

BSc Sociology

Department of Social Sciences





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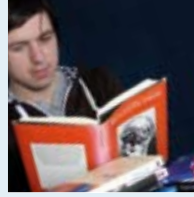
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What is Sociology?

Sociology is the study of human society. As sociologists, we seek to understand all aspects of society. For example, at the level of small-scale social activity, we are interested in such questions as how even things as apparently personal as our bodily gestures and deportment are influenced by social relationships. At the level of large-scale social activity we study issues such as the ways in which people's opportunities for education, jobs, income or access to civil rights and freedom of expression are structured by particular patterns of economic relationships and political power.

Sociological ideas and findings play a part in many different social activities, from journalism to public administration and management. Understanding social institutions and processes is a vital basis for occupations that increasingly call on the concepts, research methods and analytical skills of sociologists.

In pursuing the analysis of social life, sociologists ask a wide range of questions. How do members of society come to adopt the behaviour expected of them and who influences these expectations? What is the basis and distribution of power within society? How have patterns of consumption and paid employment changed and developed over the past century? In what ways do these changes affect family life or the relationships between men and women? Why are some groups in our society accorded high status, while others such as older people or ethnic minorities are denied respect and opportunities? How is it that this situation is maintained in a society where there is anti-discrimination legislation?



In addition to understanding the broad organisation of social life, sociology can also make an important contribution to addressing social problems such as poverty, unemployment, violence, etc. It accomplishes this not by focusing initially upon 'solutions' but by asking questions that derive from a sociological perspective – a concern with the way in which our lives are shaped and influenced by the structure and organisation of social relationships.

For example, in any development of policies to deal with violence in a civilised society, sociological questions are relevant. Who defines violence? How does this influence policing and, say, media policies? Who commits violence and who is convicted? Is the scale of violence overestimated or underestimated in our society? Is there a self-fulfilling prophecy in media representations of violence that results in widespread anxiety about safety on town and city streets at night, thus exacerbating fear of public space and, indeed, danger?

Such a sociological perspective on issues of public concern is vital to our policy makers in tackling a whole range of social problems. Studying sociology can be the opening to a very wide range of careers and professions.



Sociology at Loughborough University

The course at Loughborough lasts for three years and is one of a number of undergraduate degrees offered by the Department of Social Sciences.

The department is unique in British universities in its interdisciplinary combination of sociology with communication and media studies, criminology and social policy and social psychology. We offer degrees in each of these disciplines. This wide range of departmental expertise increases the choices we can make available to you. Loughborough degrees are all taught on a modular basis, enabling you to build up a degree course reflecting your own particular interests.

In national assessment of the quality of teaching in universities, the department's teaching has been given 23 points out of a possible 24, making it one of the top rated departments in terms of teaching in the country. The department is also highly rated for research. In the national Research Assessment Exercise, twenty-five per cent of its research output is officially described as 'world leading.' When the quality of the research is combined with the volume of the Department's output, it is ranked fifth in the UK.

The sociology programme enables you to take modules from complementary social science disciplines as well as sociology; though if you want to study only sociology you can do so. You may choose options from among communication and media studies, criminology and social policy, social psychology (within the department), human

geography and politics (outside the department). In addition, within sociology you will be able to choose from a wide range of specialist options in different areas of sociology, such as the body, cultural analysis, sociology of religion, sociology of tourism and everyday life in the home.

We aim to introduce you to the diversity of schools of thought in sociology. One of the reasons why the discipline is so stimulating is that it contains a number of different approaches to the study of social issues. Progress in sociology is largely achieved through debates between alternative perspectives. You will be encouraged to participate in these debates.

We also aim to give you an awareness of the nature of sociological concepts and ideas. You will be encouraged to explore the major theoretical contributions to the sociological tradition.

In addition, we help you to make a critical assessment of the research methods used in sociology. You will be introduced to the various techniques which sociologists use for the analysis of social processes. We will also give you an opportunity to develop your own basic research skills throughout the degree, with coursework projects in the first and second years culminating in the final year dissertation.



