work-based learning will be determined on a year-by-year basis through negotiation with the module leader.

## **Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course**

### **Professional Body**

N/A

### **Accreditation/ Recognition Summary**

N/A

## **Course Overview**

### **Aims**

The aims of the BA (Hons) Sociology and Criminology course aims to combine the disciplines of sociology and criminology to provide students with a critical understanding of a range of themes and concepts within the two disciplines and the ability to relate them to a variety of aspects of social life.

It aims to develop a critical appreciation of the intellectual traditions of sociology and criminology and of contemporary scholarship in the disciplines. The course will enable students to apply insights gained from studying the two disciplines in conjunction with each other to a variety of social issues and problems, while also encouraging them to develop a critical awareness of themselves and the wider social world. Finally, it will enable students to understand how and when individuals are seen as 'deviant' or 'criminal' and to explore societal responses to such deviancy.

At level 4 modules aid students transition into the university environment and provide a sound understanding of key concepts and knowledge. Within their personal development and academic skills module students are introduced to the key academic skills needed throughout the course and encouraged to become reflexive learners; by the end of level 4 students will have been introduced to a number of sociology and criminology related topics that will underpin future learning including social and criminological theory, ways of understanding and explaining crime, and social research methods.

At level 5 students begin to consolidate and contextualise their learning with modules allowing them to situate their understandings within the broad theme of contexts, perceptions and patterns of crime. Other core modules continue to consolidate and deepen knowledge of key sociological theories, approaches and methods.

At level 6 students are expected to be independent critical thinkers who are knowledgeable and reflective about their own academic development and the research environment of both Sociology and Criminology. They are able to choose both the topic area of their independent research project and two option modules to supplement modules from both disciplines which continue to strengthen their understanding of sociological and criminological theory and analysis.

The course also aims to develop a range of generic skills and attributes. These include the skills of independent, reflexive and socially aware learning to provide a basis for lifelong learning, skills in written, oral and IT communication, and a range of analytic and graduate skills suitable for a range of professional and life situations. The course will also enable students to conduct their own research and critically evaluate the uses of a range of research methods and approaches.

## Course Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Identify, critically examine and evaluate a broad range of sociological and criminological theories, concepts and problems.
2. Critically apply your sociological and criminological knowledge to real world issues to provide an analysis of individuals, groups and social institutions.
3. Appreciate and critically debate the historical and social backgrounds of a range of social divisions and use this context to apply critical understanding of the problem of crime at a range of levels.
4. Apply a range of research techniques, including digital scholarship and other technology-rich methods, in order to research and solve a particular problem.
5. Reflect on your own values and background and in so doing develop a critical awareness of the wider social world and the global context within which you live and the different perspectives that exist to explain these contexts.
6. Evidence that you have become an independent, reflexive and socially aware learner through considerable self-guided study of sociological and criminological problems.

## Teaching and Learning Activities

### Summary

The Sociology and Criminology course teams are aware that different learning and teaching activities suit different students' learning styles and are committed to the use of a variety of teaching practices in order to promote active learning and student engagement on the course. Formal teaching takes place via lectures, seminars, tutorials, and workshops. More informally, the team also provides one-to-one support via individual meetings to discuss feedback or assignments. Lectures and seminars for core modules will be delivered in person. Some elective modules may be delivered via blended learning. Additional learning resources will also be provided online via our Virtual Learning Environment.

The learning and teaching activities on this course are broad and varied. They include the following: lectures, seminars, workshops, library work, seminar and workshop preparation, film (and other media) showings, external speakers, online learning, fieldwork, group activities and interactive classroom learning tools.

As far as assessment is concerned a range of assessment tools are used reflecting both the diversity of knowledge and skills being assessed, and the need to provide students with a range of means of demonstrating their achievement of Learning Outcomes, assessment methods include written assignments, group presentations, learning logs, and reports. In order to assist students in managing their assessment workload, assessments are arranged over an agreed period of time by module tutors.

