

Programme Specification for BA (Hons) Sociology with Politics

This document applies to Academic Year 2020/21 onwards

1.	Awarding institution/body	University of Worcester
2.	Teaching institution	University of Worcester
3.	Programme accredited by	N/A
4.	Final award or awards	BA (Hons)
5.	Programme title	Sociology with Politics
6.	Pathways available	Single Honours
7.	Mode and/or site of delivery	Standard taught programme
8.	Mode of attendance and duration	Full time and part time, some modules may be delivered in the evening
9.	UCAS Code	LL22
10.	Subject Benchmark statement and/or professional body statement	Sociology (2019); Politics and International Relations (2019)
11.	Date of Programme Specification preparation/revision	May 2020. Approved ASQEC June 2020 August 2020 – AQU amendments to Section 19.

12. Educational aims of the programme

The Sociology with Politics degree offers students an opportunity to explore and understand the changing social and political world. The course aims to do this through the examination of sociological and political concepts, theories and methods and their application to social and political life. In particular, the Sociology with Politics course at Worcester seeks to engage with key issues facing contemporary societies, with a focus on matters of social division, social inequality, politics, and identity. This includes concerns around gender, sexuality, the body and emotions, the debates around 'race', ethnicity, and multiculturalism, the changing nature of work and organisations, as well as families and individuals themselves. It seeks to do this through a critical application of the 'sociological imagination'. The degree also aims to enhance students' knowledge of contemporary politics by contextualising their studies within a wider focus on Westminster, European, and global political philosophies, systems, and challenges.

There is also a strong emphasis on supporting student employability through the development of an understanding of 'work' in contemporary society at each level of study, as well as through the acquisition of academic and professional skills valued by employers. Graduates of the programme will thus be able to use their sociological and political knowledge and research skills to enhance their opportunities for employment and to contribute to the wider world.

The programme is designed to be responsive to the range of student needs in providing a learning environment that is both challenging and supportive.

The Sociology with Politics programme aims to:

- Provide students with a firm and critical grounding in sociological and political theory, method and research evidence, one that can be applied to contemporary aspects of social and political life.
- Further an awareness of social context, of social diversity and inequality, and of the nature of the social and political processes which underpin them.
- Recognise the essential characteristics of Sociology as a discipline concerned with the connections between individuals, groups, social practices and societal institutions.
- Enable students to develop a critical understanding of key concepts and theoretical approaches in relation to politics, political philosophy, and contemporary political challenges in Westminster and international contexts.

- Promote an understanding of the interrelated roles of theoretical argument and empirical evidence as they are used in sociological and political research.
- Help students develop a critical appreciation of different political systems, cultures, and perspectives and their impact on everyday lives;
- Develop an awareness of the diversity of sociological and political approaches and thus of the essentially contested nature of sociological and political knowledge.
- Equip students with the capacity to formulate sociological and political questions, gather and analyse evidence within a theoretical framework, and thence to conduct their own sociological and political enquiries.
- Provide students with opportunities to develop personal and transferable skills that can be applied in an organisational, political, and/or community context during the course and in future educational and employment opportunities after graduation. These more general skills include written and oral communication, digital technology, time planning and management, and team working as well as personal initiative.
- Promote independence and reflexivity in student learning through a curriculum which over the three levels moves from an emphasis on direction to one based on more autonomous learning.

13. Intended learning outcomes and learning, teaching and assessment methods

Knowledge and Understanding

LO no.	On successful completion of the named award, students will be able to:	Module Code/s
1.	Appreciate the relationship between theory, method and research evidence in selected substantive contexts.	SOCG2101, SOCG3002, POLP3107
2.	Understand the social and political processes underpinning societal change	All Level 6 SOCG and POLP modules
3.	Demonstrate an awareness of social and political contexts, social diversity and inequality, and of the nature of the social and political processes that underpin them	All Level 6 SOCG and POLP modules
4.	Appreciate the nature and use of research methods and methodologies in sociological and political knowledge and evidence gathering	SOCG2101, SOCG3002, POLP3107
5.	Demonstrate an understanding of the interrelated roles of theoretical argument and empirical evidence as they are used in sociological and political work	SOCG2101, SOCG3002, POLP3107
6.	Develop a substantial independent research project of academic weight and validity	SOCG3002
7.	Recognise and communicate the transferrable skills gained from their study within contexts applicable to progression and employability	SOCG3002, POLP3107