Overview of Programme Structure

The Programme is made up of individual modules worth a total of 120 credits per annum. The credit weightings of modules are shown in the following pages.

In the first year you take six compulsory modules in sociology, sociological analysis and social psychology, and six optional modules. In the following list, modules labelled 'A' take place in the first semester and those labelled 'B' in the second. In the second and third years you continue with compulsory modules in sociology and take option modules in sociology and related subjects. Apart from compulsory modules in social theory and methods in year II and your project in year III, you are free to choose from a wide variety of modules in different areas of sociology and related subjects.

YEAR ONE

Compulsory Modules

Six (3 each semester)

Introduction to Sociology A & B

Sociological Analysis (A)

Introduction to Quantitative Analysis (B)

Introduction to Social Psychology A & B

Social Policy and Social Issues A & B

C20th British (A) & European (B)

British Politics (A) & Government (B)

Human Geography 1 (A) & 2 (B)

Applied French Language 1-6

Applied German Language 1-6

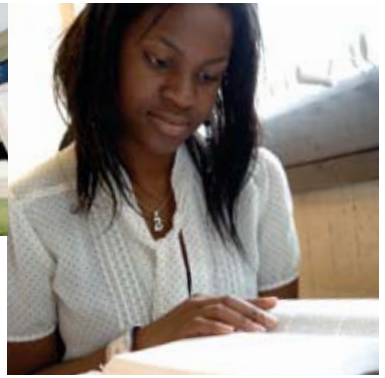
Applied Spanish Language 1-6

Optional Modules

Six (3 each semester) from:

Communication and

Media Studies A & B



YEAR TWO

Compulsory

Key Thinkers in Sociology (A & B)
Research Methods (A & B)
At least one Sociology optional module
(see pp.12-16)

Optional

Modules from:
Communication and Media Studies
Criminology
Social Policy
Social Psychology
Human Geography
Politics

YEAR THREE

Compulsory

Final Year Project
Further Sociology modules (see
pp.12-16)

Optional

Further modules in complementary social
science subjects (see p.16)

Compulsory Modules in Sociology

Please note that the modules offered may change from time to time. Staff may leave or be away on study leave and modules may be updated to keep pace with new developments. We therefore reserve the right to make additions to and deletions from the list of modules described in this brochure. The Programme Director can provide you with up-to-date information on any changes to the content or structure of the degree which may have taken place recently.

THE FIRST YEAR

Introduction to Sociology A (10 credits)

The aim of this module is to introduce students to sociology as a way of thinking conceptually and analytically about social structures and processes. By the end of the module, students should have a firm grounding in the fundamentals of sociological thought and be able to apply sociological reasoning to contemporary issues. The kind of topics covered on the module include: the sociological imagination; inequality; power and social change; class, gender and 'race'; family and education.

Introduction to Sociology B (10 credits)

This module continues to illustrate the use of sociological theories and concepts with specific reference to culture, consumption and modernity. By the end of the module, students should have further developed their skills in thinking sociologically and be able to apply them to selected questions concerning, for instance, wealth and poverty. The kind of topics covered on the module include: mass media, culture and the public sphere; social identity; capitalism and democracy in Europe and the United States; and globalisation.

Sociological Analysis (10 credits)

This is an innovative module that is based upon close reading and analysis of recent sociological research articles. Students are provided with these articles in advance and are also given a number of questions for guidance and discussion. The fortnightly seminar classes run for two hours and during that time students have an opportunity to engage in depth with the practice of sociology, with the various ways in which sociological research is carried out and with the different perspectives which inform contemporary sociology. This module therefore offers students an opportunity to become familiar with current sociological debates. Assessment takes the form of a written essay based on further reading on one of the chosen topics.

Introduction to Quantitative Analysis (10 credits)

In this module, you will be introduced to some of the methods used by sociologists in collecting and analysing quantitative data. This will include an introduction to the use of computers in implementing such analyses. Practical sessions will help you to develop the necessary computing skills - no prior knowledge of computing or of data analysis is required. This course is assessed entirely by coursework.

