SOCIAL SCIENCES

Medway
Kent is one of the UK’s leading universities, ranked in the top 20 in *The Guardian University Guide 2014*. All of our academic schools produce world-class research, and Kent is rated as internationally excellent, leading the way in many fields of study. Our Social Sciences degree gives you the opportunity to explore important questions about how society works and how social change happens from a number of different perspectives.

The multidisciplinary nature of our degree enables you to tailor your studies to your own interests, choosing from sociology, social policy, psychology, social history, criminology and urban studies.

Studying the social sciences will give you specific knowledge and understanding of society, tools to analyse key issues such as class, poverty, inequality, health, crime, and urban change, as well as concrete skills, for instance, in giving presentations, analysing information and writing reports. Perhaps most importantly, our BSc in Social Sciences equips you to better understand the world we live in and gives you the capacity to apply your knowledge and skills in new contexts at work and in everyday life. Our students pursue careers in policymaking, teaching, research and management in the public, private and voluntary sectors.

**World-leading research**

Kent’s School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research is one of the most highly rated in the country. It is an international centre that has been consistently highly ranked in Government evaluations of university research. In the most recent Research Assessment Exercise (RAE), the School was rated 4th in the UK, and in *The Complete University Guide 2014*, Social Policy at Kent was ranked 3rd for research. You are taught by leading academics in the field, lecturers who have specialist research interests that inform and illuminate their award-winning teaching.

**Inspirational teaching**

On the Social Sciences programme, you can choose from an ever-expanding range of modules that directly match your own interests. Our team of academic staff make use of a variety of teaching and learning methods, including lectures, case study analysis, discussion and debate, group projects and presentations, individual and group tutorials, and an independent original research project. You are taught by academics who are research-active. This means that they are directly engaged in carrying out original research, writing books and articles, and taking part in conferences and debates that shape the very topics that you are studying.
Sixteen of our lecturers on the Social Sciences programme were nominated by our students for the Kent Union Teaching Awards for teaching excellence in 2013, two of whom went on to win. These awards are run by students, and are powerful recognition of our commitment to providing teaching of the highest quality by those who have experienced it.

Supportive academic community

The School provides a supportive and stimulating environment for you to study in, and we encourage student participation to give you the opportunity and confidence to use your skills and knowledge in real situations. All of our students have a designated Academic Adviser for the duration of their studies, and we employ a Student Support Officer who is available both as an academic guide and for general help with any pastoral issues. Academic staff all hold regular, scheduled office hours during which students can ask advice on the planning of essays, and get feedback on assessed work – or simply discuss the ideas and questions of interest.

The School also hosts events such as public lectures, a regular seminar series, as well as conferences, all of which you are invited to attend. These offer you the opportunity to discover new areas of research and develop your understanding of current issues and debates.

Practical experience

In addition to traditional academic study, the University of Kent offers you practical experience through volunteering and work placements, to enhance your employability and prepare for your future. For instance, our Social Justice Practice module gives you academic credit for a work placement in a charity.

A global outlook

Kent has a reputation as the UK’s European university and has developed international partnerships with a number of prestigious institutions. We have an international community at Kent with students representing 145 countries.

A successful future

As well as providing a first-rate academic experience, we want you to be in a good position to face the demands of a tough economic environment. During your studies, you develop key transferable employability skills considered essential for a successful career, not just in the social sciences. You will gain the skills and confidence that are sought after by employers in today’s competitive world, from presentation skills and analytical thinking to writing with cohesion and clarity.

For more information on the careers help we provide at Kent, please see p8 or visit www.kent.ac.uk/employability

DID YOU KNOW?

Kent was ranked 4th in the UK for social policy in The Guardian University Guide 2014.
Our Medway campus includes the award-winning Medway Building as part of the purpose-built facilities for Kent students.

Historic buildings
Our campus adjoins Chatham Historic Dockyard and combines beautiful old buildings with contemporary interiors offering modern study facilities. There are also cafés, a shop, a sports centre and a student pub on campus, all of which helps to create a sense of community. The impressive Rochester Cathedral is the venue for Kent’s degree congregations.