Cognitive and Intellectual skills

LO no.	On successful completion of the named award, students will be able to:	Module Code/s
1.	Formulate sociologically and politically informed questions and to demonstrate the ability to investigate and present findings in appropriate formats	SOCG2101, SOCG3002, POLP3107

2.	Critically review, evaluate and analyse a range of evidence, competing theoretical perspectives and interpretations	All Level 6 SOCG and POLP modules
3.	Develop reasoned argument in the evaluation of evidence	All Level 6 SOCG and POLP modules
4.	Conduct sociological and political research in a preliminary way	SOCG2101, POLP2107
5.	Recognise, understand and account for diverse political systems, philosophies, and contemporary political challenges	POLP2107, POLP3107
6.	Identify ethical issues in sociological and political research	SOCG2101, POLP2107, SOCG3002
7.	Gather, retrieve and synthesise information	All Level 6 SOCG and POLP modules
8.	Develop self-reflexive and analytical approaches to new materials	All Level 6 SOCG and POLP modules

Skills and capabilities related to employability

LO no.	On successful completion of the named award, students will be able to:	Module Code/s
1.	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the applicability of subject skills	All Level 6 SOCG and POLP modules
2.	Deploy their study skills in other contexts	SOCG3002, POLP3107
3.	Utilise new technologies in researching, retrieving, processing and the presentation of information	SOCG3002, POLP2107, POLP3107
4.	Use organisation and research skills	SOCG2101, POLP2107, and all Level 6 SOCG and POLP modules
5.	Begin to develop career plans	SOCG2100, SOCG2101, POLP3107

Transferable/key skills

LO no.	On successful completion of the named award, students will be able to:	Module Code/s
1.	Demonstrate effective oral and written communication in a variety of contexts	All Level 6 SOCG and

		POLP modules
2.	Deploy communication and information technology skills	SOCG3002, POLP3107
3.	Self-manage including time management, planning, motivation and initiative.	All Level 6 SOCG and POLP modules
4.	Demonstrate interpersonal and group work skills, including understanding and developing roles in teams via group-work	All Levels 5 and 6 SOCG and POLP modules
5.	Respond in a considered way to different opinions and arguments	All Levels 5 and 6 SOCG and POLP modules
6.	Exhibit personal development planning and responsibility	SOCG3002, POLP3107

Learning, teaching and assessment

Learning and teaching in Sociology with Politics includes structured lectures, interactive seminars, group work sessions, individual tutorials and online support which will enable students to engage in discussions of key issues and application of key concepts. This is supported by in-depth, self-directed reading, and research and tutorial guidance and discussion. This will help students prepare for a variety of assessment types, including essays, oral presentations, portfolios, briefing papers, reports, group work and research tasks, as well as the final year dissertation. In the process, learning, teaching and assessment in Sociology with Politics encourages students to adopt a critical, self-reflexive and analytical approach to new materials through tutor support, as well as to reflect upon the informal and formal feedback from staff on assessed work.

Teaching

Students are taught through a combination of mandatory and optional modules, which enable research into specified topic areas, the acquisition of subject specific skills related to research methods, understanding of ethical issues in the study of Sociology with Politics, and the opportunity to undertake formative assessments. This can include practice assessments accompanied by tutor feedback, seminars, workshops, and directed and independent learning that supports students' growing awareness of their skills base, as well as reflective learning. Students will also learn self-management skills by meeting assignment submission deadlines, working with others, through the dissertation and personalised assessment opportunities, and where appropriate by choosing topics to research applicable to Sociology with Politics assessments.