Introduction to Social Psychology A & B (10 credits each)

Social Psychology is taught in these two modules which are intended to give an understanding of what social psychological research and explanation involves. Examples of different kinds of social psychological work are introduced throughout. These include the notions of self and personality and how they can help us understand sexuality and anorexia; the nature of groups and prejudice; how we communicate; and how children are socialised and develop to become members of society.

The Second and Third Years

In the second and third years there is a lot more choice. Apart from the two compulsory modules in Year II and the Project in Year III you will be able to select modules to suit your own interests from the wide range we offer.

Key Thinkers in Sociology (30 credits)

This module aims to familiarise students with the work of key thinkers in the sociological tradition and social theory. It covers both classical and contemporary theory by looking at the work of such thinkers as Marx, Weber, Durkheim and Parsons, in the earlier part of the module, and Habermas, Giddens, Beck, Castells and Hochschild in the later part of the module. Underlying themes include the study of social structures, ideology, language and the role of ideas in society, feminist and other critiques, modernity and the dynamics of social and cultural change. On completion of the module, students will have experienced a range of theoretical frameworks for social analysis, be familiar with a number of key thinkers and some original texts, and be able to assess the conceptual and analytical merits of different theories.

Research Methods (30 credits)

The course evaluates the main techniques of investigation (such as social surveys, participant observation, interviews and forms of textual analysis) used by sociologists. We examine these methods' uses and limitations and tackle broader questions such as the philosophies of quantitative and qualitative research, problems of measurement and issues of objectivity and bias. The coursework involves carrying out small scale research projects of your own.

Final Year Project (40 credits)

This is an individual research project on a topic of your own choice. Each student is supervised by a member of staff who provides help and advice in choosing the topic and carrying out the work. The project can be library based or can involve fieldwork. Recent examples of final year projects are:

- Moral panics
- Media coverage of food scares
- Multiculturalism
- Protest and resistance movements
- The concept of the 'underclass'
- Emotional labour at work
- Hip Hop culture
- Attitudes to Asylum Seekers
- Policing and institutional racism
- Control and conflict in a factory setting

Optional Modules in Sociology

You choose from the following list of modules offered over the second and third years of your degree. You should bear in mind that this list is subject to change.

The Body

This module is concerned with the human body as an object of knowledge and a site of power and agency, drawing upon contemporary debates in medical sociology, anthropology and social theory. It is built upon the observation that the human body, as both a 'natural' and a 'cultural' object, has become a fertile terrain for modern operations of knowledge and power. It uses a range of empirical materials to facilitate both cross-cultural and historical comparisons as well as the examination of such contemporary issues as modern health consciousness, modes of reproduction and childbirth, anorexia and AIDS.

Capitalism and Cultural Change

This module looks at sociological debates on the formation and development of capitalism, including the work of Marx and Weber; the historical peculiarities of both organised and neo-liberal capitalism; how the arts and popular culture operate in relation to capitalism; modes of consumption and consumerism in different phases of capitalism; promotional culture, including advertising and marketing; cultural industries and the 'creative class' thesis; youth cultures and generational economics; anti-capitalist movements; and, environmental aspects of capitalist culture and society.

Cultural Analysis

This module is concerned with the social production and circulation of cultural forms. It focuses upon aesthetic communication mainly with reference to the arts, popular media and the commodification of culture. Students are introduced to theoretical frameworks for analysing various moments in the cultural circuit from production to consumption. These include identity, regulation and representation; and structures and processes of work and marketing in the cultural industries. Case study topics are selected with regard

to themes such as: Hollywood in the information age; success and failure of British cinema; social relations of production and consumption in television; celebrity; and the meaning and constitution of cultural events and places.

Everyday Life and The Home

This module is about how we live in, experience, understand and create our homes. The lectures focus on a series of themes such as home decoration, the use of art in the home, housework, and the smells, textures and sounds of the home. Through these we will explore how people's relationships to their homes are bound up in issues of self identity and their relationships to others.

