Why do people develop the beliefs and attitudes they do towards issues such as justice, health, education, work, race and gender? As a Sociology student, you explore how societies work, evolve and transform, and develop the skills to analyse the social values we live by.
## Why Study Sociology at Kent?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Inspirational teaching</strong></th>
<th><strong>Academic support</strong></th>
<th><strong>Analytical skills</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Great teachers inspire enthusiasm and provoke debate. Whether lecturing on perceptions of crime or discussing youth subcultures, our staff are skilled at bringing their subject to life. They share their research and challenge you to contribute your ideas.</td>
<td>University is different from school. You need to be self-motivated and well organised to succeed. We help you by assigning you an academic adviser, running a peer mentoring programme and offering help with academic skills, such as essay writing.</td>
<td>Being confident in working with data and making sense of it is a great skill that appeals to employers. You can benefit from the expertise of the Q-Step Centre at Kent by studying social analytics and quantitative research skills as part of your degree.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>World-leading research</strong></th>
<th><strong>Student community</strong></th>
<th><strong>Lively campus</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>We are home to world experts in specialist areas across the social sciences, with one of the most dynamic research cultures in Europe. The books and articles we write and the debates we are involved in help to shape your course and the topics you are studying.</td>
<td>Kent Union is run by students, for students, to help you make the most of life at Kent. As well as running clubs, societies and social events, the student union is there to support you with advice on a wide range of issues and to ensure your voice is heard.</td>
<td>Kent is a campus university, so everything you need is within walking distance. You can watch a play or film at the Gulbenkian arts centre, dance at The Venue nightclub, keep fit at our sports centre and meet friends at one of many campus cafés and restaurants.</td>
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<th><strong>Excellent resources</strong></th>
<th><strong>Enhanced experience</strong></th>
<th><strong>Career success</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access more than 1 million books, ebooks, databases and journals at the University’s Templeman Library. Our expert subject librarians are on hand to help you find your way around and get the most from our specialist collections.</td>
<td>Our Employability Points scheme rewards you for getting involved in extra-curricular activities. Why not learn a new language, or become a student rep? You exchange your points for work experience and other activities that prepare you for the world of work.</td>
<td>Employability is a priority at the University of Kent. By studying, you sharpen skills that are useful in working life, such as time management and team work. We help you to develop a great CV and present yourself effectively to potential employers.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Broad-ranging programme

On our Sociology degree you learn to question and look behind the accepted view of social issues and experiences. The wide range of modules available gives you the flexibility to tailor your degree to topics that really interest you while providing a solid foundation in key sociological concepts. So whether you’re fascinated by the role of popular culture in shaping social attitudes or intrigued by the impact of globalisation on the world of work, Sociology at Kent gives you the skills to delve into the issues and challenge assumptions.

Independent rankings

The Times Good University Guide 2018
• Sociology at Kent ranked 11th overall

Research Excellence Framework
• Based on the most recent Research Excellence Framework, Kent was ranked in the top 20 for research intensity by the Times Higher Education, outperforming 11 of the 24 Russell Group universities

Destination of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE)
• Over 95% of Kent graduates who graduated in 2017 and responded to a national survey were in work or further study within six months

Teaching Excellence Framework
• Kent was awarded gold, the highest rating, in the UK government’s Teaching Excellence Framework*

*The University of Kent’s Statement of Findings can be found at www.kent.ac.uk/tef-statement
STUDENT VIEW

Selina Stroud is in the first year of her BA (Hons) degree in Sociology and Social Anthropology. This is what she told us about her course.

What attracted you to studying at Kent?
I came to Kent for an open day and immediately felt welcome. The campus felt extremely inviting and it’s easy to find your way around. I knew Kent placed well in the league tables for Sociology, so I was keen to see the department and the modules available and was not disappointed! For me, the academic side was the most important, but I was thrilled to discover the wide range of societies and activities available and I am much more involved in these than I expected to be.

How did you feel when you first arrived?
I was excited and apprehensive in equal measure, but the whole process was straightforward. My accommodation was really nicely presented, clean and had lots of storage.

How is your course going?
It’s been going really well this year and has been engaging throughout. I have been able to take optional modules in the areas that interest me – there was a varied and lengthy list of optional modules, so I knew it would be easy to find something I loved.

