

Applied Social Sciences BA (Hons)

UCAS Code: L540 | Duration: 3 years | Full-time | Hope Park | 2021/2022

Placement year opportunities available



Course Overview

The Applied Social Science degree programme offers students the chance to engage in the core aspects of the social sciences, building on key themes from politics, economics and sociology to provide a degree attuned to understanding our complex world and researching social problems to offer practical solutions to real world issues.

In the modern world, businesses, welfare organisations, local government networks and voluntary sector organisations all need graduates with a combined understanding of social science knowledge and good quality applied research skills.

The programme has opportunities for work-based placements in research-based settings.

Entry Requirements

The standard offer level is 112 UCAS tariff points.

Fees and Additional Costs

The tuition fees for 2021/2022 are £9,250 for full-time undergraduate courses.

If you are a student from the Isle of Man or the Channel Islands, your tuition fees will also be £9,250. The University reserves the right to increase Home and EU Undergraduate and PGCE tuition fees in line with any inflationary or other increase authorised by the Secretary of State for future years of study.

We advise you to consider the cost of the books that will be suggested as key reading/reference books. All books will be available in the library, but in limited numbers. We suggest setting aside around £200 for purchases.

You will also need to consider the cost of your accommodation each year whilst you study at university.

Visit our accommodation webpages for further details about our Halls of Residence: www.hope.ac.uk/halls



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Applied Social Sciences BA (Hons) Curriculum

Year One

Understanding Society

This element of the course introduces students to the main social science disciplines, ensuring all students have a basic working knowledge of economics, politics, sociology and disability studies.

It takes the particular case of Liverpool as a starting point to explore a range of social issues, examining these from an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary perspective.

Interpreting society

This element looks at the variety of ways that evidence is gathered and presented to inform our understanding of the social and political world.

Ways of Seeing

Looks at how various media – like theatre, music, film, fine art – can shine a light on a range of social problems and issues.

History of Social welfare

We trace the response of the state to problems of ill health and poverty from the 'New' Poor Law of 1834 up to contemporary legislation covering modern social welfare.

Contemporary social problems

This looks at competing debates over the causes (and consequences) of a range of contemporary social problems (such as poverty, homelessness, obesity, climate change, alcohol and drug misuse etc).

Year Two

Theories of social policy

This element looks at the contributions of various theorists (from the political right and left) to our understanding of contemporary social welfare. Theorists considered include Hayek, Mark, Marshall, Tawney, Titmuss, Sen.

Social divisions

Looks at a range of social divisions (racism, sexism, homophobia, aging, disability) and the impact these divisions have on communities.

Researching the Social

Looks at a range of methods of undertaking real world research and has a built in, 'hands on' approach to undertaking research for a range of organisations.

Year Three

Comparative social policy

This element looks at the development of welfare institutions in a range of countries, to ascertain what we can learn from their approach to dealing with common social problems.

Global social issues

Looks at a range of international social problems and the solutions offered by individuals, a range of networks and organisations, states, and supra-state organisations. Issues include: climate change, child labour, global poverty, migration, food policy etc.

Advanced project

All students will undertake a research based dissertation, enabling you to design and conduct an in-depth study of your special area of interest.

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 that typically have no more than 10 students. Our emphasis on individual student attention means that class sizes are small, allowing the tutor to personally support you whenever you need. You will also have a one-to-one meeting with your tutor each week.

In your first year of study, there are 12 teaching hours per week, which decreases to 10 teaching hours in your second year and 8 teaching hours in your third year.

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

ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK

There are a number of written assessments to complete throughout the year. These may include individual reports/analyses, group presentations supported by a report, in-class tests, and essays. There will also be two final exams at the end of each year.



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