Health, technology and culture

Health technologies, from stomach stapling to cholesterol lowering and mood enhancing drugs, are an increasing part of our everyday lives and public imagination. These technologies can be controversial, but also often pass unnoticed and undebated. This module introduces students to theories that seek to make sense of the relationship between health technologies, identity, everyday life and broader society. It focuses on new medical technologies, including Internet health groups, body and weight management techniques, genetic testing and psychopharmaceuticals. It fosters critical but nuanced analysis that pays attention to the contradictions of these technologies both in terms of personal empowerment/disempowerment and social/political implications.

Identity and Difference

This module looks at how the interrelated concepts of identity and difference are relevant for understanding social selfhood in general. It concentrates particularly upon cultural identity in relation to nationhood, migration, ethnicity and 'race'. A number of theories and issues are examined and the kind of topics covered include: diaspora and hybridisation; cultural politics; models of multiculturalism; geo-political and cultural tensions between 'East' and 'West'; globalisation and local resistance; late-modernity and reflexive identity: and, problematic national identities, such as 'Englishness' and 'Britishness'.

Inequalities

This Module looks at patterns of inequality related to social class, 'race' and gender and their implications for the life chances of individuals. It asks why it is that some people have more opportunity, more freedom of choice, and better long-term prospects than others, and how such inequalities persist over lifetimes and between generations. It explores economic and cultural explanations for the ways inequalities between individuals and groups are reproduced over time, and also examines how these have been studied empirically by sociologists. The course then examines 'differential association', or how our choice of friends and lovers is affected by our position in the structure of inequality, and how this in turn affects access to resources.

Race and Racism in Modern Society

The aim of this module is to enable students to understand ideas of race and racism from a sociological-historical perspective. It aims to encourage students to critically reflect upon the social construction and applications of the idea of race in Western history, and to investigate connections between race and other categories of social inclusion and exclusion in Modern Society. The course focuses on the social construction and historical development of racial ideas in the West, and clarifies their interlinks with other categories of social inclusion and exclusion, particularly nation, gender, and class. Connections between these concepts will be explored theoretically as well as historically, through case studies. Themes covered include: Theories of race and racism, race in historical context, race as a category of social inclusion and exclusion, interlinked discriminations: race, nation, gender, and class; race and colonialism,

Social Anthropology

This module explores the question of how we might go about researching, understanding and comparing cultures. Focusing on a range of different cultures from around the world we will look at various aspects of their everyday lives, social organisation and belief systems. Including for example: the question of what romantic love has to do with marriage in different cultures; why and under what circumstances people accuse one another of witchcraft; and how people keep in touch with their home 'communities' when they migrate to other countries.

Television, Culture and Society

This module looks at television programming from a sociological point of view and in historical and comparative contexts. It analyses the dramatic forms and particularly the entertainment genres of television in connection with cultural values and social relations. The genres covered may vary from year to year. A typical selection might include live and edited sport, situation comedy, soap opera and social drama. Issues of public controversy around television are addressed, for instance, concerning children's viewing. The module also considers how social groups and problems in society are represented and contested in popular television.

Visual Culture

This module is an exploration of the social and historical character of visuality and visibility, with an emphasis on the relations between 'seeing' and 'being seen', and on the cultural connections between 'sight', 'truth', and 'identity'. The module draws on two main sets of literature: Cultural studies of identity formation, and 'epistemic sociology' (a hybrid area from social studies of science and ethnomethodology). Some of the specific issues addressed are these. How has the visual sense come to hold the dominant position it has? What influence has the invention of novel visual technologies, particularly photography, had on our ways of seeing and understanding? How are people's identities constructed through the ways they are looked at? Why is the credibility of eyewitnesses so high? Why are systems of public surveillance so omnipresent? What do art fakes tell us about the cultural values of originality and uniqueness?

Nation and Empire

This module examines the concepts nation and empire and their interrelations from a sociological-historical perspective. We will focus on the social construction of nations and empires as imagined communities, and explore how representations and politics of European nations are historically connected with ideas of imperialism, domination and control.

Sociology of Gender

The module introduces students to main themes and perspectives within the sociology of gender, with an emphasis on contemporary analyses of gender relations in national and international contexts. Lecture topics include the women's movement, feminist theory, Black feminist thought, men and masculinities, sexualities, gender and work, gender and politics, gender and migration, and gender and religion.