Lectures give an introduction and overview of topics studied as part of the content of each module; alternatively, seminars feature small group work and discussions that help to build on lecture content. Similarly, workshops focus on preparation for a range of different types of assignment. These develop students' understanding and competence for summative (formal) assessments. Moreover, in some modules, such as the work placement module, students learn how to produce CVs, obtain knowledge of the graduate market in the subject area, and how to access support offered by the Careers and Employability Service. When it comes to seminars, students will learn and practice interpersonal and group skills, as well as how to develop an argument, supported by evidence, and convey it in a clear, coherent fashion.

Tutorials are one-to-one work with module tutors, usually focusing on assignment preparation or assignment feedback.

In addition, meetings with personal academic tutors are scheduled on at least 4 occasions in the first year and 3 occasions in each of the other years of the course.

Moreover, the University places emphasis on encouraging students to develop independent learning capabilities that will ensure lifelong learning and future employment prospects, as well as academic achievement. Students have an opportunity to gain and reflect upon a work-placement in the second and third year as part of a work project module, supervised by the module tutor. Likewise, a mixture of independent study, teaching and academic support from Student Services and Library Services, as well as the personal academic tutoring system, enables students to reflect on progress and build up a profile of skills, achievements and experiences.

Contact time

In a typical week, students will have around 12 contact hours of teaching. The precise contact hours will depend on the optional modules selected and in the final year there is normally slightly less contact time in order to do more independent study.

Typically, class contact time will be structured around class contact time will be structured around lectures (1 hour) and seminars/group work (2 hours).

Independent self-study

In addition to the contact time, students are expected to undertake around 25 hours of personal self-study per week. Typically, this will involve directed reading in preparation for the following week's seminars and independent researching and writing upcoming assessments.

Independent learning is supported by a range of excellent learning facilities, including the Hive and library resources, the virtual learning environment, and extensive electronic learning resources.

Teaching staff

Students will be taught by a highly qualified and experienced teaching team whose expertise and knowledge are closely matched to the content of the modules on the course. All Sociology with Politics staff have a teaching qualification or are Fellows of the Higher Education Academy.

Assessment

The course provides opportunities to test understanding and learning informally through the completion of practice or 'formative' assignments.

Each module has one or more formal or 'summative' assessments which are graded and count towards the overall module grade. Assessment methods include essays, reports, discussion papers, discourse analyses, portfolios, presentations, and a final year dissertation.

The precise assessment requirements for an individual student in an academic year will vary according to the mandatory and optional modules taken, but a typical formal summative assessment pattern for each year of the course is:

Year 1

1 book review

2 essays

1 reflective autobiography

2 reports

1 group presentation

1 portfolio

1 discussion paper

Year 2
1 book review
2 essays
1 research proposal
2 reports
1 synopsis
1 portfolio
1 political discourse analysis
1 presentation

Year 3
1 dissertation
4 essays
1 literature review
1 interview
1 political discourse analysis
2 presentations

Students will receive feedback on practice assessments and on formal assessments undertaken by coursework. Feedback on examination performance is available upon request from the module leader. Feedback is intended to support learning and students are encouraged to discuss it with personal academic tutors and module tutors as appropriate.

We aim to provide students with feedback on formal course work assessments within 20 working days of hand-in.

14. Assessment strategy

The forms of assessment in Sociology with Politics are structured over the three years of the degree to allow students to develop certain transferable skills, such as those of presentation (oral and written), communication, group-work/collaboration and self-reflection. They also enable students to develop the ability to think independently, to formulate and research their own topics and to build on their knowledge and interests. There are formative and summative assignments for each module, with the former focusing on skill acquisition, the learning process and scaffolding the graded work. Summative work is typically assessed at two points in the optional modules and two/three in the mandatory modules, with the shorter assignment of minimum 25% weighting. Advice about assignments is presented in the module outline at the commencement of each module and full direction is given within the context of teaching sessions where teaching and group tasks are specifically designed to provide formative opportunities to practise the skills, competencies, and understanding that will be demonstrated in the summative assessment tasks.

