Studying in the Sociology Department: Degrees and Future Directions in Sociology
Department of Sociology
University of Essex

CPD Week
14 June 2021

Dr Carlos Gigoux
Department of Sociology
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My Sociology Life… Human Rights

Research and Activism:
- Indigenous peoples in Japan, Taiwan and South Pacific
- Asylum Seekers and Refugees in the East of England

Education
- Director 1st Years UG Students
- Lecturer core 1st year Module, *The Sociological Imagination* (SC111)
Department of Sociology

• 1964 Foundation of the Department Sociology at the University of Essex
  • One of the first departments of sociology in the UK
• Pioneer Sociology Studies
  • Poverty
  • Social Policy
  • Sexualities
  • Social History
• Criminology

50th Anniversary
Department of Sociology (1964-2014)
Ken Plummer Ed, (2014)
Seminal Publications

- The Last Refuge: a survey of residential institutions and Homes for the aged in England and Wales (1964)
- Mothers Alone: Poverty and the Fatherless Family (1969)
- Organization of Crime (Studies in sociology) (1975)
- The Voice of the Past: Oral History (1978)
- The Making of the Modern Homosexual (1981)
Research Centres

- Centre for Migration Studies
- Centre for Criminology
- Centre for Intimate and Sexual Citizenship
- Centre for Research and Social and Economic Innovation
- Essex South Asia Network
Check who we are and what we do: [https://www.essex.ac.uk/departments/sociology/people/academic](https://www.essex.ac.uk/departments/sociology/people/academic)
Thinking Sociologically

C. Wright Mills (1959) *The Sociological Imagination*

- Linking:
  - Private Troubles
  - And Public issues

- ‘The sociological imagination enables us to grasp *history* and *biography* and the *relations* between the two in society’ (Mills 1959: 3)
Researching social life

Source: https://www.mymarketresearchmethods.com/quantitative-vs-qualitative-research-whats-the-difference/
Q-Step: The applied Quantitative Methods Pathway

• Upon successfully completing the pathway the student will receive the qualifier ‘(Applied Quantitative Methods)’, for example BA Sociology (Applied Quantitative Methods).

• You enrol in the pathway in your second year.

• As part of your degree, we offer you the opportunity to take up a summer paid work placement for up to 10 weeks in an external organisation.

Professor Nick Allum
Q-Step Director
Thinking Sociologically Today: New/Old Trends

- Racism
- Migration
- Climate Change
- Covid-19
- Policing and Data
• BA SOCIOLOGY
  • BSC SOCIOLOGY WITH APPLIED QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS
  • BA SOCIOLOGY AND POLITICS
  • BA SOCIOLOGY WITH PSYCHOSOCIAL STUDIES
  • BA SOCIOLOGY WITH COUNSELLING SKILLS
  • BA SOCIOLOGY WITH SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY
  • BA COMMUNICATIONS AND DIGITAL CULTURES
  • BSC SOCIOLOGY WITH DATA SCIENCE
  • BA SOCIAL SCIENCES

• BA CRIMINOLOGY
  • BA CRIMINOLOGY WITH COUNSELLING SKILLS
  • BA SOCIOLOGY WITH CRIMINOLOGY
  • BA CRIMINOLOGY WITH SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY
  • BA CRIMINOLOGY WITH CRIMINAL LAW
  • BA SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY
  • BA SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY WITH HUMAN RIGHTS
  • BA SOCIOLOGY WITH HUMAN RIGHTS
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR 1</th>
<th>MODULE 1</th>
<th>MODULE 2</th>
<th>MODULE 3</th>
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<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td>RESEARCHING SOCIAL LIFE (1)</td>
<td>SOCIOLOGICAL IMAGINATION</td>
<td>OPTION e.g. INTRO TO CRIME AND SOCIETY</td>
<td>OPTION e.g. MEDIA, CULTURE AND SOCIETY</td>
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<td>YEAR 2</td>
<td>RESEARCHING SOCIAL LIFE (2)</td>
<td>CONTINUITY AND CONTROVERSY IN SOCIOLOGY</td>
<td>OPTION e.g. SOCIOLOGY OF SEXUALITIES</td>
<td>OPTION e.g. DIGITAL SOCIETY</td>
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<td>YEAR 3</td>
<td>DISSERTATION</td>
<td>CURRENT DISPUTES IN SOCIOLOGY</td>
<td>OPTION e.g. PSYCHIATRY AND MENTAL ILLNESS</td>
<td>OPTION e.g. VISUAL CULTURES: THE SOCIAL MEANINGS OF PHOTOGRAPHY AND ART</td>
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<td>RESEARCHING SOCIAL LIFE (1)</td>
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<td>INTRO TO CRIME AND SOCIETY</td>
<td>OPTION E.G. INTRO TO LAW</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>RESEARCHING SOCIAL LIFE (2)</td>
<td>SOCIOLOGY OF CRIME AND CONTROL</td>
<td>POLICING, PUNISHMENT AND SOCIETY</td>
<td>OPTION E.G. SOCIOLOGY OF SEXUALITIES</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>DISSERTATION</td>
<td>GLOBALISATION AND CRIME</td>
<td>CRIME, MEDIA AND CULTURE</td>
<td>OPTION E.G. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE: CRIMINOLOGY APPROACHES</td>
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Dr Anna Sergi, Prof. Nigel South, Prof. Pete Fussey and Dr Anna Di Ronco
## BA SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