Sociology of Religion

The module introduces students to main themes and perspectives within the sociology of religion, including classical and contemporary analyses of religious belief and practice. Lecture topics cover sociological approaches to the study of religion, individual religiosity, religion and gender, religion and migration, secularisation processes, the role of religion in the public sphere, and religious organisations and movements (including New Age religion and spirituality).

The Sociology of Tourism

The module provides a sociological perspective to understanding the significance of tourism and travel in contemporary societies. The module places tourism and travel at the heart of modern life, demonstrating the ways in which human mobility impacts on a variety of issues such as nation, citizenship, consumerism, and social exclusion. Tourism also provides a lens through which to explore the complex inter-relationship of globalization and culture.

Options in Complementary Social Sciences

These can be taken from a wide range of specialist choices in Communication and Media Studies, Criminology and Social Policy and Social Psychology; and, also, from subjects outside the department.

Teaching and Assessment

Our courses use a mix of lectures, tutorials and practical sessions. Lectures are usually held once a week for each course and provide a basic framework of ideas to guide your further study. Most lecture courses have associated tutorials, usually held once every three weeks. In tutorials, groups of about eight students meet with a tutor to discuss issues arising from their reading and the lectures. Often a particular question is set in advance and you will be expected to prepare for the tutorial and contribute to the discussion. Tutorials are a central aspect of the course. They offer you the opportunity to clarify issues and the chance to develop further your skills of questioning, discussion and argument.

In addition to attending lectures and tutorials you will be expected to read widely, to work independently, and to complete a number of written assignments.

We assess your work periodically through coursework assignments, and at the end of each semester by formal examinations. The overall assessment of your performance in each year takes account of both your coursework and your examination marks. The assessment of the first year's work does not count towards your final degree classification. The assessments of your second and third years of study are combined together equally to give your overall degree result.

Sociology Staff

There are about fifty teaching and research staff in the Department of Social Sciences as a whole. These are the staff who currently provide most of the Sociology teaching.

Malcolm Ashmore Lecturer in Sociology

Malcolm Ashmore studied at Trent Polytechnic and the University of York, and taught at Manchester Polytechnic before moving to Loughborough. He is interested in the sociological and epistemological issues involved in the production of scientific knowledge and other forms of expertise. He is currently researching the social practice of debunking in cases of scientific fraud and error; the recovered/false memory controversy; and knowledges of love. He is author of *The Reflexive Thesis: Wrioting Sociology of Scientific Knowledge* and an author of *Health and Efficiency: A Sociology of Health Economics*. He is a Collaborating Editor for the international journal *Social Studies of Science*.

Mike Gane Professor of Sociology

Mike Gane studied sociology at Leicester University and then went to the London School of Economics where he wrote his doctoral thesis on social change in English music in the last 500 years. In addition to his continuing interest in the sociology of culture he has a special interest in sociological theory. He is an expert on French social thought and has recently published books on the founder of French sociology, Emile Durkheim and on the leading contemporary theorist, Jean Baudrillard. He also has a strong interest in issues around gender. His latest book is *Harmless Lovers? Gender, Theory and Personal Relations*. He is a member of the editorial board of the well known journal, *Economy and Society*.

Peter Golding Professor of Sociology and Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research

Peter Golding studied at Manchester Polytechnic and Essex University and was a Senior Research Fellow at the Leicester University Centre for Mass Communication Research before moving to Loughborough. He is internationally known for his work on the organisation of journalism, the coverage of social policy issues, and the global communications system. He is the author of the text book *The Mass Media*, and of a number of other books including *Making the News* and *Images of Welfare*. He is an editor of the *European Journal of Communication* and is currently working on a book on international communications issues.