Excellent resources
The University’s study resources are excellent. The Drill Hall Library provides state-of-the-art library and IT facilities in a historic setting, is well-stocked with printed books and journals, and provides access to a range of electronic information. The Library offers one-to-one support from expert librarians and free high-speed wireless network and internet access. Laptops are available to borrow for use within the building. You also have access to the University’s Templeman Library on the Canterbury campus, in person or by ordering materials for collection at the Drill Hall.

In addition to well-equipped teaching rooms and study spaces, you can enhance your study skills with the support of the Student Learning Advisory Service.

Diverse environment
Our students come from a variety of backgrounds, ages and countries. This mix means you not only learn from your lecturers but also from the experiences of your fellow students.

Live by the riverside
If you are a full-time student, you could be living in an attractive new ‘waterside village’ on the banks of the River Medway. These popular student flats have modern kitchens and en-suite bedrooms. The development also has its own social area, Tesco Express store, Subway and Domino’s Pizza.

Five minutes’ walk from campus, the Dockside retail outlet offers a range of shops and restaurants.

Nearby is the town of Rochester with its stunning cathedral, which is the venue for Kent’s degree congregations. Bluewater shopping centre is also within easy driving distance. In addition, the Medway area offers sporting facilities including a dry ski slope and toboggan run, an ice rink, a karting circuit and several sports and leisure centres.

Good location
The Medway campus is near Chatham Historic Dockyard. The campus has cafés, a student pub and Essentials, a general store, which also has a mini off-licence.

The Medway campus is quick and easy to reach from central London. The high-speed train to London St Pancras from Ebbsfleet in Medway takes under 20 minutes. Travel to London from stations at Gillingham or Chatham takes about 55 minutes. You can also take the Eurostar from Ebbsfleet and be in Paris in just over two hours.
Alex Burnett is in his second year studying Social Sciences.

Why did you choose Kent?
I went to see around five universities, but liked Kent best. I knew it was a top university and when I visited the campus, I fell in love with it.

Why Social Sciences?
The breadth of the course attracted me. It covers social policy, sociology and psychology, but you can also specialise, particularly in your third year, when you do a dissertation. I love learning about different areas, exploring new subjects and gaining a range of knowledge that I can apply to real world situations.

Is there a module you have particularly enjoyed?
I have enjoyed them all! I studied psychology at A level and loved it. I was a bit concerned that I wouldn’t find social policy and sociology as interesting as that but hadn’t been the case at all. Sociology is fascinating and social policy has been a revelation. Before I came here, I wasn’t interested in politics but within a couple of weeks of studying social policy, I was gripped. The lecturer is fantastic, really engaging and the seminars are inspiring. I feel able to express my opinions and enjoy listening to other people’s views. It’s funny because my family and friends all know me as being quite nervous, but in seminars I come alive.

I am looking forward to doing my dissertation and may do it on the sociology of education, which I think will use all aspects of my studies. I enjoy the independence university study gives you. I can plan my own learning and choose to study the areas I am interested in.

What are your future plans?
I have known for a while now that I want to work with children and have done lots of volunteering and tutoring. I think I would really enjoy working in education; hence an aspiration is perhaps to work as a Community Education Officer or go into schools as a mentor. Through my degree, I am gaining not just an understanding of the policies and theories that affect education, but am also gaining confidence and experience in presenting my ideas and addressing large groups of people. I think a Social Sciences degree is good for teaching you the kinds of skills that you need to get a job.

What advice would you give to someone coming to Kent?
Take advantage of all that is available, whether that is the expertise of the lecturers or the excellent resources. Make your university experience your own; if you do things your way, you will do your best.

From a personal point of view, I have Asperger’s and when I was diagnosed I wondered whether I would be able to go to university, but I would say to anyone who has a diagnosis, it doesn’t matter what label you have, you can still find a way of doing the things you want to do. I think one of the biggest worries for most students is whether they will make friends, and when you have Asperger’s it can be more difficult, but if you make the leap, you will reap the rewards. I love it here; there is nowhere else I want to be.
A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE

Kent equips you with essential skills to give you a competitive advantage when it comes to getting a job. We are consistently in the top 20 for graduate starting salaries and, six months after graduation in 2012, only 6% of Kent graduates were without a job or a further study opportunity.