In addition to a Course Handbook, all students are provided with a Module Handbook for each module they study. The module handbook provides students with details relating to:

- Module learning outcomes
- Programme of lectures and seminars
- Recommended reading
- Assessment details and submission dates
- Tutor contact details

## Your Modules

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Part time students will be supported by the course team to determine an appropriate selection of modules from the level for each year of study. Option modules listed are indicative of a typical year. There may be some variance in the availability of option modules. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable.

Level 4			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Criminological Theory (40 credits)			Y
Doing Sociology in Leeds (20 credits)	Y	Criminal Justice Issues (20 credits)	Y
Sociology, Capitalism and Modernity (20 credits)	Y	Researching Society (20 credits)	Y

Level 5			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Criminological Intersections (40 credits)			Y
Inequality of Class and Culture (20 credits)	Y	Exploring Social Research (20 credits)	Y
Modern Social Theory (20 credits)	Y	Crime and Deviance in Society (20 credits)	Y

Level 6			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Dissertation (40 credits)			Y

Level 6			
Contemporary Society and Social Futures (20 credits)	Y		
Options from (20 credits): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gender, Crime and Justice</li> <li>• Race, Crime and Social Exclusion</li> <li>• Exploring Imprisonment</li> </ul>	N	One option from the following list (20 credits): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Men &amp; Masculinities</li> <li>• Poverty, Inequality and the Welfare State</li> <li>• Sociology of Work and Organisations</li> <li>• Identity and Power</li> </ul> And one option from the following list (20 credits): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crime, Policy and the Sex Industry</li> <li>• Criminal Justice Policy</li> <li>• The Criminology of Tattooing</li> <li>• Domestic Violence and Criminal Justice</li> <li>• Heretics and Renegades</li> <li>• Innovation in Desistance and Recovery</li> <li>• Work-Based Learning in Criminology</li> <li>• Youth Crime and Justice</li> </ul>	N

## Assessment Balance and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities by Level

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules and typical option module choices undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director but applicants should note that the specific option choices students make may influence both assessment and workload balance.

A standard module equates to 200 notional learning hours, which may be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, any embedded placement activities and independent study. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

### Assessment

Level 4 is assessed predominately by coursework, with some practical assessments.

Level 5 is assessed predominately by coursework, with some practical assessments.

Level 6 is assessed predominately by coursework, with some practical elements.

### Workload

Overall Workload	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
Teaching, Learning and Assessment	218 hours	214 hours	158 hours
Independent Study	982 hours	986 hours	1042 hours
Placement	0 hours	0 hours	70 hours (optional)

### Learning Support

If you have a question or a problem relating to your course, your Course Administrator is there to help you. Course Administrators work closely with academic staff and can make referrals to teaching staff or to specialist professional services as appropriate. They can give you a confirmation of attendance letter, and a transcript. You may also like to contact your Course Rep or the Students' Union Advice team for additional support with course-related questions.

### Student Services

If you have any questions about life at University, call into our Student Services Centre at either campus or contact Student Advice directly. This team, consisting of trained officers and advisers are available to support you throughout your time here. They will make sure you have access to and are aware of the support, specialist services, and opportunities our University provides. They also work on a wide range of projects throughout the year all designed to enhance your student experience and ensure you make the most of your time with us. Student Advice are located in the Student Services Centre in the Leslie Silver Building at City Campus and on the ground floor of the Priestley Building at Headingley Campus. The team can also be contacted via email at [studentadvice@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:studentadvice@leedsbeckett.ac.uk), telephone on 0113 812 3000, or by accessing our online chat link, available on the student homepage.

### Support and Opportunities

Within MyBeckett you will see two tabs (Support and Opportunities) where you can find online information and resources for yourselves. The Support tab gives you access to details of services available to give you academic and personal support. These include Library Services, the Students' Union, Money advice, Disability advice and support, Wellbeing, International Student Services and Accommodation. There is also an A-Z of Support Services, and access to online appointments/registration.

The Opportunities tab is the place to explore the options you have for jobs, work placements, volunteering, and a wide range of other opportunities. For example, you can find out here how to get help with your CV, prepare for an interview, get a part-time job or voluntary role, take part in an international project, or join societies closer to home.