Jim McGuigan Professor of Cultural Analysis

Jim McGuigan teaches about social theory, cultural studies and television. Before entering academia, he worked for the Arts Council and BBC TV. He has been a visiting academic at various

universities around the world and is a College and Panel member of the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC). His books include *Cultural Populism* (1992), *Culture and the Public Sphere* (1996), *Cultural Methodologies* (1997), *Modernity and Postmodern Culture* (1999, 2nd edn 2006) and *Rethinking Cultural Policy* (2004); and he is currently writing a book entitled, *Cool Capitalism*. He has also published in a wide range of journals and edited books. His work has been translated into a number of languages, including Chinese. Jim's current research interests are the culture of 'cool capitalism', and satirical humour in political and social criticism.

Karen O'Reilly Reader in Sociology

Karen O'Reilly gained her PhD from the University of Essex in 1996, based on an in-depth ethnographic study of British migration to Spain. She then did quantitative research for three years at Essex, helping design the UK government's new social class scheme, before moving to the University of Aberdeen as a lecturer and finally to Loughborough in 2007. She continues to study the implications of contemporary forms of mobility, and is particularly interested in sociological themes around home, belonging, community and identity. She also teaches qualitative methods annually at two prestigious summer schools in Essex and Lugano. Her books include *The British on the Costa del Sol* (2000) and *Ethnographic Methods* (2005).

Dr Sarah Pink Reader in Social Anthropology

Sarah Pink studied Social Anthropology at the University of Kent and Visual Anthropology at the University of Manchester. She has recently taught as a visiting academic in Norway, Spain and Austria. Her books include *Women and Bullfighting* (1997), *Doing Visual Ethnography* (2nd edition 2007), *Home Truths* (2004) and *The Future of Visual Anthropology* (2006). Her research in Spain and the UK has been about gender, media, performance and the senses in public and domestic spaces. She uses photography, video and hypermedia in her research and she is committed to doing research that will be both of interest to academics and accessible to non-academics. She is currently doing research about "Slow Cities" in the UK and writing a book called *Doing Sensory Ethnography*.

Line Nyhagen Predelli Lecturer in Sociology

Line Nyhagen Predelli studied political science at the Universities of Bergen, Norway and California at Santa Barbara, and sociology at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles. She has worked as Senior Researcher at the Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research and as Research Fellow at the Centre for Research in Social Policy, Loughborough University. She currently (2007-2011) leads an international research project on gendered citizenship and the women's movement in Europe, funded by the European Commission. Her main research interests are in the sociology of gender, citizenship, migration and ethnic relations, and the sociology of religion. She has published extensively in international journals, and her PhD on issues of gender, race, and class in Norwegian missionary society in 19th century Norway and Madagascar was published by the Edwin Mellen Press in 2003.

Paula Saukko Senior Lecturer in Sociology

Paula Saukko has a first degree in Communication from the University of Tampere, Finland and a PhD in Communications Research from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, USA. Prior to starting at Loughborough in 2007 she worked as a Senior Lecturer in the Egenis research centre and Department of Sociology, University of Exeter and as a Lecturer in Communication, University of Leicester. Her research focuses on sociology of health and science and qualitative methodology. Her main two areas of research have been critical analysis of the diagnostic discourse on eating disorders and its implications for women with anorexia/bulimia and the social and personal implications of genetic testing for susceptibility to common illnesses, such as cardiovascular disease. She is the author of *Doing Research in Cultural Studies* (Sage 2003) and *The Anorexic Self: A Personal, Political Analysis of a Diagnostic Discourse* (State University of New York Press, 2008), and is planning a book with a tentative title *Domesticating Genes*.

Dennis Smith Professor of Sociology and Head of Department

Dennis Smith's main areas of research are social theory, globalisation, the sociology of intellectuals, and historical sociology. He has written several books including *Globalization: The Hidden Agenda* (Polity Press 2006), *Norbert Elias and Modern Social Theory* (Sage 2000), *Zygmunt Bauman: Prophet of Postmodernity* (Polity 1999), *Whose Europe? The Turn Towards Democracy?* (Blackwell 1999), *The Rise of Historical Sociology* (Polity 1991) and *Capitalist Democracy on Trial* (Routledge 1990).