More specifically, at Level 4 students are offered opportunities to explore new and old ideas through assessments that aim to make both the entry into undergraduate level study and the expectations of base level skills of enquiry and analysis in Sociology and Politics at this level less daunting and achievable. For example, SOCG1101 provides students with the opportunity to apply ideas in order to explore the contemporary world and, in particular, two themes, such as identity and employment. Furthermore, in this module the assessment has been created so that it builds confidence in working with ideas and evidence, and in planning and carrying out research. The first assessment, a reflective autobiography, allows students to think not only about themselves as individuals but also about their journey into higher education and links between identity and work. Similarly, POLP1107 provides students with the chance to explore contemporary Westminster politics, drawing on sociological insights as well as introducing research in Politics and political-sociology. The first assessment is a report on an area of Westminster politics chosen by the student. The report helps students to understand and explore personal areas of interest in relation to UK politics. Other Level 4 modules will provide further

opportunities to try different types of assessments including group presentations, bibliographic exercise, drafting and re-drafting work, writing a literature review of a classic sociological or political text, and an essay.

Level 5 students will be expected to take the insights and skills from Level 4 across the range of modules. SOCG 2100 will take students on a theoretical 'journey' whereby they will be able to debate, contrast and compare classical sociological thought with contemporary insights. Formative seminar exercises will enable students to decipher key texts and then apply them in their own summative writing. SOCG 2101, SOCG2102, and POLP2107 encourage students to investigate theoretical ideas and to practice research and assignment writing skills learnt at Level 4 in a practical way in order to prepare them for the Dissertation at Level 6. For example, students will be required to draft a proposal which outlines a rationale for the focus and gives students the chance to 'test' out their idea via a pilot study. Indeed, modules at Level 5 allow students to develop some of the assessment skills introduced at Level 4, including essays relating to theoretical content and reports which evaluate a range of topics. This can include topics relating to consumption, environmentalism, media, contemporary European politics, "race" and ethnicity, gender, etc. in the twenty first century, not to mention opportunities for work placements and the development of employability skills and graduate attributes.

The assessment methods at Level 6 are designed to offer students greater opportunities for reflective and critical thinking. Level 6 will allow students to consolidate their experiences across the range of assessments to-date including writing longer worded essays, interview someone who is employed within the work known commonly as 'body work', create manifestos and evaluate policies. Drafting opportunities will be provided within some modules allowing students to have both formal and informal feedback. Unlike Levels 4 and 5, where assessments are often clearly defined for students, at Level 6, they are encouraged to work with their peers and the staff to negotiate topics or foci.

As well as completing summative assessments for each module, all Sociology with Politics modules provide students with opportunities to try out their ideas informally at an earlier stage and to get formative feedback on them. For example, for many modules, students are recommended to do a draft or an outline plan first and to obtain formative feedback. In some modules it is part of the assessment process that a draft must be submitted for comment by the tutor.

Students will be made aware at the start of any module what assignments will be required, their nature, their submission dates and the dates by which they will receive formal and/or informal feedback.

In summary, intellectual skills are promoted through lectures and applied by students in seminars, group work, tutorials, online study, independent study and the production of assessments. Additionally, assessment requires students to synthesise information, and understand conceptual ideas, as well as appreciate critical perspectives and contextual insights in order to comprehend the relationship between theory and evidence. Students are encouraged to consider and evaluate their own work in a self-reflexive and evaluative manner, whilst considering the sociological and political debates which underpin their assessment work.

15. Programme structures and requirements

Course Title: Sociology with Politics	
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Level 4

Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status (Mandatory (M) or Optional (O))	Pre-requisites	Co-requisites/ exclusions and other notes
SOCG1100	Approaching the Crisis: 21st Century Sociology	30	M	None	None
SOCG1101	Applying Sociology	30	M	None	None
SOCG1103	Family Lives	15	M	None	None
SOCG1108	Visual Sociology: Ideas Through Images	15	M	None	None
POLP1107	Westminster Politics	30	M	None	None

Single Honours Requirements at Level 4

Single Honours students must take 120 credits in total drawn from the table above to include all mandatory modules.

