



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification

BA (Hons) Sociology and Psychological Studies

Course Code: BASPS

2024/25

leedsbeckett.ac.uk

BA (Hons) Sociology and Psychological Studies (BASPS)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2024/25 Undergraduate Entrants

Confirmed at DEC/2023

General Information

Award	Bachelor of Arts (with Honours) Sociology and Psychological Studies
Contained Awards	Bachelor of Arts Social Sociology and Psychological Studies Diploma of Higher Education Sociology and Psychological Studies Certificate of Higher Education Sociology and Psychological Studies
Awarding Body	Leeds Beckett University
Level of Qualification and Credits	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).
Course Lengths and Standard Timescales	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">• 3 years (full time, campus based)• 6 years (part time, campus based)
Part Time Study	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.
Location(s) of Delivery	The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus.
Entry Requirements	Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning/

Admissions enquiries may be directed to:
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.

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

Your Course Director	Dr Joseph Ibrahim
Your Academic Advisor	An academic advisor will be allocated to you at induction.
Your Course Administrator	The name of your Course Administrator/s will be confirmed during induction, their contact details are: sociologyadmin@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Sandwich or Other 'In Year' Work Placement Information

Summary

At Level 6 students can elect to undertake the optional *Work-Based Learning* module. This module provides students with an opportunity to engage with the practice of Sociology or Social Psychology 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 BA (Hons) Sociology and Psychological Studies course aims to combine the disciplines of Sociology and Psychology 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 psychology 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 the ways in which social structure has both shaped and been shaped by their own sense of themselves.

This course is not accredited by the British Psychological Society.

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 psychology related topics that will underpin future learning including social and psychological theory, the lifecourse and identity formation, 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 the individual, society and identity;. Other core modules continue to consolidate and deepen knowledge of key sociological and psychological 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 Psychology. 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 psychological 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 psychological theories, concepts and problems.
2. Critically apply your sociological and psychological knowledge to real world issues to provide an analysis of individuals, groups and social institutions.
3. Appreciate and critically debate the relationships between Psychology and the social world with the recognition that Social Psychology is historically, socially and located.
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 psychological problems.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

The Sociology and Social Psychology 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. The team is committed to using a variety of learning activities and assessment practices in order to promote active learning and student engagement on the course, as well as prepare them for the world as an alumni.

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. More informally, the team also provides one-to-one support via individual meetings to discuss feedback or assignments. A particular feature of the course is the formal conference at study mid-point to provide students with experience and confidence in presenting their work in a more formal, large-scale, environment. 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.

Seminars and workshops are environments in which students are encouraged to debate, question and argue over the chosen topic for discussion in so doing students develop the skills of critical questioning and

thinking as well as the confidence to express their informed views. Collaborative work amongst students which is presented more formally as the course progresses is an integral part of the course and aimed at developing students' skills and confidence in the presentation of knowledge and the self. Students are encouraged to use appropriate digital tools for collaboration.

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.

All students on the course are provided with a Course Handbook and 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)
Doing Sociology in Leeds (20 credits)	Y	Mind, Self and Culture (20 credits)	Y
Interdisciplinary Psychology (20 credits)	Y	Psychosocial Development (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)
Environmental Psychology (20 credits)	Y	Critical Social Psychology (20 credits)	Y
Modern Social Theory (20 credits)	Y	Exploring Social Research (20 credits)	Y
Sociology of Gender and Feminist Perspectives (20 credits)	Y	Psychology of Persuasion (20 credits)	Y

Level 6			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Dissertation (40 credits)	Y	Dissertation (40 credits) (continued from Semester 1)	Y
Radical Psychology (20 credits)	Y	Must choose one from the following: Identity and Power (20 credits) Poverty, Inequality and the Welfare State (20 credits) Men and Masculinities (20 credits) The Sociology of Work and Organisations (20 credits) Work-Based Learning (20 credits)	N
Contemporary Society and Social Futures (20 credits)	Y	Must choose one from the following: Framing Madness (20 credits) Peace Psychology (20 credits) Transpersonal Psychology- Psychonautics (20 credits)	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 by coursework predominantly, with some practical assessments.

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

Level 6 is assessed by coursework.

Workload

Overall Workload	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
Teaching, Learning and Assessment	220 hours	219 hours	106 hours
Independent Study	980 hours	981 hours	1094 hours
Placement	-	-	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, 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.