Postgraduate Courses in Sociology
Contents
3 Welcome to the Department of Sociology
3 Why study Sociology at Leicester?
4 MSc Social Research
6 MA Contemporary Sociology
9 MA Migration Studies
12 MA Media, Culture and Society
14 Taught Programmes: Assessment, Fees and Funding
15 Research Degrees
16 Entry Requirements and How to Apply
17 Members of Staff and their Research Interests
18 Postgraduate Student Life
19 Your City

Being taught by academics with a range of research experiences is pretty amazing. Having first hand access to their enthusiasm and wealth of experience has really cemented my confidence and increased my passion for conducting research.

Charlotte, PhD student
Welcome to the Department of Sociology

The roots of our Department run very deep. Leicester was, after all, one of the very first Sociology departments in the UK.

Many of the most prominent figures in British and European Sociology have been associated with this very department. Norbert Elias (acclaimed as one of the greatest thinkers of the 20th century) taught, researched and wrote here, and he inspired some of our current academics. Others who left their mark here include Anthony Giddens, Laurie Taylor (BBC Radio 4’s Thinking Allowed presenter) and John Goldthorpe.

With our long and respected tradition in both teaching and research, the Department of Sociology at the University of Leicester is the perfect training ground for future thinkers. In joining our community you will work alongside staff who continue to provide internationally renowned research in a diverse range of fields. Our postgraduate programmes reflect our diverse research passions, you can find out more about our research on page 17.

Why study Sociology at Leicester?

Our Department is one of the most prominent and influential in the country, with over 65 years of experience in the field.

We pride ourselves on being a small and friendly department which is able to offer you the supportive environment you need in order to excel on your chosen course. The University has a large number of postgraduate students, and as a department we encourage an active postgraduate community. Both our masters and research students regularly gather for reading groups and social events.

The University of Leicester is ranked in the top 2% of universities in the world in the THE World University rankings 2014-15.

The city of Leicester reflects many evolving debates in sociology, from multiculturalism to the character of urban life in a post-industrial context. Studying sociology in such a diverse environment will not only enrich your understanding of the subject, but also allows you the exceptional opportunity to relate your studies to your local area.

If you’re interested in finding out more about our recent activities, publications, and media appearances, please follow us on social media or visit our website for updates.

Follow us on social media:

@leicestersoc · /sociologyatleicester
MSc Social Research

Our MSc in Social Research aims to provide you with an expert grounding in the practice of social research. Upon completion of the course you will have acquired the necessary academic skills to develop, implement and evaluate social research, making the MSc an excellent basis for career development.

The ability to design and execute research is a transferable skill that is highly valued in the workplace and for many graduates the MSc has been a gateway to a research-based career or a means of advancing their career with a current employer. Others have found that the MSc is an excellent foundation for doctoral research and an academic career. In particular, the MSc will provide you with a thorough and critical knowledge of data collection and analysis methods (both qualitative and quantitative) including the philosophical, theoretical and technical problems associated with these.

You will also gain a full appreciation of the political problems and ethical considerations that you must be mindful of when conducting research. Sensitivity to issues of ethnicity, gender, age, and sexuality will be considered alongside a detailed knowledge of the range of data sources available to social scientists, including secondary data sets of various kinds.

You will develop a range of practical research skills including computing, academic writing, presentation, grant application and publishing, as well as the ability to identify researchable questions and formulate an appropriate, practical design to address such questions.

You will gain a theoretically and philosophically informed understanding of the major approaches to research within your field of interest and an understanding of the links between social research, policy formulation and administration.

Course Structure

The MSc in Social Research is a 12-month course with teaching from October to June, followed by the submission of a dissertation in September. The course can also be completed part time over two years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEMESTER 1</th>
<th>SEMESTER 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Questions to Research Design</td>
<td>Qualitative Data Collection and Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collecting and Analysing Numeric Data</td>
<td>Multivariate Analysis and Statistical Modelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy of Social Science</td>
<td>Advanced Research Methods</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Research Based Dissertation (see page 14)
Module Information

Research Questions to Research Design
This module uses the development of research interests into a researchable topic as a platform to explore a number of key issues underpinning the research process, with particular reference to the relatively neglected topic of research design. These include the alignment of research questions with research methods, the justification and formulation of “researchable” topics and the practical implications of qualitative and quantitative approaches for effective research design.

