1. **Title of the module**

SOCI8540 (SO854) The Sociology of Risk

1. **School or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**

School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research

1. **The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

Level 7

1. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**

20 credits (10 ECTS)

1. **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)**

Autumn term (term 1)

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

None

1. **The programmes of study to which the module contributes**

MA in Sociology

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

8.1 have acquired a clear understanding of contrasting sociological approaches to the study of ‘risk’ in society;

8.2 identify and critically discuss the political values that underpin sociological theories of ‘risk society’

8.3 to recognise the theoretical perspectives that inform empirical studies of risk perceptions and behaviours

8.4 communicate in written form the complexities of sociological debates on risk

1. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

9.1 demonstrate communication skills at an advanced level

9.2. Possess problem solving skills at an advanced level

9.3 working effectively with others

9.4 have improved their own learning techniques and competences

1. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

Topics covered in this module will include

- The Social Semantics of Risk in Historical Perspective

- Ulrich Beck and the ‘Risk Society’

- The ‘Cultural Theory’ of Risk

- Governmentality and Risk

- The ‘Perception of Risk’ in Sociological Perspective

- The ‘Management of Risk’ in Sociological Perspective

- Risk in Mass Media

- Risk, Subjectivity and ‘the endangered self’

- Transnational Risks and Civil Society

- World Risk Society: Retrospect and Prospect

1. **Reading list (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)**

Arnoldi J. *Risk* (Oxford: Polity, 2009)

Beck U. *Risk society: towards a new modernity* (Sage, 1992)

Douglas M.and Wildavsky A. *Risk and Culture: an essay on the selection of technical and environmental dangers* (University of California, 1982)

Lupton D., *Risk* (London Routledge,1996)

Adams J.(1995) *Risk* (London : UCL Press, 1995)

Pidgeon N. et al. *The Social Amplification of Risk* (Cambridge UP, 2003)

Taylor-Gooby, P. and O. Zinn J. (eds.) (2006): *Risk in Social Science*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

Zinn J. (ed.) (2008): *Social Theories of Risk and Uncertainty: An Introduction*. Oxford: Blackwell

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total contact hours: 22

Private study hours: 178

Total study hours: 200 hours

1. **Assessment methods**
   1. Main assessment methods

Coursework- essay (5000 words) – 100%

13.2 Reassessment methods

100% coursework

1. ***Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section12) and methods of assessment (section 13)***

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 |  | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 |  |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Private Study** | **X** |  | **X** | **X** |  |  | **X** |  | **X** |  |
| Lectures | **X** |  | **X** |  |  |  | **X** |  | **X** |  |
| Seminars | **X** | **X** | **X** |  |  | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Essay – 5000 words | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |  | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The School recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

1. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered**

Canterbury

1. **Internationalisation**

The module examines the sociology of risk in a global context and the range of research and presentation skills will be developed that are applicable to international contexts

**FACULTIES SUPPORT OFFICE USE ONLY**

**Revision record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
| 2004 | Original specification | September 2004 | N/A | N/A |
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| Updated by SSPSSR into CMA compliant format November 2018 |