Studying for a BSc in Social Sciences develops your key transferable skills in communication, report writing, teamworking, project management, leadership, problem solving and reflection. Graduates of this interdisciplinary programme are adaptable and flexible in their ways of thinking about issues and problem solving, and approach tasks in a rigorous, ethical, yet creative and reflective, fashion. Our students learn to consider a range of perspectives on social issues, and as graduates have a strong awareness of the cultural contexts that can inform their work.

Our graduates can take on positions of leadership in addition to working effectively and considerately in teams. These skills and attributes are valued in a variety of professions including teaching, research, policymaking, local government, Civil Service, management in the public, private or voluntary sectors, marketing, care and counselling, psychology and the police.

If you wish to stay in Medway, there are many opportunities available locally – studies of regional employers show that there is an unmet demand for graduates in the Medway area.

Gain transferable skills
Studying for a degree is not just about mastering your particular subject area. Employers are looking for a range of key skills and you are encouraged to develop employability skills throughout your degree programme. Dealing with challenging ideas, thinking critically, the ability to write well and communicate your ideas clearly are among the important skills that you gain at Kent.

Careers advice
The University of Kent’s Careers and Employability Service can give you advice on how to choose your future career, how to apply for jobs, how to write a good CV and how to perform well in interviews and aptitude tests. It also provides up-to-date information on graduate opportunities before and after you graduate.

For more details, see www.kent.ac.uk/employability

DID YOU KNOW?
Kent is ranked 3rd in the UK for social policy graduate prospects in The Guardian University Guide 2014.
Aileen Coleman graduated with a First in Social Sciences in 2010.

Why did you choose Kent?
As a mature student with children, Kent was a matter of convenience. However, I was also advised by my college tutors that it was prestigious as well.

What attracted you to the course?
The course offered a diverse range of subjects that I felt would provide me with a broad range of knowledge. I could later specialise in one particular area that I felt of interest. It was also relevant and topical, so I could obtain a solid understanding of current affairs.

What were the lecturers like?
My lecturers were inspiring. They gave me the confidence to believe that I could graduate. Their belief in me, and advice throughout, enabled me not only to complete the course but gain a First!

How did your degree course lay the foundations for your chosen career path?
I feel it was perfect, as it was fluid enough to allow room for manoeuvre into many areas of working in the public sector. This was essential as I was not entirely sure what I wanted to do once I left university. I did know that I loved working with people so this provided the ideal springboard to allow for this and then later specialise in a particular area.

Could you describe your career path since leaving Kent?
After leaving Kent, I was still not sure what I wanted to do. I took a temporary job as a teaching assistant for three months, and then was lucky enough to be offered a place on a fast-track six-month graduate teacher programme at a local secondary school. They were impressed that my degree had covered so much ground and so I was able to work within several departments – a huge asset to schools these days! On a training day in a special needs school, I found my true calling. I loved it so much that I applied for a job there once qualified, and am currently just about to finish my NQT (Newly Qualified Teacher) programme and have never been happier in a job!

Could you describe a typical day in your current role?
There is no such thing as a typical day in a special needs school! However, a snapshot would be something like, arrive at 7.30am and organise admin and ensure that I have all the resources I need for that day. When my assistants arrive, we brainstorm any issues we may have with students. Lessons start at 8.50am and the day finishes for the students at 3.15pm. I then tidy up any loose ends and attempt to solve any issues that have occurred during the day. Finally, I plan my lessons for the next day, leaving around 5.30pm. Although it is a long day, I love my job so that it really does not seem like work.

What are your future plans/aspirations?
I love my job and the school so much that I have no intention of leaving. I would ideally like to progress to being an excellent teacher so that I can share my best practice with other teachers borough-wide or even nationwide.

Do you have any other happy memories of Kent that you would like to share with us?
Kent has changed my life. Previously I had resigned myself to a clerical job in an office or a shop. However, with the advice and guidance of Kent professionals, my eyes have been opened to another world. I can now believe that I am a competent academic and can achieve anything I set my mind to. The memories of how positive and assertive lecturers were about how invaluable our education is will remain with me.

Finally, what advice would you give to someone thinking of coming to Kent?
Just do it! If you are planning a career working with people then this University provides the ideal stepping stones to a transition to the world of work. With such diverse people from all walks and all stages of life joining Kent, you get to mix with fellow students who show you another angle and spectrum of life. This has helped develop my empathy and understanding with members of the public that I now deal with at work and has proved beneficial in my working life and invaluable in everyday life.
CHOOSING YOUR PROGRAMME

On our BSc in Social Sciences, you explore questions about how society works and how social change happens from different interdisciplinary perspectives. These include sociology, social policy, psychology, social history, criminology and urban studies.