Collecting and Analysing Numeric Data
This module covers basic techniques for summarising and describing data, as well as key strategies for examining the relationship between variables. It shows you not only what to do with your data but also what to think about before you collect it, and how to present and display your findings at the end of your research. You will look in detail at one of the most commonly-used methods to collect large-scale data – questionnaires – and identify common pitfalls and problems with this type of instrument.

Philosophy of Social Sciences
This module explores classical and contemporary debates in the philosophy of the social sciences and their implications for research design, theory construction and the outcome of research. Through a series of seminars and interview-based workshops on professional research skills, it also provides you with training in areas relating to the process and management of real-world research.

Qualitative Data Collection and Analysis
This module explores the main traditions of qualitative research and reviews different methodologies of data collection and analysis, such as qualitative interviews, focus groups, ethnography, and participant observation, content analysis, and related coding protocols. It also includes a review of the main objectives of case studies, process tracing, and comparisons in qualitative research. The goal of this module is specifically to choose the best qualitative research tools for a particular research question and to make the research cohere at all stages.

Multivariate Analysis and Statistical Modelling
This module follows on from ‘Collecting and Analysing Numeric Data’ to expand the statistical tools you have at your disposal and allows you to address important questions and conduct ambitious analyses. You will gain a thorough grounding in one of the most basic multivariate techniques, allowing you to form the basis for future development of more advanced techniques.

Advanced Research Methods
This module is designed to offer an introduction to the diversity of advanced research methods. The module combines an introduction to the logic, distinctive contribution, and applications of these methods (such as Agent-Based Modelling, Conversation Analysis, Social Network Analysis, and Visual Sociology) with practical experience of data collection and analysis (including software use where appropriate).
MA Contemporary Sociology

Our MA in Contemporary Sociology aims to provide you with an up-to-date, advanced training in Sociology, focusing on contemporary theories, themes and debates.

In the core modules you will explore some of the main problems of contemporary societies, such as multicultural issues, environmental change, migration and the role of media, together with analysis of theoretical developments in sociology in recent decades. You will also gain exposure to some of the practical applications of sociological research in the public context. The optional modules provide the opportunity for more intense specialisation in areas of sociological research in which members of the programme team are currently active.

Course Structure

The MA in Contemporary Sociology is a 12-month course with teaching from October to June, followed by the submission of a dissertation in September. The course can also be completed part time over two years.

Jonathan, MA Contemporary Sociology

I am very pleased to have been allocated a dissertation supervisor who is an expert in the field I am researching (sport and football fandom).

SEMESTER 1

Issues in Contemporary Sociology

Research Questions to Research Design

Option

SEMESTER 2

Debates in Contemporary Sociology

Qualitative Data Collection and Analysis

Option

Research Based Dissertation (see page 14)
Module Information

Core Modules

Issues in Contemporary Sociology

This module will provide you with background to contemporary social issues, with reference to current sociological debates. You will explore the main social problems, conflicts and trends and the societal actors engaged in these debates, laying the foundations for a theoretically informed consideration of these issues. You will examine the determinants and consequences of ethnic pluralisation of modern societies and focus on the impact of recent structural changes, especially their socio-political implications.

Research Questions to Research Design

This module uses the development of research interests into a researchable topic as a platform to explore a number of key issues underpinning the research process, with particular reference to the relatively neglected topic of research design. These include the alignment of research questions with research methods, the justification and formulation of “researchable” topics and the practical implications of qualitative and quantitative approaches for effective research design.

Debates in Contemporary Sociology

This module aims to re-examine ways of thinking about and conceptualising the main issues, processes, developments and problems of the contemporary world. You will have the chance to practice social theory by thinking theoretically about the nature of modern society, its main processes, institutions, relations and dilemmas. It is designed to provide you with an in-depth understanding of current debates in contemporary social science and to encourage you to think creatively and critically about the ways in which the social and political world is changing today.