Iris Wigger Lecturer in Sociology

Iris Wigger studied Sociology at the Universities of Hamburg and Essex after completing a vocational training as a social worker. She gained her PhD from the University of Hamburg in 2004, and worked as a lecturer and researcher at University College Dublin and Hamburg University. Iris's main research and teaching interests are in the areas of historical sociology; sociological theory, racism and gender, nationalism, and imperialism. She has published in the fields of historical sociology and racist discrimination. Her PhD dissertation was recently published as a book, *Die 'Schwarze Schmach am Rhein'. Rassistische Diskriminierung zwischen Geschlecht, Klasse, Nation und Rasse* (The 'Black Disgrace on the Rhine'. Racist Discrimination between Gender, Class, Nation, and Race).

Career Prospects

Although each year a number of our students go on to do sociological research, it will be obvious to those with knowledge of the job market for new graduates that they are rarely employed directly as sociologists. It is much more likely that a degree in sociology can be used as an appropriate first step in a range of careers, some of which demand further professional training either immediately after graduating or after experience in a trainee position.

A survey carried out among our graduates showed that two to three years after graduating virtually all were in permanent employment in a diversity of jobs. In the public sector our graduates work in professions such as teaching, social work, housing management, health service management and youth work. In the private sector they are in careers in accountancy, sales and marketing and personnel management, while some are running their own businesses. Well over half of those responding to the survey had obtained, or were currently studying for, further qualifications such as the Postgraduate Certificate in Education, the Certificate of Qualification in Social Work, or membership of professional bodies such as the Institute of Housing, the Institute of Personnel Management, the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants and the Institute of Management Services.

In accounts provided for the most recent Teaching Quality Assessment panel, many of our graduates stressed the importance of their degree in qualifying them for access to further training or accelerated career progression, and for exemptions from certain components of professional examinations. Many also made comments about the broader relevance of their sociology degree in giving them an understanding of the structures and processes they meet in their working lives. Here is what three of our graduates had to say:

'The skills and wealth of information I was able to access... have definitely helped me in my career, in terms of mental agility and also in self-confidence and expression... In my opinion, the tutorial and lecturing standard were extremely high.'

'The flexibility of the course allowed for a great deal of choice... The majority of lectures and seminars were stimulating and helpful... As a mature student and single parent I was quite nervous about going to University but found that it was easy to integrate into student activities.'

'The staff seemed to value their students and provided an excellent quality of teaching... I thoroughly enjoyed my three years at Loughborough.'

Indeed, the University as a whole has a good record for graduate employability. Within six months of graduating, the employment rate of Loughborough graduates is significantly higher than the national average.



Admission to the Degree

We welcome applications from students who are taking A levels in the new AS and A2 format. We do not recommend or favour any particular subjects over others and we accept General Studies as one of your subjects. We also welcome other qualifications such as Scottish Highers, BTEC, GNVQ, and Access.

After we have made our decisions on the basis of the UCAS forms, we offer open days for those to whom we have made offers on several dates between December and March. This enables you to visit the campus and the Department and to talk to current students.

Currently our conditional offers are:

A Level – 300 points, from two subjects at A2 level, and a third subject at A2 level or two subjects at AS level (including General Studies);

AGNVQ – 300 points, from a maximum of 18 units (either GNVQ units alone or a combination of GNVQ units and AS or A2 level units).

In the case of mature students a wider range of criteria for entry can be considered, including relevant work experience and Access course qualifications. Please write to the Programme Director if you have any queries.

Useful Information

UCAS Codes

The UCAS code for the degree is L300.

The UCAS code for the University is L79.