Level 5					
Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status (Mandatory (M) or Optional (O))	Pre-requisites	Co-requisites/ exclusions and other notes
SOCG2100	Pathways in Sociology	30	M	None	None
SOCG2101	Sociology Research Design & Methods	30	M	None	Excluded combination SOCG2102
SOCG2106	Work Project Module	15	O	None	Excluded combination SOCG3103
SOCG2107	Housing and Homelessness in the Country and City	15	O	None	None
SOCG2109	'Race' and Ethnicity in Contemporary Britain	15	O	None	None
SOCG2112	Digital Society	15	O	None	None
SOCG2113	People, Environment, and Social Change	15	O	None	None
POLP2107	European Politics	30	M	None	None
LANG xxxx	Optional modules	15/30	O	N/A	N/A

	offered by the Language Centre				
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Single Honours Requirements at Level 5

Single Honours students must take 120 credits in total drawn from the table above to include the mandatory modules SOCG2100, SOCG2101, and POLP3107, and optional modules - which can include up to 15/30 credits drawn from a range of Language Centre modules in: Academic English for native and non-native speakers of English; Modern Foreign Languages; and Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL). Details of the available Language Centre modules can be found on the Language Centre website: <http://www.worcester.ac.uk/your-home/language-centre-module-options.html>.

Level 6					
Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status (Mandatory (M) or Optional (O))	Pre-requisites	Co-requisites/ exclusions and other notes
SOCG3002	Dissertation	30	M	SOCG2101	None
SOCG3105	Pornography and Modern Culture	15	O	None	None
SOCG3106	History of Sexuality	15	O	None	None
SOCG3107	Body & Society	15	O	None	None
SOCG3110	'Race', Ethnicity and Education	15	O	None	None
SOCG3111	Education and The Sociological Imagination	15	O	None	None
SOCG3113	Constructing Emotions: social/political perspectives	15	O	None	None
SOCG3114	Capitalism and Globalisation	15	O	None	None
POLP3107	Global Politics	30	M	None	None

Single Honours Requirements at Level 6

Single Honours students must take 120 credits from the table above to include the mandatory modules SOCG3002 and POLP3107.

16. QAA and professional academic standards and quality

This award is located at Level 6 of the FHEQ. The course reflects the Subject Benchmark statements for Sociology (2019) and Politics (2019). These articulate the defining principles, nature and scope of the subject as well as the knowledge, understanding and subject skills expected of successful honours graduates in these areas. These have been used to craft module learning outcomes and their content, and the learning, teaching and assessment strategies of modules.

17. Support for students

Students are encouraged to identify and, with guidance, to reflect on their own learning needs and are offered support as appropriate to those needs at both University and subject level.

The Sociology with Politics course team is committed to ensuring that all students are given consideration and support throughout their time at the University of Worcester. Student's transition into University life is assisted by an initial one week's induction programme which through a range of activities introduces students to their course, the staff who will be teaching them and the Institute. Students are for example invited to attend the School of Humanities Freshers' Party in induction week.

During this initial induction week and in the first Progress Week students are involved in a range of activities which support them in developing an understanding of the expectations of their course, undergraduate study and the University's systems and services. They have talks or tours, for example, which introduce them to the Library and IT facilities, Media Services, the Careers and the Counselling Service. Students are also provided with a brief induction into their second and third years of study.

In addition, the School of Humanities monitors attendance closely in first year and provides support for first year students through the Personal Academic Tutor (PAT) system. All students are allocated an academic tutor who will advise them on issues related to their course throughout their study at the University and who monitors their progress. Academic tutor sessions usually take one of two forms: either one-to-one sessions where notes are taken and stored on SOLE, or group-based sessions where general points and issues relating to the course are dealt with. Students are invited to meet their academic tutor twice a semester. Tutorials are held on a one-to-one basis during all years of study, but also within the mandatory modules at Levels 4, 5, and 6.

Module tutors support students through one-to-one and small group tutorials and provide students with clear indications of when they will be available to see students either on their office door, via email or in module outlines.

Students are further supported through a range of online – support, for example via email or skype tutorials. All modules are supported through the virtual learning environment accessed through Blackboard. The Course Handbook is also available online.