Which modules have you enjoyed most, and why?
For me, the most enjoyable module has been the Sociology of Everyday Life. It’s given me a really interesting perspective on a wide range of topics that sociology covers, with what we study being applied to everyday situations. I also really enjoyed the introductory module on criminology, which is why I’ve focused my selection of optional modules on criminology for the coming year.

How would you describe your lecturers?
My lecturers are all extremely passionate about their subject areas, which in turn inspires my interest. There is a lot of support available, such as seminars to help reinforce what the lecturer has taught, in an environment more suited to questions and discussion.

And what about your fellow students?
There’s a lot of diversity at Kent, and I find this benefits my seminar experience as it means there are many different viewpoints within debates. Everyone is here to learn and is enthusiastic about the subject area, so the environment is friendly.

What are the facilities like on campus?
There are a huge amount of facilities, such as the library, the sports centre and the cinema. There are lots of cafés to socialise or work in, and many study areas for individual or group activities. There are also a few bars, and the campus nightclub, which means you never have to go far for a night out!

Do you belong to any clubs or societies?
I’m a member of the Trampolining Society and absolutely love it. It has introduced me to a wide range of people from different year groups who aren’t on my course or living in my accommodation, which has been fun! I have been nominated for President next year and can’t wait to get further involved!

What kind of career do you hope to follow when you leave?
Initially, I hope to take a Master’s in one aspect of sociology. I hope this will allow me to develop my knowledge and undertake research that I can build on in my future career. I’m also interested in studying and working abroad and am fortunate to study at a university with many international connections, which can make this possible.

Any advice to somebody thinking of coming to Kent?
Kent is an ideal place to come to if you love social science and enjoy living and working in a relaxed environment. Although it is important to work hard, it is just as important to have fun, and this balance is easy to find here!
CHOOSING YOUR DEGREE

Not sure which programme to choose? You can study Sociology as a single honours course, with another subject as joint honours, or with Quantitative Research. Here’s a guide to what’s available.

Note: Stage 1 of your degree is the first year for full-time students, Stage 2 is the second year and Stage 3 is the third year. Part-time students spend two years completing each stage. If you decide to spend a year studying abroad (see p9), you do this between Stages 2 and 3.

**Sociology**
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/245
Sociology is studied over three years full-time or six years part-time. You learn about social theory and develop skills in research and critical thinking. A wide choice of optional modules allows you to study topics ranging from crime and violence to popular culture. In Stage 3 you can choose to undertake a research project.

At the end of Stage 1 you may have the option to move on to the Social Policy with Quantitative Research programme. If you opt to do this, you participate in a two-week summer school to prepare you for Stage 2.

**Sociology with Quantitative Research**
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/1373
On this degree you take advantage of the expertise on offer at our specialist Q-Step Centre, funded by the Nuffield Foundation. Alongside your Sociology studies, you learn to think like a quantitative researcher, developing a critical eye for statistics and data analysis, both in academic research and the world around you. In Stage 3, you either choose a dissertation topic involving quantitative research or go on a work placement. See www.kent.ac.uk/qstep for more information.

**Joint honours**
On a joint honours degree, your studies are split equally between two subjects. Joint honours degrees currently available are:
- Criminology and Sociology (www.kent.ac.uk/360)
- English and American Literature and Sociology (www.kent.ac.uk/251)
- Law and Sociology (www.kent.ac.uk/335)
- Philosophy and Sociology (www.kent.ac.uk/349)
- Social Policy and Sociology (www.kent.ac.uk/359)
- Sociology and Economics (www.kent.ac.uk/343)
- Sociology and Politics (www.kent.ac.uk/344)
- Sociology and Social Anthropology (www.kent.ac.uk/146).

**International students**
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 to a Sociology degree programme. See www.kent.ac.uk/ifp for more details.
YEAR ABROAD

At Kent, you have the opportunity to broaden your experience by spending a year studying overseas.

The year abroad usually takes place between Stages 2 and 3 of your degree course.