Qualitative Data Collection and Analysis

This module explores the main traditions of qualitative research and reviews different methodologies of data collection and analysis, such as qualitative interviews, focus groups, ethnography and participant observation, content analysis and related coding protocols. It also includes a review of the main objectives of case studies, process tracing and comparisons in qualitative research. The goal of this module is specifically to choose the best qualitative research tools for a particular research question and to make the research cohere at all stages.

Optional Modules*

Sociology of Sport

Late-modern sport as a global phenomenon has become increasingly important in commercial and cultural terms and in terms of its role in the generation, sustenance and transformation of national, regional, local and individual identities. What happens in sport can highlight wider forms of inequality and exclusion around the interconnected structures of class, race and gender. You will investigate and report on the ‘hidden story’ behind sport and provide a critical, sociological analysis of both its popularity and its associated problems.

International Migration

This module considers how immigration affects receiving country societies in economic, political, and cultural terms. You will discuss how different types of immigrants fare after arrival, looking at the social processes of migration such as: formation of networks and ethnic communities, insertion of immigrants into particular economic locations, processes of integration and development of the second generation. You will consider some important social policy issues commonly associated with immigration and explore research that investigates whether migration generally benefits the happiness of migrants.
Race and Ethnicity
In this module you will explore the ways that race and ethnicity are socially constructed and the impact of this on constructions of gender, class, sexuality, nationality and citizenship. You will analyse debates about the differences between race and ethnicity and explore how they intersect with gender and sexuality as well as citizenship and belonging. The module explores substantive topics such as identity, beauty, tourism, and popular cultures in relation to contemporary issues of racial and ethnic difference.

Technology, Culture and Communication
This module examines the relationship between human social life, social interaction and the technologies that mediate cultural and communication processes. Focusing on a range of different media, including telephony, radio and television and the internet, it aims to address the linkages between everyday language, social identity, mediation and technology.

Diaspora and Transnationalism
This module is designed to equip you with a detailed understanding of the field of diaspora studies and transnationalism. You will focus on both theoretical perspectives and research which empirically investigates transnationalism and diasporic communities, paying close attention to perspectives and topics such as cosmopolitanism, ethno-political battles of diasporas, Islamophobia and nationalism. Diasporic groups which will be examined include: the Chinese diaspora, the Kurdish diaspora, the Arab diaspora and the African diaspora.

New Communication Technologies
In this module you will consider the implications of new communication technologies and social media on contemporary politics and social movements, as well as discussing issues of power, control and surveillance. You will reconsider the resources of classical and contemporary sociological theory to analyse these developments and identify the challenges posed by social media and new technologies to conventional notions of the social. More generally, you will also explore the sociological and cultural processes that transform communication strategies in organised civil society and the impact of these strategies in the public sphere.

*Please note that optional modules are subject to change.
MA Migration Studies

Our MA in Migration Studies links with other disciplines to provide an innovative perspective on research topics related to migration, globalisation, ethnicity, citizenship and diversity.

This course builds on the internationally recognised expertise of the University of Leicester and the Department of Sociology in the field of migration studies. It draws on perspectives from Sociology, Law, Politics, History, International Relations and European Studies.

The modules offered include theoretical and practical knowledge on migration processes and the global, as well as local, transformations relating to them. You will study various types of migration, analysing migration experiences from around the world and from different perspectives.

During this course you will gain a sound understanding of research methods and practicalities in the field of migration studies. There is also the opportunity to base your dissertation on an internship or work experience.

Course Structure

The MA in Migration Studies is a 12-month course with teaching from October to June, followed by the submission of a dissertation in September. The course can also be completed part time over two years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEMESTER 1</th>
<th>SEMESTER 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Questions to Research Design</td>
<td>Qualitative Data Collection and Analysis OR Multivariate Analysis and Statistical Modelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race and Ethnicity</td>
<td>Option</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Migration</td>
<td>Option</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Based Dissertation (see page 14)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Module Information

Core Modules

Research Questions to Research Design

This module uses the development of research interests into a researchable topic as a platform to explore a number of key issues underpinning the research process with particular reference to the relatively neglected topic of research design. These include the alignment of research questions with research methods, the justification and formulation of "researchable" topics and the practical implications of qualitative and quantitative approaches for effective research design.