BSc Social Sciences
Social Sciences is studied over three years full-time, although may be studied part-time. You can choose to keep your studies broad by taking the general BSc (Hons) Social Sciences, or concentrate your focus in a particular pathway.

Programme pathways
Choosing a pathway means that at least 50% of your modules are in the named subject areas. Alongside these, you can explore options in other areas. By Stage 3 (your final year), you will be well prepared to undertake a dissertation in your chosen subject area. Our pathways offer a wider range of options than a joint honours degree but allow you to focus in the areas that most interest you.

Social Sciences (Sociology and Psychology)
If you are attracted to sociology and psychology, and don’t want to choose between them, this pathway could suit you. It offers distinct approaches to making sense of individuals and society. Your compulsory modules include Introduction to Sociology and Introduction to Psychology at Stage 1 (your first year), then at Stage 2 (your second year), Research Methods in Sociology, and Psychology Research Methods and Data Analysis.

Social Sciences (Sociology and Social Policy)
Sociology and Social Policy are closely connected. To understand the development and operation of social policy, you will benefit from knowledge of key sociological ideas. Your compulsory modules include Introduction to Sociology, and Social Problems and Social Policy at Stage 1, Research Methods in Sociology at Stage 2, Principles and Practice of Social Policy at Stage 2 or 3, and at Stage 3, Key Welfare Issues: Social Policy and Social Change.

Social Sciences (Sociology and Criminology)
If you want to better understand criminology in connection to key sociological ideas, this pathway is for you. Your compulsory modules include Introduction to Sociology, and Introduction to Criminology and Criminal Justice at Stage 1, and at Stage 2, Research Methods in Sociology and Issues in Criminal Justice.

Social Sciences (Psychology and Criminology)
This pathway allows you to develop knowledge in both psychology and criminology. Your compulsory modules include Introduction to Psychology and Introduction to Criminology and Criminal Justice at Stage 1, and at Stage 2, Psychology Research Methods and Data Analysis, Research Methods in Sociology, Issues in Criminal Justice and Forensic Psychology.

If you are not sure that you are on the right pathway at the start of your studies, or you change your mind about the direction you want to take, if you’ve covered the basics at Stage 1, you can switch to a pathway that suits you better.

Check our website for other opportunities: www.kent.ac.uk/sspssr/undergraduate

Flexible entry routes
We welcome international students and mature students who may not always have conventional qualifications. We can accept students who meet our entry criteria through comparable international qualifications or who demonstrate their potential through achievement on the Access to Higher Education Diploma. If you are applying from outside the UK without the necessary English language qualifications, you may be able to take the Kent International Foundation Programme (IFP). The Kent IFP can provide progression on to the Social Sciences degree programme. For more details, see www.kent.ac.uk/internationalpathways/ifp

For further details of our entry requirements, please see p19.
STUDYING AT
STAGE 1

Stage 1 is the first year of a full-time degree programme. On our Social Sciences degree, you are introduced to the core disciplines – sociology, social policy, psychology, social history and criminology – according to your preferences. You also engage with the key philosophical issues and technologies associated with social science research.

We use a variety of teaching methods, including lectures, case study analysis, group projects and presentations, and individual and group tutorials. Study groups are normally composed of no more than 15 to 20 students, and give you the opportunity to discuss a topic in detail. Assessment is by a mixture of coursework and examinations.

All students take the compulsory module:
• Methods of Social Research.

You also take three modules from the range of options below, depending on your pathway:
• Introduction to Contemporary Britain
• Introduction to Criminology and Criminal Justice
• Introduction to Psychology

Modules: Stage 1

Methods of Social Research
To begin your journey to become a social scientist, this module introduces you to the philosophy of social research from an interdisciplinary perspective, or how we know what we know. In the second term, you concentrate on technologies of social research for statistical and textual analysis.

Introduction to Contemporary Britain
The 20th century saw a profound shift in society. This module provides an understanding of the key political, economic and social changes in Britain in the 20th century and into the 21st that have shaped contemporary society. It also introduces you to the various approaches historians have used to investigate the period.

