

Childhood & Youth

UCAS Code: Combined Honours only (please see website for details)

Duration: 3 years | Full-time | Hope Park | 2018/19

International students can apply



Course Overview

Childhood and Youth is an exciting, multidisciplinary subject in which you will explore a range of issues and challenges faced by children and young people in contemporary society, both here in the UK and on a global level. Drawing on key ideas from sociology, psychology, politics, history and geography, the degree examines important questions about children and young people's development, their life chances and their opportunities for participation in wider society.

Topics studied include how social class, poverty, gender and ethnicity impact upon young people's lives; how the media influence how children and young people are perceived by adults, and how they view themselves; and why young people take part in risky activities. In examining such questions, you will also explore various political debates and policy initiatives, as well as learning about various ways of researching with children and young people that aim to help them overcome the many challenges that they face.

With its strong emphasis on social justice and welfare, the degree will enable you to develop as critical social scientists who value their role within the academic community at Hope and who, as graduates, will be able to use their skills and knowledge to the benefit of their local community and society more broadly.

Entry Requirements

The standard offer level is between BBB-BBC from A levels or DDM-DMM from BTEC, or 120-112 UCAS tariff points.

Fees and Additional Costs

The tuition fees for 2018/19 are £9,250 for full-time undergraduate courses.

Along with your tuition fees, you also need to consider the cost of any core textbooks that you need. This will be approximately £200. The Department currently pays for any fieldtrips, but you may be required to pay a small, refunded deposit of £5 to secure your place on a trip. If there are any fieldtrips which would require you to pay, you would be notified of this well in advance.

You will also need to consider the cost of your accommodation whilst you study at university. Visit our accommodation webpages for further details about our Halls of Residence: www.hope.ac.uk/halls



**LIVERPOOL
HOPE
UNIVERSITY**

1844



CONTACT

T: +44 (0)151 291 3000

E: enquiry@hope.ac.uk

www.hope.ac.uk

Childhood & Youth Curriculum

Year One

Introduction to Childhood and Youth

Your first year will be spent examining the concept of childhood and how this varies across different historical periods and cultures. This is followed by looking at different approaches to child development, focusing on the question of whether this is down to biology or social influences. Attention then shifts to childhood and youth today where you will examine a wide range of issues such as cyber-bullying, exam pressures, drinking, drug-use and gang-related crime. Such topics will be explored in light of the question: 'Is childhood and youth in crisis?'

Key Topics:

- Historical and Cultural Approaches to Childhood
- Child Development: Nature or Nurture?
- Contemporary Issues: Is Childhood and Youth in Crisis?

Year Two

Explorations in Childhood and Youth

In your second year, you will examine social theory and research methods as they apply to childhood and youth. You will develop a range of research skills including research design, research methods and ethical issues. Theoretical approaches that shed light on different aspects of young people's everyday lives, including youth cultures and subcultures and the process of becoming an adult, will also be examined. You will also examine children's rights and safe-guarding, exploring what these mean for children and practitioners.

Key Topics:

- Research methods
- Understanding youth cultures, subcultures and transitions to adulthood
- Children's Rights: Policy and Practice

Year Three

Advanced Studies in Childhood and Youth

The final year of your degree invites you to think critically about key contemporary issues facing children and young people. The topics covered include gender and sexuality issues, child poverty, racism, trauma and mental health, domestic violence, the care system, mentoring, and youth work. Throughout the year, we consider children's and young people's lived experiences in relation to these topics and question to what extent the responses of society are helpful or harmful. You will also have the opportunity to do an independent research project on a topic of your choosing.

Key topics:

- Contemporary inequalities in childhood and youth;
- Promoting well-being in children and young people;
- Independent research project in a topic of your choice.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Teaching on this degree is structured into lectures, where all students are taught together, seminars of smaller groups of around 15-20 students, and tutorials which typically have no more than 10 students. You also have the opportunity to have a one-to-one weekly meeting with your tutor.

For the Childhood & Youth part of your Combined Honours degree, in the first year of study there are approximately 6 teaching hours each week, which reduces to approximately 5 teaching hours in your second and third years.

On top of teaching hours, you are also expected to spend a number of hours studying independently each week, as well as studying in groups to prepare for any group assessments that you may have.

ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK

In each year of study, you will have a number of essays and end of year exams. You may also be asked to give a presentation, present an academic poster and produce a portfolio. In your second year, you will be required to submit a research proposal in preparation for a research project or dissertation in your final year.

You will be given written feedback on your assessments, and you will have the opportunity to discuss this with your tutor in more detail.



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