

## Programme specification

### BA (Hons) Sociology with Police Studies

<i>School:</i>	School of Psychological and Social Sciences
<i>Entry from:</i>	2017/8
<i>in:</i>	September
<i>Awarding institution:</i>	York St John University
<i>Teaching institution:</i>	York St John University
<i>Delivery location:</i>	York St John University
<i>Programme/s accredited by:</i>	Not applicable
<i>Exit awards:</i>	Certificate of Higher Education Sociology with Police Studies Diploma of Higher Education Sociology with Police Studies BA (Ord) Sociology with Police Studies
<i>UCAS code / GTTR / other:</i>	L3L4
<i>Joint Honours combinations:</i>	Not applicable
<i>QAA benchmark group(s):</i>	Sociology 2007
<i>Mode/s of study:</i>	Full-time for 3 years Part-time for 6 years
<i>Language of study:</i>	English
<i>Study abroad opportunities:</i>	Yes

### Introduction and special features

BA (Hons) Sociology with Police Studies is a coherent programme which not only introduces you to the fundamental study of crime and deviance through police studies, but does so through engaging with a range of contemporary and relevant issues. The programme achieves this by drawing upon modules which enable you to pursue a focused study relating to crime and deviance in which sociology and policing modules complement one another. Modules within BA Sociology with Police Studies provide for a consideration of how social inequalities and divisions impact upon an understanding of policing, but from a sociological rather than a criminological perspective on the whole as befits the “with” pairing. This ensures that students can recognise that their studies foreground sociology, but draw upon police studies. The programme has been designed in line with work undertaken by the College of Policing in the development of policing qualifications. Experienced police officers and police staff will be involved in the delivery of modules, particularly in more specialised areas, such as domestic abuse, mental health, community policing and safeguarding. Staff have wide ranging experience of policing and sociology. Assessment methods will reflect the requirements of the police service, such as, report writing, case study, examination and research. As part of your academic development, assignments will foster critical and original thinking through structured activities and study. We want you to do well and our aim is to enhance your employment potential at the end of the course. A recent report by the Higher Education Statistics Agency illustrates that Social Science graduates out-perform graduates in other areas in respect of progressing to employment or further training. In encouraging you to enhance your future employability volunteering in a range of settings is encouraged and both the department and the university will support you in this. Relationships have developed with local police forces and related criminal justice agencies to provide work related experience to support your studies from a sociological perspective. These organisations cover restorative justice, domestic abuse and support for victims of sexual assault. In summary, this is an exciting opportunity to develop detailed and critical insights into sociological and policing issues. It also allows you to enhance your future employability within a vibrant and growing department.

## Admissions criteria

You must meet the University's general entry criteria for [undergraduate](#) study.

If your first language is not English, you need to take an IELTS test or an equivalent qualification accepted by the University (see <https://www.yorksj.ac.uk/international/how-to-apply/english-language-requirements/>).

If you do not have traditional qualifications, you may be eligible for entry on the basis of [Accredited Prior \(Experiential\) Learning \(APL/APEL\)](#). We also consider applications for entry with advanced standing.

## Programme aims

The BA (Hons) Sociology with Police Studies programme aims to enable students to develop:

1. an informed and critical understanding of key concepts and theoretical approaches that have been developed, and are developing, within sociology and police studies;
2. a range of skills in the collection, interpretation, analysis and communication of sociological and policing data;
3. a range of transferable skills to equip them for employment, entrepreneurship and lifelong learning;
4. an ability to critically evaluate the relationship between individuals, groups, and power with a particular focus on experiences of deviance, crime and criminality and policing

## Programme learning outcomes

The learning outcomes for this programme have been designed with close reference to the Sociology benchmark (2007). In addition, the learning outcomes were designed with close attention to the guidelines of the *Framework for Higher Education Qualifications* (2008). Students who gain the award specified will be able to

### YSJU Level 4 / FHEQ L4

1. Demonstrate a broad-based knowledge and understanding of a range of underlying concepts, content and theoretical perspectives associated with studying sociology and policing.
2. Effectively explain different sociological and policing perspectives.
3. Present, evaluate and interpret different forms of information, evidence, data, artefacts and performances appropriate to the study of sociology and policing.
4. Communicate effectively using a range of skills appropriate for the audience and purpose.
5. Demonstrate a range of key transferable skills (including those for lifelong learning) appropriate for further study.

### YSJU Level 5 / FHEQ L5

1. Apply theoretical perspectives and concepts to a range of issues relevant to the fields of sociology and policing;
2. Demonstrate a critical awareness of research strategies that are relevant to the study of sociology and policing;
3. Critically analyse data and information relevant to the study of sociology and policing;
4. Communicate subject-relevant information, ideas and arguments effectively to specialist and non-specialist audiences;
5. Demonstrate an ability to apply knowledge and skills effectively in decision-making in the context of growing maturity as an independent learner

### YSJU Level 6 / FHEQ L6

1. Show proficiency in using sociological and policing theories and principles in the analysis and solution of complex problems.
2. Demonstrate critical evaluation of research strategies associated with sociology and policing studies.

3. Proficiently use and communicate approaches to the evaluation of qualitative and quantitative data relevant to the study of sociology and policing studies.
4. Acquire, organise and communicate information, ideas and arguments, showing an understanding of the significance and limitations of knowledge in the field of sociology and policing studies.
5. Critically evaluate and apply sociological and policing theory and principles to a range of issues.
6. Apply skills, concepts, theoretical and empirical knowledge, and methods appropriate to the study of sociology to initiate, design, plan and execute research.
7. Demonstrate an ability to reach reasoned judgements about arguments and evidence based upon sound critical analysis and an understanding of different value positions.
8. Exercise initiative and personal responsibility in a range of decision-making contexts related to their studies.

