MA Sociology and Social Justice

Is this course for you?
The MA in Sociology and Social Justice aims to produce graduates who are reflective and critical thinkers, with an understanding of current social issues, problems and injustices. It aims to provide students with skills to tackle such issues, and prepare them for the world of employment and public and community service.

About this Course
This MA Sociology and Social Justice course introduces students to a variety of historical and current societal problems and injustices. The course is comprised of core and optional modules that are centred around classical and contemporary debates about inequalities. We also explore how the culmination of certain conditions means specific social groups emerge as 'social problems' or 'deviants' who become oppressed and victims of injustice.

Students will study theoretical and conceptual models to appreciate the ways in which prejudicial attitudes, power and discrimination can impact people’s everyday lives and judge how effectively society is tackling and responding to these issues. Students have the opportunity to examine how socio-cultural, political and historical conditions, and relations with others and material circumstances, shape the experiences of people’s careers, family life, gender and/or sexuality and later life courses.

Key Features
- A blended-learning approach (combining face-to-face study with distance learning) ensures that study is accessible and feasible to students who are in paid work or volunteering in a relevant organisation.
- Our virtual learning environment (VLE) makes a variety of learning materials available to our learners so they can fit their study within their existing personal/work commitments. Virtual learning is consolidated with face-to-face taught sessions, delivered over a single day each week on campus.

Key Skills
- This programme provides students with a strong set of research-based skills. Research methods are used throughout the programme, to allow students to ‘actively’ learn about social problems and inequalities. For example, students use a range of archive sources to acquire first-hand knowledge of emerging historical social problems and equalities, and look at how these issues have been developed in constructive or harmful ways; they will also undertake life history interviews about the later life course.
- Students will be trained in, and develop, robust and rigorous skills, in both quantitative and qualitative research methods; they will learn to interpret secondary sources and use software programmes to analyse data.
- Mastering skills in designing and undertaking research projects will allow students to develop expertise in particular areas of personal interest, areas of professional significance (that could support entry into particular sectors/organisations), enhance opportunities for promotion within current occupations, and/or pursue postdoctoral studies.
- The programme is supplemented with field trips to museums, galleries, archive study centres and exhibitions that enrich students’ learning of particular topics. Furthermore, we invite expert guest speakers from a range of fields who provide unique insights in a variety of areas.

Key facts

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<th>Mode of study</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Course begin</th>
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<tr>
<td>Full-time or Part-time</td>
<td>12 months full-time</td>
<td>September</td>
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<td>36 months part-time</td>
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Modules

Career Pathways
• This MA is likely to appeal to people who aspire to work in organisations that tackle societal problems and inequalities. It will also benefit practitioners who are already working in a range of professions (e.g. within the community, voluntary and public sector, tackling poverty, social policy, service commissioning, health education, criminal justice system and social research), who wish to use a postgraduate qualification to engage with current research, debates, practices and issues in their chosen field and improve their career progression.

Entry Requirements
The entry requirements for the course are normally:
1. Expected to hold a relevant honours degree with at least a 2:1 from a UK institution of Higher Education or International equivalent
2. Mature students and students with non-standard academic qualification will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
International students must hold an International English Language Testing System (IELTS) score of 6.0 or above (or equivalent)

This table represents a full-time version of the pathway

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level 7</th>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
<th>Semester 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CORE</td>
<td>OPTION</td>
<td>CORE</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Societal problems: Classic Debates and Archival Research (30)</td>
<td>(30)</td>
<td>Mastering Research Practice (30)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>CORE</td>
<td>(30)</td>
<td>Postgraduate Dissertation (60)</td>
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<td>Researching Crime and Society: Research Design and Data Collection (30)</td>
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Options
Gender, Sexuality and Society (30 credits) Stories from the Later Life Course (30 credits)
Tackling Contemporary Social and Health Inequalities (30 credits)

Course Leader
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