University Address

Loughborough University

Ashby Road

Loughborough

Leicestershire

LE11 3TU

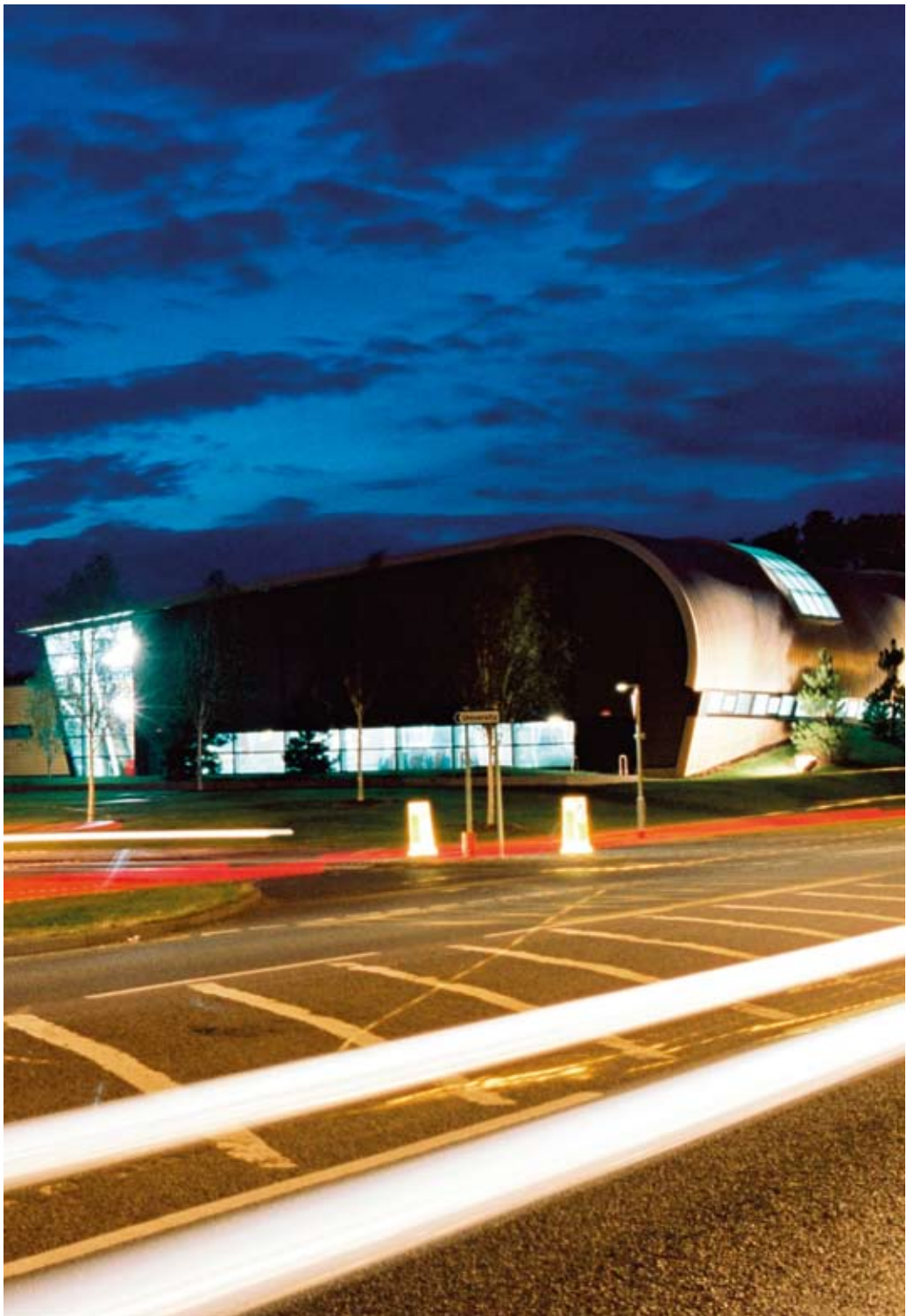
Tel: Loughborough (01509) 263171

<http://www.lboro.ac.uk/departments/ss/>

Enquiries

Details of how to apply for the course are set out in the University's Undergraduate Prospectus, available from the Admissions Office at the above address.

All other enquiries should be sent to the Programme Director for Sociology, Department of Social Sciences, at the above address. You can dial direct to the Department for telephone queries on 01509 223368, or fax on 01509 223944.



Contacting the Department

Department of Social Sciences

Loughborough University
Leicestershire LE11 3TU

T: 01509 223368

www.lboro.ac.uk

Loughborough has quick and easy access to Leicester and Nottingham, and frequent mainline trains to London and other major cities.

The town is also surrounded by lovely countryside and close by there are a number of woodland walks.