Introduction to Criminology and Criminal Justice
This module provides a comprehensive theoretical and applied understanding of some of the central issues, developments, and debates in criminology and criminal justice.

Introduction to Psychology
The discipline of psychology has a major impact on our understanding of individuals in society. This module provides you with an introduction to the science of psychology, including historical development, philosophical issues and the major theoretical schools of thought.

Introduction to Sociology
This module shows you the role that sociology has played in understanding modern society. You look at the schools of thoughts, concepts and debates, including the family, community, education, gender relations, mass media and markets.

Social Problems and Social Policy
Here, you are introduced to the study of social policy by looking at social problems and issues, including poverty and social exclusion, truancy, homelessness, the ageing population, domestic violence, the changing family structure, the work/life balance, and the impact of migrants and asylum seekers.

DID YOU KNOW?
In the 2013 National Student Survey, 96% of social policy students at Kent were satisfied with the quality of their course.
STUDYING AT STAGES 2 AND 3

Stages 2 and 3 are the second and final years of full-time study. You will deepen your knowledge and specialise in areas of interest according to your programme pathway.

Assessment is by a combination of coursework and examinations. Some modules, for instance research methods modules and the dissertation, are assessed entirely by coursework.

At Stage 2, all students take two of the following compulsory modules:
- Psychology Research Methods and Data Analysis
- Research Methods in Sociology
- Theory and Method in Historical Research.

At Stage 3, the following module is compulsory:
- Dissertation.

The following modules are optional over Stages 2 and 3.

**Sociology, Social Policy and Social History**
- Britain on Film
- Contested Cities: An Introduction to Urban Sociology
- Doing Visual Sociology
- Drugs: Production and Use in their Cultural Context
- Health and Health Services Policy
- Health, Illness and Society
- Key Welfare Issues: Social Policy and Social Change
- People, Politics and Participation
- Politics and Power

**Compulsory modules: Stages 2 and 3**

**Psychology Research Methods and Data Analysis**
- Developmental Psychology
- Forensic Psychology
- Human Cognition
- Psychology of Emotion and Motivation
- Psychology of Group Behaviour
- Psychology of Social Behaviour
- Psychology of Social Cognition
- Psychopathology

**Psychology**
- Applied Cognitive Psychology
- Applying Social Psychology to Work

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Stages 2 and 3 are the second and final years of full-time study. You will deepen your knowledge and specialise in areas of interest according to your programme pathway.

Assessment is by a combination of coursework and examinations. Some modules, for instance research methods modules and the dissertation, are assessed entirely by coursework.

At Stage 2, all students take two of the following compulsory modules:
- Psychology Research Methods and Data Analysis
- Research Methods in Sociology
- Theory and Method in Historical Research.

At Stage 3, the following module is compulsory:
- Dissertation.

The following modules are optional over Stages 2 and 3.

**Sociology, Social Policy and Social History**
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- Psychopathology

**Psychology**
- Applied Cognitive Psychology
- Applying Social Psychology to Work

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Research Methods in Sociology
What techniques and approaches do social researchers draw upon to gather, organise and interpret research evidence? How do we judge the quality of research? What are the strengths and weaknesses of different approaches and methodologies? In this module, you explore the process and debates surrounding how researchers produce knowledge about the social world, and learn how to apply this knowledge to project design and analysis.

Theory and Method in Historical Research
Introducing you to the main theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of history, this module considers the development of historical research using primary sources (archives) from the 19th century and the long-running debate over whether the discipline of history can be considered an art, a science or a craft. This module provides you with the necessary tools to be able to conduct and write up a piece of original historical research.

Dissertation
Your dissertation gives you the opportunity to undertake original, independent research in an area of particular interest to you. The topic of your dissertation is finalised after discussion with the relevant subject specialists and is supported by a designated supervisor.

Options: Sociology, Social Policy and Social History
Britain on Film
The period 1930-60 marks the high point of both the British film industry and cinema attendance as a major mass leisure activity. You consider the role of cinema in a variety of historical contexts: looking at the impact of economic depression and rising affluence upon the consumption of leisure products; the utilisation of film by governments for propaganda and morale-boosting in wartime; and the use of the medium for social and political critique. You also discover various ways in which visual sources can be used in historical research.