Race and Ethnicity

In this module you will explore the ways that race and ethnicity are socially constructed and the impact of this on constructions of gender, class, sexuality, nationality and citizenship. You will analyse debates about the differences between race and ethnicity and explore how they intersect with gender and sexuality as well as citizenship and belonging. The module explores substantive topics such as identity, beauty, tourism, and popular cultures in relation to contemporary issues of racial and ethnic difference.

International Migration

This module considers how immigration affects receiving country societies in economic, political, and cultural terms. You will discuss how different types of immigrants fare after arrival, looking at the social processes of migration such as: formation of networks and ethnic communities, insertion of immigrants into particular economic locations, processes of integration and development of the second generation. You will consider some important social policy issues commonly associated with immigration and explore research that investigates whether migration generally benefits the happiness of migrants.

Qualitative Data Collection and Analysis

This module explores the main traditions of qualitative research and reviews different methodologies of data collection and analysis, such as qualitative interviews, focus groups, ethnography and participant observation, content analysis and related coding protocols. It also includes a review of the main objectives of case studies, process tracing and comparisons in qualitative research. The goal of this module is specifically to choose the best qualitative research tools for a particular research question and to make the research cohere at all stages.

Multivariate Analysis and Statistical Modelling

This module follows on from ‘Collecting and Analysing Numeric Data’ to expand the statistical tools you have at your disposal and allows you to address important questions and conduct ambitious analyses. You will gain a thorough grounding in one of the most basic multivariate techniques, allowing you to form the basis for future development of more advanced techniques.

Optional Modules*

Immigration and Integration Politics

This module develops a comparative and interdisciplinary approach to immigration and integration politics. You will analyse the processes of negotiations and implementation of immigration and integration policies, as well as the construction and evolution of debates and collective actions around them. Topics covered include: the politics of border controls, the debates surrounding gender and diversity, the evolution of multiculturalist politics, the changing norms of access to citizenship, and the role of social movements for the inclusion of migrants.

Diaspora and Transnationalism

This module is designed to equip you with a detailed understanding of the field of diaspora studies and transnationalism. You will focus on both theoretical perspectives and research which empirically investigates transnationalism and diasporic communities, paying close attention to perspectives and topics such as cosmopolitanism, ethno-political battles of diasporas, Islamophobia and nationalism. Diasporic groups which will be examined include: the Chinese diaspora, the Kurdish diaspora, the Arab diaspora and the African diaspora.

International Migration Law

This module offers an introduction to public international law principles governing international migration, including asylum. The emphasis will be on global-level international law, and on key developments in Europe (under the European Convention on Human Rights and EU law). Starting from the legal presumption of state sovereignty, you will explore the international law constraints upon states’ freedom of action in relation to the admission and treatment of foreign nationals. You will also address the law of international protection (or, asylum).

From Huguenot to the Roma: Immigration and Integration in Britain

This module explores the themes of migration, belonging, entitlement and the public/popular/media construction of migrants between the seventeenth and twenty first centuries. Focusing on Britain as an extreme archetype of European attitudes and experiences, we will trace popular, legislative, welfare and media responses to distinct waves of immigration on a spectrum running from the early Huguenots through the Irish and Scandinavians and to the later twentieth and early twenty first century controversies over eastern European migrants both rich and poor.

*Please note that optional modules are subject to change.
We are exploring the different ways migrants become British citizens.

What journey will you take?

Researchers in the Department of Sociology are exploring migrants’ perceptions and experiences of the citizenship process to understand how it affects their happiness, sense of belonging and political participation.

Discover more: www.le.ac.uk/discover
MA Media, Culture and Society

Our MA in Media, Culture and Society will provide you with a solid understanding of our social and political world through the study of media and culture in all its forms.

Jointly taught by staff from the Department of Media and Communication and the Department of Sociology, the programme covers a wide range of themes including social and cultural theory, games studies, media ethics, the cultural industries, social media and digital politics, health and the environment, and gender politics in the media. By applying a range of media research methods and concepts to the study of media and communication, you will build an understanding of a range of perspectives in the disciplines of cultural studies, media and sociology, forming a solid basis for career progression or further study.