Furthermore, the Sociology with Politics course team liaises with a range of centrally provided support services to ensure that students access all appropriate channels of support, these include for example:

- The [Disability and Dyslexia Service](#) within [Student Services](#) specialist support on a one to one basis.
- Writing support from the Royal Literary Fund Writers in Residence.
- Writing support for international and EU students from the Language Centre.
- The Students' Union which as an independent charity, devoted to the educational interests and welfare of all students studying at the University, represents student views within the University.

18. Admissions

Admissions policy

The admissions policy for Sociology with Politics seeks to be inclusive, and the course is committed to widening participation to include all groups in society.

Entry requirements

The normal minimum entry requirement for undergraduate degree courses is the possession of 4 GCSEs (Grade C/4 or above) and a minimum of 2 A Levels (or equivalent Level 3 qualifications).

The current UCAS Tariff requirements for entry to this course are published in the prospectus and on the UW website <https://www.worc.ac.uk/journey/a-z-of-courses.html>.

See [Admissions Policy](#) for other acceptable qualifications.

International students may apply for this course through the University of Worcester International College (UWIC) programme. Students who successfully complete UWIC Stage 1 will progress to UWIC Stage 2 Integrated Level 4 Programme which involves completing 120 credits of University of Worcester modules as set out in the award map in section 15, plus a year-long study skills programme with UWIC. Students will be required to successfully complete the UWIC study skills programme in addition to meeting the University requirements for progression to Level 5.

Recognition of Prior Learning

Details of acceptable level 3 qualifications, policy in relation to mature students or applicants with few or no formal qualifications can be found in the prospectus or on the University webpages. Information on eligibility for recognition of prior learning for the purposes of entry or advanced standing is also available from the [University webpages](#) or from the Registry Admissions Office (01905 855111).

Admissions procedures

Full-time applicants apply through UCAS LL22

Part-time applicants apply directly to University of Worcester (UW)

Admissions/selection criteria

The UCAS application form is used to ensure that the applicant has sufficient academic qualifications and experience to be able to engage with the course. Applicants may be invited to interview to explore any aspect of their application that may require further clarification.

International students may apply for this course through the University of Worcester International College (UWIC) programme. Students who successfully complete UWIC Stage 1 will progress to UWIC Stage 2 Integrated Level 4 Programme which involves completing 120 credits of University of Worcester modules as set out in the award map in section 15, plus a year-long study skills programme with UWIC. Students will be required to successfully complete the UWIC study skills programme in addition to meeting the University requirements for progression to Level 5.

19. Regulation of assessment

The course operates under the University's [Taught Courses Regulatory Framework](#).

Requirements to pass modules

- Modules are assessed using a variety of assessment activities which are detailed in the module specifications.
- The minimum pass mark is D- for each module.
- Students are required to submit all items of assessment in order to pass a module, and in some modules, a pass mark in each item of assessment may be required.
- Full details of the assessment requirements for a module, including the assessment criteria, are published in the module outline.

Submission of assessment items

- Students who submit course work late but within 7 days (one week) of the due date will have work marked, but the grade will be capped at D- unless an application for mitigating circumstances is accepted.

- Students who submit work later than 7 days (one week) of the due date will not have work marked unless they have submitted a valid claim of mitigating circumstances.
- For full details of submission regulations see [Taught Courses Regulatory Framework](#).

Retrieval of failure

- Students are entitled to resit failed assessment items for any module that is awarded a fail grade.
- Reassessment items that are passed are capped at D-.
- If a student is unsuccessful in the reassessment, they have the right to retake the module (or, in some circumstances, take an alternative module); the module grade for a re-taken module is capped at D-.
- A student will be notified of the reassessment opportunities in the results notification issued via the secure student portal (SOLE). It is the student's responsibility to be aware of and comply with any reassessments.