Contested Cities: An Introduction to Urban Sociology
Developing your understanding of the city as a context for social life, this module considers the historical development of cities, and the contemporary city and the ways it is contested by different social and cultural groups. You focus on key questions of who belongs in – and who is excluded from – the public spaces of the city, and discuss the ways that marginal social groups – the homeless, ethnic minorities, sexual dissidents, the elderly and the young – find their presence in the city questioned by the social ‘majority’.

Doing Visual Sociology
This module introduces you to different ways of looking at the social world via the creation and analysis of images relevant to sociological concepts and topics such as class, gender, place, work, home and mobility. You also gain methodological experience of exploring the world visually by producing and analysing your own photographs.

Drugs: Production and Use in their Cultural Context
This module explores the role of drug use in religion, ritual and social settings, to identify contrasts between integrated and dysfunctional patterns of use. Topics include methods of classification of substances, the association with economic expansion, political domination, social stratification and the emergence of a culture of consumption. By examining use and function in different cultural contexts, you learn about the social significance of drugs and the complexity of policymaking.

Health and Health Services Policy
Focusing on recent policy changes in the UK, this module introduces you to the analysis of health policy by exploring the major influences that have shaped such policies. Themes include the need to address inequalities through public health policies, a focus on the views of the user and the public, the emergence of evidence-based policy and practice, the marketisation and privatisation of health care, the introduction of managerialism, and attempts to regulate the medical profession and the impact of devolution.

CONTINUED OVERLEAF
Health, Illness and Society
Introducing you to the sociological analysis of health and illness, this module examines current debates in the sociology of health, illness and medicine drawing on both theoretical and empirical research. Topics include social inequalities in health and the influence of social-economic position, gender, ethnicity and migration; the political sociology of health care, for example, the relationship between the state and the pharmaceutical industry; and the changing structure, nature and regulation of medicines.

Key Welfare Issues: Social Policy and Social Change
This module provides an introduction to key issues in welfare. It adopts a comparative and historical perspective, taking a wide range of analytical approaches with particular emphasis on empirical analysis. You critically assess the ways in which welfare has been defined through time and how notions of the welfare state are constructed and represented. Please note that this module is offered at Stage 3 only.

People, Politics and Participation
You explore the nature of the public sphere in Britain. You look at how groups and individuals engage with the state, non-governmental actors/agencies and party politics. You examine topics including the role of the state and NGOs, citizenship, social capital, devolution and the ‘new localism’, and the internet and politics. The major schools of thought that theoretically represent the interrelationships between politics, social structures, ideologies and culture are also examined.

Politics and Power
This module explores the issues and perspectives on power distributions within and between Western and non-Western societies, and the social and political conflicts that lead to changes in the allocation of power. You examine the major schools of thought that theoretically represent the interrelationships between politics, social structures, ideologies and culture; the manifestation and regulation of conflict, including the causes of social protests, violence and revolutions; and studies of political ideologies and public opinions, including Marx and Neo-Marxism; Weber and Neo-Weberism; Tocqueville and Pluralism; identity politics; protests and resistance; and post-communist revolutions.

Principles and Practice of Social Policy
How does social policy practice affect welfare provision? This module examines the changing role of the state in welfare provision and looks at how welfare is distributed through the state, the family, the voluntary sector and the market. Focusing on the changes in social policy during the 1980s and 1990s, you assess the success of the Conservative government’s market reforms and examine the future of the welfare state in Britain.

Social Ethics
You develop an understanding of key concepts and theories in moral philosophy, particularly where they are relevant to contemporary ethical issues and social problems. You
become familiar with competing ethical perspectives and learn to critically evaluate the relevance of ethical theory in understanding contemporary public life. Topics include abortion, capital punishment, euthanasia and lying.

Social Justice Practice
You gain an understanding of the voluntary or ‘third sector’, its historic development and its contemporary role in social policy in Britain and in the Medway area in particular. You combine practical experience of voluntary work with academic study of the ‘third sector’, ‘civil society’ and the concept of ‘social justice’.

Women and Work: Britain 1850-1975
This module confronts many of the myths and mistaken assumptions concerning gender roles during the 19th and early 20th centuries with regard to women’s participation in paid and unpaid work. Drawing on the extensive literature of feminist historians on women’s work in Britain and on sociological insights, the module explores the themes of gender, paid employment and the family, and investigates both historical change and continuity.