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<td>OPTION PSYCHOLOGY OR SOCIOLOGY</td>
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<td>E.G. MEDIA, CULTURE AND SOCIETY</td>
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<td>RESEARCHING SOCIAL LIFE (2)</td>
<td>CONTINUITY AND CONTROVERSY IN SOCIOLOGY</td>
<td>SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY: SELF &amp; INTERACTION</td>
<td>OPTION E.G. HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY OR DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY</td>
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<td>DISSERTATION</td>
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<td>E.G. OR WAR AND TRAUMA IN THE MODERN AGE</td>
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Dr Shaul Bar Haim
**Placement Year:** The student will be responsible for finding the placement, but with support and guidance provided by both the department and our Employability and Careers Centre. Once the placement is secured the student will have an academic supervisor and a placement supervisor. (Cost 20% Tuition Fees)

**Study Abroad:** We support you extending your education through providing the option of an additional year studying abroad. Popular destinations are the US, Germany, Spain, France, Italy, Australia, Canada and Japan. (Cost 15% Tuition Fees)
TIME FOR A BREAK
Experiential Learning

• To integrate community involvement in the curriculum or promote volunteering in the community
• To reflect on that involvement from a sociological perspective
• To communicate the experience to others
Volunteering / Refugee Teaching Programme

- Vteam
- Teacher / Teaching Assistant
- Visit to Calais / Volunteering with Care4Calais
BLACK LIVES MATTER AND STUDENT ACTIVISM

A CONVERSATION WITH ASHA ALI AND SOPHIE KABANGU – HOSTED BY OLIVIA BROWN

ZOOM LINK: HTTPS://ESSEX-UNIVERSITY.ZOOM.US/J/92974388658

SOCIOLOGY SOCIETY

WEDNESDAY 28TH OCTOBER 7-8 PM
Death Penalty

• The Death Penalty Sentencing Mitigation Unit of the Human Rights Centre Clinic
• Dr Alexandra Cox
• In particular, students will assist Reprieve in conducting life history investigations, engaging in legal and social science research, supporting anti-death penalty campaign work, and engaging with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights about death penalty-related issues.
Teaching and Assessments

• **Teaching**
  - Students have eight to nine teaching hours a week.
  - Recording of lectures and classes are available in Moodle
  - Each teaching week you will have an online or face-to-face class with your class teacher and a small group of students.
  - The rest of the time you are expected to work on coursework

• **Assessments**
  - You can expect a mixture of coursework during term time and exams towards the end of the year.
  - Type of coursework may include: essays, blogs, quizzes, reports, journals
  - In most modules the weight of assessments are 50% (coursework) and 50% summer exam
What do students learn with us?

• Academic Research skills  
  • Qualitative  
  • Quantitative
• In depth knowledge in your field of study
• Lecturers experiences and networks
• The sense of belonging to an academic discipline
• Develop your sense of social justice
  • And you will make friends for life!

Dr James Allen-Robertson and Dr Neli Demireva
Academic and Personal Support

• UG and PGT Administrators
• Student Study Center
• Personal Tutors
• Peer Mentors
• Undergraduate and First Year Directors

Robin and Lucy
Student Study Centre and Student Engagement

Cydney, Millie, Sheila, Camilla, Jane and Michele
Sociology Administrators
Our Students

- Strong sense of belonging to the department
- Developing student led events
- Providing useful feedback to lecturers
- Friendly and supportive student/staff environment
What happens after UG Studies?

- Teacher in Sociology and Criminology
- Police
- HM Prison Service
- Home Office
- Local Councils
- Market Research Companies
- Charities
- Youth Worker
- Human Rights Organizations
- Postgraduate Study
- MA, PhD and University Lecturer
What do these graduates have in common?

- Start early: questions, interests, involvement, advice
- Work habits: responsibility; writing and communication skills
- Developing new interests that can build towards the future
- Knowing their subjects
- Thinking Sociologically
- Research Methods (Qualitative and Quantitative)
- Q Step
- Study Abroad
- Placements
- Community Involvement
- MA decision

All of these are interlinked with school teaching/advice
MA Degrees – Career Connection

PGT Courses at Essex

- MA SOCIOLGY
- MA SOCIOLGY AND MANAGEMENT (some modules at Business School)
- MA SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH METHODS
- MSC SURVEY METHODS FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH
- MA ADVERTISING, MARKETING AND THE MEDIA (some modules at Business School)
- MA CRIMINOLOGY
- MA CRIMINOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY
- MA CRIMINOLOGY AND SOCIO-LEGAL RESEARCH (some modules at Law School)
- MSC ORGANISED CRIME, TERRORISM AND SECURITY
- MA MIGRATION STUDIES
- MSC MIGRATION STUDIES

Dr Isabel Crowhurst
Centre for Intimate and Sexual Citizenship
Sharing experiences

• Often I find that our 1st year students are not clear about the different dimensions of sociology related degrees and potential career outcomes.

• Once they are able to visualize the link between their own personal biographies/experiences with wider social aspects of life, their motivation and interest is higher.

• It seems very important to discuss the links between university studies and careers at school and during the 1st year at university.

• I think that a permanent dialogue between colleagues teaching sociology in schools and at university will be greatly beneficial for students and all of us alike.

• Happy to discuss any of these issues with all of you!
Contact us…

Watch Taster Webinars
https://www.essex.ac.uk/visit-us/cant-visit-us/talks-and-tasters

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