Requirements for Progression

- A student will be permitted to progress from Level 4 to Level 5 if, by the time of the reassessment Board of Examiners, they have passed at least 90 credits at Level 4. Outstanding Level 4 credits must normally be studied in the following academic year.
- A student will be permitted to progress from Level 5 to Level 6 if, by the time of the reassessment Board of Examiners, they have passed at least 210 credits, including 90 credits at Level 5. Outstanding Level 5 credits must normally be studied in the following academic year.
- A student who, by the time of the reassessment Board of Examiners, has failed 90 credits or more (after exhausting all reassessment opportunities) during the academic year, will have their registration with the University terminated
- If a student has not passed at least 90 credits by the reassessment Board of Examiners, the student is not permitted to progress to the next level and will be required to either complete outstanding reassessment or retake the failed modules the following academic year. Students will be able to carry forward any passed modules.
- For students following the UWIC pathway see section 18 above.

Requirements for Awards

Award	Requirement
CertHE	Passed 120 credits at Level 4 or higher.
DipHE	Passed a minimum of 240 credits with at least 90 credits at Level 5 or higher.
Degree (non-honours)	Passed a minimum of 300 credits with at least 90 credits at Level 5 or higher and a minimum of 60 credits at Level 6, including the mandatory modules for Level 5 and Level 6 of the award (not the Dissertation module) as specified on the award map.
Degree with honours	Passed a minimum of 360 credits with at least 90 credits at Level 5 or higher and a minimum of 120 credits at Level 6.

Classification

The honours classification will be determined by whichever of the following two methods results in the higher classification:

Classification determined on the profile of the best grades from 60 credits attained at Level 5 and the best grades from 120 credits at Level 6. Level 5 and Level 6 grades count equally in the profile.

Classification determined on the profile of the best grades from 120 credits attained at Level 6 only.

For further information on honours degree classification, see the [Taught Courses Regulatory Framework](#).

20. Graduate destinations, employability and links with employers

Graduate destinations

Many Sociology graduates often wish to work with people, although the range of jobs available to sociologists is now extensive. Graduates enter a wide variety of occupations such as social and other forms of welfare work; probation; housing; civil service; police; mass media; accountancy; personnel work; management; teaching and the voluntary sector. Graduates can also choose to pursue further academic study.

Graduates also have a range of opportunities available to them that are associated with studies in Politics. The majority of graduates in this field go to work in public services, management, pressure groups, voluntary organisations, charities, community work and consultancy, media, journalism, publishing, librarianship, advice work, research, and business (e.g. self-employment, management, administration, and marketing/public relations).

Student employability

Sociology with Politics at the University of Worcester is a non-vocational course. However, the skills developed are of general applicability to all graduate careers such as awareness of social contexts, critical and reflective thinking, problem solving, time management, independent research skills and oral and written communication skills. Employability is embedded within the Sociology with Politics programme, particularly within the mandatory modules at both Levels 4 and 5, where it is addressed directly as a topic of study, but also raises awareness of the range and type of work available to Sociology with Politics graduates. Additionally, there are a number of modules which address employability such as SOCG2104 module '*People at Work: Sociological Perspectives*' which explores a range of different workplaces as case studies, both small and large, across the public, private and third sectors, and SOCG3107 '*Body & Society*' where the summative assessment requires students to interview someone who is employed in an area that involves 'work on the body'. Furthermore, students can take work project modules at either Level 5 or Level 6. The careers service is invited into mandatory modules at Levels 4, 5, and 6 to highlight their support for students in preparing their CVs, interview skills, as are guest speakers from a variety of professions. Lastly, students are encouraged to get involved in the Politics masterclass series to develop employability, digital literacy, and oral presentation skills; the masterclass series includes introductory and research-specific lectures, as well as opportunities for students to present on their own research-interests. The masterclasses are held at the Hive Studio, the St. John's Campus, and online, and offer students the chance to publicly present on key political issues to fellow students, staff, and members of the public.

Links with employers

Students are encouraged to take up volunteering opportunities, and internships, offered through the Students Union and with local employers. The students that have undertaken work project modules have participated in a wide range of areas which include the private and public sectors as well as the third (voluntary) sector. Moreover, the Politics team enjoys links with local councillors, MPs, and parties; in the past, students have gained valuable work experience across a range of political parties and campaigns, as well as working in local constituencies and Parliament.

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in associated course documentation e.g. course handbooks, module outlines and module specifications.