You will draw on contemporary social and cultural theory in order to study the global, national, social, political and regulatory systems in which the media are located. This will enable you to develop a critical awareness of media and the social processes that are associated with them as elements located within, and constitutive of, global societies and cultures.

Additionally, you will receive training in the research methods and techniques of social science and media, communication and cultural studies, which are valuable for both future academic study and other professional careers. For example, interview-workshops with prominent researchers in the field of media and communication and leading industry thinkers offer you the opportunity to discuss, in depth, research methods and project design with those who have first-hand experience.

Modules run by the Department of Sociology*

Social and Cultural Theory

In this module you will explore the interface between media studies, cultural studies and sociology. You will focus on classical and contemporary developments in social theory which have most recently culminated in the ascendancy of cultural sociology. This engagement in cultural sociology will give you the opportunity to reflect upon how fundamental aspects of societies, such as simultaneously shifting webs of social relationships, transformations in knowledge and understandings of the world, and changing modalities and sites of social power, can be examined through and in the domain of culture.

New Communication Technologies

In this module you will consider the implications of new communication technologies and social media on contemporary politics and social movements, as well as discussing issues of power, control and surveillance. You will reconsider the resources of classical and contemporary sociological theory to analyse these developments and identify the challenges posed by social media and new technologies to conventional notions of the social. More generally, you will also explore the sociological and cultural processes that transform communication strategies in organised civil society and the impact of these strategies in the public sphere.

Technology, Culture and Communication

This module examines the relationship between human social life, social interaction and the technologies that mediate cultural and communication processes. You will focus on a range of different media, including telephony, radio and television and the internet, in order to explore the linkages between everyday language, social identities, mediation and technology.

*For more details on the course and the modules run by the Department of Media and Communication, visit www.le.ac.uk/mediacomm-pg-campus
Taught Programmes: Assessment, Fees and Funding

How will I be taught?
Teaching is via seminars. You will also be expected to spend at least 13 hours per week studying each module during your own time.

How will I be assessed?
Modules are assessed principally by essay. However, other means of assessment are also used which may include an examination, continuous class assessment and exercises in computer workshops. You must also complete a supervised research-based dissertation of between 10,000 and 15,000 words.

Dissertation
The dissertation is the most important piece of assessed work you will submit, making up 40% of your final degree mark. The dissertation is a detailed account of your attempt to identify, investigate and analyse a specific research problem. The research you undertake for the dissertation should be regarded as a preliminary or pilot study, and your discussion of the philosophical, technical, practical and ethical issues that the research raised is as important as the actual findings. The dissertation should demonstrate an awareness of key issues and themes in contemporary methodological debates in the social sciences and some reference should be made to philosophical issues, sources and types of data, and the role of theory, values and ethics in social research.

Fees
Further details about the annual fees are available online: www.le.ac.uk/fees

Scholarships
Information on scholarships for international students from outside of the European Union is available from the University’s Graduate School: www.le.ac.uk/gradschool

We also offer an Open Scholarship for international students. For more information visit: www.le.ac.uk/international/future/open.html
Research Courses

PhD Programme (Campus Based and Distance Learning)

PhD researchers are the life blood of the Department of Sociology at Leicester. We take pride in having a flourishing community of postgraduate researchers who play a central role in our research culture. Our staff have extensive experience of providing doctoral training and research supervision. We set the bar high for standards of support provided to research students, both by individual supervisors and the Department more generally. PhD researchers are encouraged to attend conferences and seminars hosted within the Department, and also to participate in conferences and seminars elsewhere. Funds are available to assist with travel and accommodation costs for such events, plus a number of postgraduate workshops including a writing retreat in Prato, Italy hosted by Monash University. This writing retreat forms one of numerous dedicated workshops, seminars and structured training programmes specifically designed to assist postgraduate students in developing their work, ensuring that they make the most of their time at Leicester. Postgraduate students are also supported in hosting their own symposia and seminars. In the recent past, this has included a number of high profile one-day events on such topics as youth activism, punk, ageing and subculture; and happiness and well-being. Opportunities to participate in the research and teaching activities of the Department are also made available to our research students.