Options: Criminology
Crime and Punishment in England 1750-1900
In this module, you critically evaluate the sources of crime history and learn about change and continuity in the criminal justice system. You study historical perspectives on the history of crime and punishment including Whig, Marxist, and revisionist. The module also includes a series of case studies on particular areas of policy such as juvenile delinquency, transportation, the campaign against capital punishment, the development of the prison, violent crime and the treatment of victims.

Issues in Criminal Justice
Providing an overview of the contemporary rationale, powers, procedures and practices of the criminal justice system, this module equips you with a theoretical foundation to help you understand the functions of the criminal justice system. The module addresses the social dimensions which affect the criminal justice system’s operation, and the social responses to crime and deviance. You also look at some of the technologies of social control.

The Politics of Criminal Justice
Criminal justice and criminal justice policy have become increasingly politicised in recent years. This module uses key examples, such as terrorism, dangerous offenders and capital punishment to highlight the interaction between popular opinion, research, policy formation and the criminalisation of particular groups. You analyse how and why crime has become such an important issue on the political agenda, and examine the important role that pressure groups (such as Nacro and the Howard League for Penal Reform) have played in mediating political rhetoric and policy.

Prisons, Probation and Offender Rehabilitation
One of the biggest challenges facing the operation of the criminal justice system is the difficult question of rehabilitating offenders so that they ‘give up’ crime. This module provides a critical examination of the historical and contemporary role, use and work of the correctional services in
England and Wales. You also consider various models of offender rehabilitation and their use in prisons and probation, risk assessment and parole, the resettlement of former prisoners in the community, and serious offenders’ desistance from crime.

**Restorative Justice: Concepts, Issues and Debates**
At a time of record prison populations and chronic rates of recidivism, there is growing criticism of conventional methods of punishing offenders. The restorative justice movement provides a sharp critique of the ineffectiveness of conventional criminal justice and prisons, and has introduced new forms of disposal. You examine the critique and the claims for alternatives, looking at the role of victims and what benefits they get from conventional and alternative forms of punishment, the role of emotions in affording closure and rehabilitation, and the significance of the community in reintegrating offenders.

**Women, Crime and Justice**
Women’s relationship to the criminal justice system has become a matter of increasing social and academic interest in recent years. This module examines the subject from both a historical and contemporary perspective, mainly concentrating on the system within England and Wales, but with some international comparisons. You examine the paradox that, while historically women have constituted a minority of offenders, mainstream criminology has tended to ignore questions of gender. You look at the historical role of the media in perpetuating stereotypical images of female offenders.

**Youth, Crime and Criminal Justice**
Youth crime is a field that attracts much public, political and media attention, and this module encourages you to critically assess the true prevalence and severity of crime committed by young people. The module starts by locating the fascination with youth and crime in its historical context, demonstrating that youth crime is neither a new nor novel phenomenon. You then move on to examine the developing and competing theories that seek to explain why young people commit crime.

**Options: Psychology**

**Applied Cognitive Psychology**
The practical application of psychological research upon cognitive processes is examined. The three main areas are: the relationships between brain processes and behaviour; using unusual neuropsychological syndromes and characteristics as examples; processes of reasoning and belief formation; and the relationship between cognition and emotion, for example, looking at the role of memory in depression. You develop a broad understanding of mind and behaviour that is useful for all areas of psychology.

**Applying Social Psychology to Work**
Focusing on the workplace, this module emphasises the applicability of social psychology research and theory. You look at material on individual, social and group processes, and apply theory to organisational settings. Areas of study include job satisfaction and productivity, organisational leadership and team building, and group decision-making within organisations.

**Developmental Psychology**
You examine developmental changes in social and cognitive processes from birth to adolescence, studying the interaction of biological and social factors throughout development. Topics covered include attachment, perceptual and cognitive abilities in infancy, acquisition of language, theories of cognitive development, social and moral development, self-concept and adolescence.