Year abroad

Going abroad as part of your degree is an amazing opportunity and a chance for you to develop academically, personally and professionally. You gain confidence and independence and further develop many of the transferable skills employers are looking for, such as the ability to communicate effectively and to plan and organise your time. You also demonstrate that you are flexible in your outlook and have the enthusiasm and drive to succeed in a new environment.

For many students, their year abroad is a life-changing and rewarding experience. Having risen to the challenge of living in another country, they have a renewed belief in their ability to succeed.

We work with a wide range of partner universities in many countries, which currently include Belgium, Canada, Finland, China (Hong Kong), Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Singapore, Spain and the USA. At the majority of our partner universities you study in English.

You need to have reached certain academic standards in Stages 1 and 2 in order to participate. Your year abroad is assessed on a pass/fail basis and doesn’t count towards your final degree classification. See www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad/opportunities/az.html for more information.

Work placement

If you choose to study Sociology with Quantitative Research, you have the opportunity to undertake a work placement module during Stage 3. The Q-Step Centre supports you in finding a suitable placement.

The work placement allows you to hone your skills in a practical setting, gain vital workplace or research experience and demonstrate to employers that you can apply your skills to real-life problems. You complete a portfolio reflecting on your experiences, which forms part of your assessment; the placement module counts towards your final degree classification.

See www.kent.ac.uk/qstep for further information.
YOUR STUDY PROGRAMME

Our programme is designed to equip you with the knowledge of sociological theory that you need to analyse, evaluate and address many fascinating social issues.

Single honours
In Stage 1 (first year for full-time students) you take a number of compulsory modules to ensure you develop a broad understanding of sociology at degree level, plus some optional modules. In Stages 2 and 3 (your second and third years if you are a full-time student), you take compulsory modules that focus on sociological theory and social research methods. A wide range of optional modules make up the remainder of your degree programme. At each stage, you also have the opportunity to choose ‘wild’ modules from other programmes.

Stage 1
Sociology
You take four compulsory modules:
- Critical Thinking (SO341)
- Fundamentals of Sociology (SO337)
- Sociological Theory: The Classics (SO408)
- Sociology of Everyday Life (SO336).

You also take one from the following:
- Introduction to Criminology (SO305)
- Modern Culture (SO334)
- Social Policy and Social Control (SA300).

You then choose optional modules from a wide range on offer in the Faculty of Social Sciences, for example:
- Contemporary Culture and Media (SO335)
- Crime and Society (SO333)
- Crime, Media and Culture (SO605)
- Health, Care and Well-being (SA301).

Sociology with Quantitative Research
You take compulsory Sociology modules as described above. In addition you take the following compulsory module in quantitative research:
- Doing Social Research with Numbers (SO410).

You also choose optional modules from the wide range available (see examples under Sociology above).

Stages 2 and 3
Sociology
You take the following compulsory modules:
- Contemporary Sociological Theory (SO727)
- Social Research Methods (SO602).

Students also take at least six optional modules. Here is a selection of what is typically available:
- The Care and Protection of Children and Families (SA531)
- Cultures of Embodiment (SO676)
- Digital Culture (SO657)
- Drugs, Culture and Control (SO689)
- Emotion, Media and Culture (SO742)
- Gender, Crime and Criminal Justice (SO533)
- Health, Illness and Medicine (SO509)
- Modern Chinese Societies (SO709)
- Popular Culture, Media and Society (SO750)
- Poverty, Inequality and Social Security (SO575)
- Race and Racism (SO537)
- Reproductive Health Policy in Britain (SO595)
- Research Dissertation (SO679)
- Risk and Society (SO659)
- ‘Selfies’: Individualisation and Society (SO6011)
- Social Sciences in the Classroom (SE556)
- Sociology of Crime and Deviance (SO505)
- The Sociology of Work (SO668).

Joint honours
Joint honours students generally take some of the compulsory modules from each of their subjects; this may mean that you do fewer optional modules.

Module information
Please note: the module lists below are not fixed as new modules are always in development and choices are updated yearly. Please see www.kent.ac.uk/ug for the most up-to-date information.
Sociology with Quantitative Research

At Stage 2 you take the following compulsory modules:
- Contemporary Sociological Theory (SO727)
- How to Win Arguments with Numbers (SO746)
- The Power and Limits of Causal Analysis (SO744)
- Qualitative Social Research Methods (SO546).