Expert Supervision

Our research expertise encompasses many areas of sociology, which means that we are able to offer excellent supervision to meet the interests of most applicants, combining the knowledge of more than one supervisor as appropriate. We welcome full-time and part-time students for campus based doctorates as well as distance learning applicants.

Apart from the quality and relevance of supervision, our commitment to research students includes well structured but flexible procedures for monitoring and feedback on research progress and the opportunity to become fully involved in the life of the Department through its seminars, committees (including dedicated committees for integrating student views into departmental activities) and social events. We are also delighted to support regular student-led initiatives such as reading groups, inter-departmental research groupings and seminar series. Our students also regularly take part in College and University events including the Festival of Postgraduate Research and the Doctoral Inaugural Lecture series.

The Department has particular strengths in the following areas:
- Migration, racism and ethnicity
- Consumption and drug use
- Social theory
- Sport and society
- Gender, sexuality and the body
- Political sociology, social movements, civil society and citizenship
- Culture and media
- Decision-making
- Economic sociology, wellbeing and work
- Education and training
- Sociology of science and agent-based modelling

A full list of interests is given on page 17 but applications outside the above areas are also encouraged and we regularly supervise jointly with other departments.

Practice Based PhD

In addition to the traditional PhD routes, we also offer suitably qualified applicants the opportunity to pursue a practice based PhD. In this programme the emphasis is placed on critically examining aspects of professional practice, via reflection and detailed consideration, as well as making a contribution to academic knowledge via a shorter thesis. More details are available on request.

Flexible Modes of Study

As well as full and part time campus based study, the Department offers a PhD by distance learning. More information can be found here: www.le.ac.uk/sociology-research-dl

Doctoral Training

The Department provides opportunities for doctoral training throughout your PhD. In the first year, all Sociology students participate in College level research training for which the Department also provides extensive teaching. In later years, training needs are monitored and met through a combination of Departmental, College, Graduate School and external provision in consultation with your supervisor(s). Postgraduate feedback through relevant committees continues to optimise training provision to reflect changing needs and interests.

Facilities for Research Students

The Department is generally able to provide shared office space for research students. Access is provided to telephone, fax and computer facilities and students receive training and tools to maintain their own personal web pages.

Fees

Further details about the annual fees are available online: www.le.ac.uk/gradschool

Scholarships

The Department takes full advantage of all opportunities to provide financial support for research degrees (through Graduate Teaching Assistantships and College Scholarships for example) and works with students to secure particular kinds of funding wherever possible (for example from ESRC or as part of staff research projects). Our students are also well represented in holding scholarships from their home countries.

Up to date information on other funding opportunities in the University and College can be found at: www.le.ac.uk/studentships
Candidates are expected to have at least an upper second class honours degree in a relevant social science subject, but under certain circumstances, other qualifications may be recognised. Prospective students are strongly encouraged to contact us informally to discuss their interests and are welcome to visit us in person in advance of an application.

If you would like to discuss any queries about your eligibility, please contact the Postgraduate Programme Administrator:

t: +44 (0)116 252 2750

How to Apply

Taught Courses
Please note that all applications should be submitted online. You can find all the information you need at: www.le.ac.uk/pgapplyonline

Research Courses
A step by step guide to applying for our research courses can be found online: www.le.ac.uk/pgapplyonline

What happens when we receive your application?

Applications are forwarded to our department for assessment, which can take up to 28 days. Once we have made a decision on your application, you will be informed whether or not you have been successful.

If your application has been successful, an offer letter and pack will then be sent through the post with details about what to do next.

You may be invited to attend an interview, either in person or via Skype, where you will discuss your research proposal with your prospective supervisor(s).

Should you have any further enquiries, please contact our Postgraduate Programme Administrator.
Members of Staff and their Research Interests

Dr David Bartram
International migration; happiness and subjective well-being; the welfare state’s treatment of cultural minorities.

Dr Leah Bassel
Gender and multiculturalism; citizenship and participation; political sociology.

Professor Bob Carter
Sociology, nature and science; sociology and politics of racism and immigration; contemporary forms of social identity.

Dr Edmund Chattoe-Brown
Social simulation; social networks; decision making; economic sociology; ethnicity; evolutionary models of social change and innovation diffusion; second-hand markets.