**Forensic Psychology**
Applying psychological theory and research to criminology and criminal justice, this module considers the origins of criminal behaviour, approaches to crime prevention, offender profiling, jury decision making, and eyewitness testimony. You take a critical approach to assessing the validity of theories and applications, and gain a sound understanding of the potential and limitations of psychology’s contributions to criminal justice.
Human Cognition
Cognition is a key area of psychology, dealing with research into the mind and mental processes. Here, you examine the cognitive processes involved in perception, attention, memory, imagery and reasoning. You consider topics such as the nature of memory, the role of memory in constructing a sense of self, cognitive processes in insight, intuition and the errors and biases in everyday thinking.

Psychology of Group Behaviour
People are social creatures. Indeed as a species, human survival has depended on living and working as a group, therefore no study of behaviour would be complete without considering these interactions. Here, you examine people as social creatures and question how group membership shapes our behaviour. Both within-group and between-group processes are examined, from stereotyping and prejudice to altruism and pro-social behaviour.

Psychology of Social Cognition
It is hypothesised that the human mind is specifically adapted to processing social information. This module examines the role of cognitive processes in forming beliefs and making decisions about ourselves and others, whether individually or in groups. Themes include the role of unconscious mental processes in social behaviour and biases in our perceptions of ourselves and others.

Psychopathology
Issues relating to mental health and psychopathology are discussed in this module, such as the problems in defining ‘abnormality’ and different theoretical accounts of psychopathology, including biological and social constructionist models. Personality disorders, developmental disorders and mental illness are discussed along with approaches to treatment. You gain an understanding of ethical and social issues relating to a diagnosis of abnormality, and the ability to critically evaluate the classification and diagnosis of mental disorders.
VISIT THE UNIVERSITY

Come along for an Open Day or a UCAS Visit Day and see what it is like to be a student at Kent.

Open Days
Open Days are held in the summer and autumn for potential students, and their families and friends, to have a look round the campus. The day includes a wide range of subject displays, demonstrations and informal lectures and seminars, and the chance to tour the campus with current students to view accommodation and facilities.

For more information, see www.kent.ac.uk/opendays

UCAS Visit Days
UCAS Visit Days take place between December and April and include a tour of the campus with a student guide and a talk about University life. You also have the chance to talk to one of the academics and discuss any queries about the course. For more details, see www.kent.ac.uk/visitdays

Informal visits
You are welcome to visit the campus at any time. We produce a leaflet that can take you on a self-guided tour and you may be able to meet up with an academic member of staff, although we cannot guarantee this. For more details, or to download a tour leaflet, please see www.kent.ac.uk/informal

Scholarships and bursaries
For details of scholarships and bursaries at Kent, see www.kent.ac.uk/scholarships

More information
For more information about the University, or to order another subject leaflet, please contact the Information and Guidance Unit.
T: +44 (0)1227 827272
Freephone (UK only): 0800 975 3777
www.kent.ac.uk/ug

You can also write to us at:
The Information and Guidance Unit,
The Registry, University of Kent,
Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NZ
Location
Medway.

Award
BSc (Hons).

Degree programme
Single honours
Social Sciences (L340:K)

Typical offer levels
BCC at A level, IB Diploma 34 points or IB Diploma with 13 points at Higher.
BTEC National Diploma with Distinction, Merit, Merit.
Successful completion of an Access course (considered individually – most common offer is obtain 50% of level 3 credits at Merit).
University of Kent Certificate in Social Science.

Mature students may be accepted on the basis of motivation and experience. The School is committed to widening participation, and has a long and successful tradition of admitting mature students.

Required subjects
None.

Offer levels and entry requirements are subject to change. For the latest course information, see www.kent.ac.uk/ug

On the web
For more information about Social Sciences at Medway, please visit www.kent.ac.uk/sspssr/undergraduate/socsci-medway.html

You can also find us on Facebook and Twitter:
• www.facebook.com/MedwaySSPSSR
• twitter.com/MedwaySSPSSR

Terms and conditions: the University reserves the right to make variations to the content and delivery of courses and other services, or to discontinue courses and other services, if such action is reasonably considered to be necessary. If the University discontinues any course it will endeavour to provide a suitable alternative.

To register for a programme of study, all students must agree to abide by the University Regulations (available online at: www.kent.ac.uk/regulations).

Data protection: for administrative, academic and health and safety reasons, the University needs to process information about its students. Full registration as a student of the University is subject to your consent to process such information.
COME AND VISIT US

We hold Open Days at our Canterbury and Medway campuses.
For more information, see: www.kent.ac.uk/opendays