You take further optional modules from a wide range available.

At Stage 3, you choose one of the following compulsory modules:
- Placement Module – The Practice of Quantitative Social Research (SO748)
- Quantitative Research Dissertation (SO756).

You take optional modules from a wide range available (see examples under Sociology on p10).

Teaching and assessment

On average, you have four hours of lectures and up to four hours of seminars a week. Seminars involve discussion of lectures and reading assignments.

Stage 1 is continuously assessed, and the coursework marks combine with the results from end-of-year exams in each module. These marks do not count towards your final degree result.

At Stages 2 and 3, modules are generally assessed by 50% coursework and 50% examination. Your marks at Stages 2 and 3 count towards your final degree result.

Further information

See www.kent.ac.uk/ug for details of all our programmes.

“I can honestly say that I view the world, people and my society differently. I understand it more, in terms of why people/societies do what they do. My entire time at Kent was stimulating.”

Kyla Evans
Sociology
SUPERB STUDY SUPPORT

We’ll support you throughout your time at Kent, from helping you adjust to university study to discussing module choices and essay topics with you.

You are assigned an academic adviser in your first year, and they help you get the most from your degree programme. They meet with you regularly to discuss general academic issues or specific assignments. They will assist you in developing academic skills and refer you to other sources of help if you need it.

Peer support

The best advice often comes from people who’ve been in your situation. On our Academic Peer Mentoring scheme, first-year students can request to be matched with second- or third-year students on a similar degree programme.

Peer mentors will help you settle in to university life and find your feet. They can help you to discuss ideas and improve your study skills as you progress through your first year.

Study skills advice

Successful students take control of their own learning. Kent’s Student Learning Advisory Service (SLAS) can help you to increase your competence and confidence and fulfil your potential. You can request a one-to-one appointment or attend workshops on a diverse range of topics, from making the most of lectures to writing well and avoiding plagiarism.

Student support and wellbeing

You might need extra help to get the most from university. If you have a medical condition, specific learning difficulty, mental health condition or disability, the Student Support and Wellbeing team is there to support you.

The team is committed to improving access to learning for all students at Kent and can assist with many things, including:

• arranging note-takers, signers and other support workers for you
• discussing exam access arrangements
• helping you with emotional, psychological or mental health issues
• applying for relevant funding to support you.

Find out more at: www.kent.ac.uk/studentsupport

“Peer mentoring is open to absolutely everyone. We’ve signed up to be peer mentors and we really do want to help, so take advantage of it.”

Evangeline Agyeman
Peer mentor
Experience work

Taken as part of your degree programme, the Kent Student Certificate for Volunteering Platinum Award allows you to develop transferable skills in leadership, mentoring, project management and working within teams and organisations. The Social Sciences in the Classroom module gives you experience of working in a professional environment and communicating ideas effectively.

Find a great job

Sociology graduates are well equipped for careers that require independent thinkers with a deep understanding of the forces at work within society. Examples of the sectors they work in include teaching, social work, probation services, marketing, human resources and charities.

The School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research (SSPSSR) supports you with employability events tailored to Sociology students, from exploring career options to presenting your skills and experience to employers.

Visit our careers fair to talk to potential employers and use our award-winning Careers and Employability Service for advice on preparing your CV. Our track record speaks for itself: just six months after graduating in 2017, over 95% of Kent graduates who responded to a national survey were in work or further study (DLHE, 2017).

What do you hope to do once you have your degree? Whether you have a specific career path in mind or haven’t thought much beyond university, we can help you to achieve success in the future.

Build your CV

Your degree studies help you to develop skills such as analysing information, thinking critically, expressing yourself clearly, solving problems, and working independently and as part of a team. These transferable skills are widely valued by employers in all sectors.

At Kent, you have lots of other great opportunities to enhance your skills. For instance, you could:
- join a society or sports club (even better – get involved in running it)
- volunteer in the community
- work in a part-time job or take up a summer internship
- represent your fellow students as a student rep, or become a student ambassador
- learn a new language or skill with Study Plus.

Getting involved like this means that you can earn Employability Points, which you can exchange for employability rewards. The more points you earn, the more valuable the rewards: we work with local, national and international employers to offer internships, work experience and a range of other activities that prepare you for the world of work.
Jack Warner graduated in 2017 with a first-class degree in Sociology. Here’s what he told us about his studies and life after Kent.