Dr Jerry Coulton
Consumption, space and place, transport and mobility, visual research methods, crime and the built environment.

Dr Ipek Demir
Diaspora studies; migration; ethnic and radical studies; sociology and politics of the Middle East; Kurdish studies; sociology of science (especially translation and migration of knowledge and data).

Professor John Goodwin
Sociology of youth, work and community; the history of sociology; innovative qualitative research methods; figurational sociology and Norbert Elias.

Professor Jason Hughes (Head of Department)
Problematised consumption; drugs, addiction and health; emotions, work and identity; figurational sociology and sociological theory; methods and methodology; moral panics and regulation.

Professor Ian Hutchby
Language and social interaction; mediated discourse; sociology of children and childhood; social dimensions of communication technologies.

Professor Barbara Misztal
Sociological theory, political and cultural sociology as well as the issues of trust, memory, informality, normality and the role of public intellectuals.

Dr Pierre Monforte
Civil society and social movements; immigration and citizenship; European politics; political sociology.

Professor Henrietta O’Connor
Youth transitions from school to work; gender, work and employment; older workers and retirement; motherhood, employment and childcare.

Dr Jane Pilcher
Gender; naming practices; age and ageing (generations, life course, cohort), especially childhood.

Dr Jackie Sanchez Taylor
Sociology of gender, sexuality and the body; cosmetic surgery, sexual economic exchanges and contested commodities.

Dr Patrick White
Education and equality; teacher recruitment and retention; student decision-making; measurement of class and ethnicity; research methods.

Mr John Williams
Sport, inequality and diversity; football culture and football supporters; stadium modernisation in English football; sport and the media; violent crime.
Postgraduate Student Life

The iconic Percy Gee Students’ Union building provides a warm, welcoming and friendly environment for all students. There is everything a busy student needs, whether that’s getting an early morning pick-me-up at Starbucks, grabbing lunch at the Union Diner, or stocking up on study essentials at Ryman.

At the heart of the Students’ Union is the Square – a huge atrium and terrace area – it’s the perfect place for relaxing and catching up with friends.

Throughout the year, all manner of social and academic-related events are arranged through the SU – fundraising activities, health awareness campaigns, fashion shows, charity events and, of course, a superb nightlife.

As a postgraduate you are encouraged make your voice heard. Annual elections vote in members of the Students’ Union Executive, who oversee its strategic and political direction.

Being a part of a society is a sure way of getting involved in the University community.

Societies offer a chance to meet like-minded people, have fun and try something new. Whatever you’re into there will be a society for you – there are over 200 at Leicester. The Students’ Union is home to groups in sport, media, politics, performing arts, music, volunteering, fundraising, plus the specialist and zany.

For more information please visit: www.leicesterunion.com
Leicester is a lively and diverse city and the tenth largest in Britain. It has all the activities and facilities you would expect, with a friendly and safe atmosphere. The city centre is just a short walk from campus so you'll never be far from the action.

Leicester’s diverse heritage is reflected in a dazzling array of festivals and cultural experiences including the largest Diwali celebrations outside India, the UK’s longest running Comedy Festival and the University’s hugely successful book festival – Literary Leicester.

Recent developments have led to the opening of the world class Curve Theatre and Phoenix Square Independent Arts Centre in the new Cultural Quarter, which complement Leicester’s existing array of cinemas, theatres, museums and galleries.

Leicester is a city of sporting excellence. Sports fans can enjoy Premier League football with Leicester City and watch top-class rugby at Welford Road, home of the mighty Leicester Tigers. The Leicester Riders are a formidable presence in the British Basketball League (BBL), and during the summer months, Leicestershire County Cricket Club compete in the county championship and T20 Blast competition.

The sparkling Highcross complex features 110,000 square metres of retail therapy, bars, cafés and restaurants. For those with independent tastes Leicester Lanes houses a variety of boutiques and specialist shops.

As you would expect from a true student city, there is a huge range of bars, clubs and live music venues that cater for all kinds of tastes. Food lovers are treated to a fantastic selection of restaurants, with specialities available from every corner of the world.