### Programme Structure

Code	Level	Semester	Module Title	Credits	Status of Module *
1SC001	4	1	Introduction to Sociological Thought	20	C
1SC002	4	1	Investigating Sociologically	20	C
1SC003	4	1	Social Inequalities, classic debates	20	C
1SC006	4	2	The Sociology of Deviance	20	C
1PC002	4	2	Community Policing	20	C
1PC003	4	2	Policing Mental Health	20	C
2SC001	5	1	Contemporary Developments in Sociological Thought	20	C
2SC002	5	2	Designing Sociological Investigations	20	C
2SC007	5	2	Quantitative Sociological Investigations	20	C
2SC006	5	1	Violence and Reconciliation	20	C
2PC002	5	2	Working with Policing and/or Justice	20	C
2PC005	5	1	Evidence-based policing	20	C
3SC011	6	1	Advanced Social Theory	20	O
3SC006	6	1	Youth and Resistance	20	O
3SC005	6	1	Sociology of Murder	20	C
3PC003	6	2	Safeguarding – Sex and Exploitation	20	C
3PC002	6	2	Managing Demand for Policing	20	C
3SC002	6	1&2	Sociological Investigation	40	C

\***C**: Compulsory, **CP**: Compulsory for progression to the next level, **CA**: Compulsory for award, **O**: option or **E**: elective.

### Learning, teaching and assessment

We will provide a positive learning environment and generally avoid large scale lectures. Instead you will experience a range of teaching styles and settings and a variety of approaches to learning. Classes will generally involve tutor-led input interspersed with student activities. Activities may include small group work, discussions, guided reading and library-based research leading to feedback alongside seminars (small groups of students with a tutor) and tutorials (one-to-one meetings with a tutor). In addition, there is an emphasis on independent study outside of formal teaching sessions. This 'supported open learning' (SOL) will include directed reading tasks, student-based project work, engaging with the online virtual learning environment (VLE) and the Learning Centre and encouragement to attend guest lectures and research seminars.

The range of resources is designed to enable you to work collaboratively and build your knowledge beyond guided reading so that you are able to engage with key debates within the approaches to theory. Sociology and police studies are rich and varied disciplines and, as such, you must be able and willing to explore the depth of knowledge and experience at your disposal. You will study challenging issues and cases. This will require you to undertake reflective learning.

Although learning about the discipline of both sociology and police studies is important, the development of academic skills is not overlooked and there will be various activities which are aimed at making you more effective in the work that you produce whilst on the course. As part of this, skills which are valued by employers, such as communication, presentational and organisational skills are intrinsic to assignments. You will find further support in relation to the development of academic skills on the Programme's Moodle site.

York St. John University adopts the position that students are co-producers of knowledge rather than just recipients of it. We see students as an important aspect of a student centred approach. As such there will be opportunities for students to engage in research in different ways such as through the Research Assistant scheme. This provides students with the opportunity to take part in research projects being carried out by staff if successful. York St John University is committed to seeing students as co-creators of knowledge and we aim to ensure that you have opportunities to engage in the study of Sociology rather than just hear about how knowledge is produced.

Transferable skills and competencies as evident within graduate attributes will be achieved through the tiered learning progression. As such, Levels 4 and 5 have increased contact time to ensure that you have a sound grounding in the subject area in key modules; this is reduced in Level 6 in order to develop your autonomy, whilst still providing a supportive environment. In Level 6, you will be expected to engage in critical enquiry-based learning to develop your individual autonomous reasoning, analytical and research skills to a high standard.

Throughout your studies you will have an opportunity to undertake learning that is related to the careers that you may wish to pursue in the future. In Level 5, you will study a specialist module that will allow you to reflect upon a range of possible future careers. Guest speakers will provide relevant learning experiences. You will also be encouraged to undertake volunteering activities to enhance your future employability.

You will be assigned an academic tutor in addition to module tutors. The role of the academic tutor is to provide additional support with your studies where necessary. In addition to this support the university provides extensive support in a range of academic skills, such as writing assignments and the use of the library for locating relevant information.

### **Assessment approaches**

York St John University is committed to embedding formative assessment as part of its approach to teaching, learning and assessment. These are activities which develop your understanding of how assessed work is marked and how you might produce work to a higher standard. The intention is to ensure that you receive on-going feedback relating to your learning and development which will assist you in being successful in your studies. You will encounter a

range of assessment approaches which are designed to enable you to develop a range of skills and meet the learning outcomes detailed earlier. Formative and summative assessment will be by a variety of methods appropriate to the specified Learning Outcomes for the programme, the level, and the specific module.

### **Progression and graduation requirements**

The University's [general regulations for](#) undergraduate [awards](#) apply to this programme.

Any modules that must be passed for progression or award are indicated in the Programme Structure section.

### **Internal and external reference points**

This programme specification was formulated with reference to:

- [University Mission Statement](#) [see page two]
- [Strategic Plan 2015-20](#) [see page four]
- [QAA subject benchmark statement](#)
- [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)

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*Date written / revised: 29/03/17, July 2017*

QSC PASP amended with effect from 2018/19 – 3SC001 removed and replaced with 3SC011. Nov 2017. Addition of module 3SC009 and status change of 3SC011 as option module.