I chose to study Sociology as I have an absolute passion for how human societies are organised. I studied Sociology for GCSE, and have been impressed ever since. The School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research (or SSPSSR) at Kent does well in the league tables, so it was a simple choice to make.

There’s something truly unique and welcoming about the campus atmosphere, which is particularly important when you are the first generation in your family to attend university. From being a student ambassador to joining an international volunteering society and running my own project, I managed to create memories and friends that will last a lifetime.

I found all of my undergraduate studies interesting, but the most inspiring parts were probably the more niche modules, such as Modern Chinese Societies, and the Sociology of Work. I’m intrigued by socio-economics, so the Sociology of Work was an excellent opportunity to find my interest, which subsequently became my field of choice for my PhD studies.

The University provides lots of careers support, whatever you are planning to do after graduation. There are so many opportunities to develop your skills; you just have to look out for them. There are employability festivals to help students find their calling and get onto the job ladder. Alternatively, if you are like me and are leaning towards a career in academia, then the option for further study is always encouraged.

In the future, I plan to undertake a PhD and eventually become an economic sociologist. Eventually, I would like to return to SSPSSR to set up a programme in economic sociology here.

If you are thinking about coming to Kent, my advice would be to visit the campus, and then you will understand what I mean about the atmosphere of this place. The University of Kent has helped me to develop as a person in ways that I could never have imagined. This place is my home, and I have become very attached to it. For anyone who wishes to be inspired, to be challenged or to improve their employment prospects, Kent is a great choice.
Choosing a university is a big step, so it’s important to find out as much as you can before you make your decision. Come and visit us to see what we can offer you.

Open Days
Open Days are a great way to find out what life as a student at Kent is like. For instance, you can:
- learn more about the course you are interested in at a subject presentation
- ask questions – talk to the academic teams at the information stands
- experience our teaching at a taster lecture*
- find out about student finance, opportunities to study abroad and extracurricular activities such as Kent Sport.

Explore the campus at your own pace on the self-guided walking tour. You will be able to visit different types of accommodation, chat to current students and enjoy the stunning views over the city of Canterbury.

Open Days are held in the summer and autumn. Book your place at www.kent.ac.uk/opendays

Applicant Days
If you apply to Kent and we offer you a place (or ask you to come for an interview), you will usually be invited to an Applicant Day. Applicant Days run in the autumn and spring terms and are an opportunity to find out about the course in more detail. You spend time with your academic school meeting staff and current students, and take part in activities that give you a flavour of your prospective course and university life.

Informal visits
If you can’t make it to an Open Day or Applicant Day, you can still visit us. We run tours of the campus throughout the year. If you live outside Europe, we appreciate that you might find it difficult to attend our scheduled events, so we can arrange a personal campus tour for you and your family.

Let us know you’re coming
Scheduled tours and personal campus tours (for international students) need to be booked in advance – you can do this via www.kent.ac.uk/informal

Meet us in your country
Our staff regularly travel overseas to meet with students who are interested in coming to Kent. We also have strong links with agents in your home country who can offer guidance and information on studying at Kent. To find out more, visit www.kent.ac.uk/courses/international

* Programme of events varies according to subject.
Self-guided tours
If you prefer to explore on your own, you can download a self-guided walking tour at: www.kent.ac.uk/informal or pick up a copy from us.

A self-guided audio tour is available too, which allows you to learn about Kent without even leaving home. See www.kent.ac.uk/courses/visit/informal/audio-tour.html

Explore online
If you can't come and see us, you can find out more about the academic team, the course and events in the School online at www.kent.ac.uk/sspssr

Keep in touch with us via social media:
• www.facebook.com/Kentsspssr
• www.twitter.com/sspssr
• www.youtube.com/sspssr

Contact us
If you would like more information on Kent's courses, facilities or services, please contact us on: T: +44 (0)1227 768896 www.kent.ac.uk/ug

Location
Canterbury

Award
BA (Hons)

Programme type
Full-time and part-time

Degree programmes
Single honours
• Sociology (L300)
• Sociology with Quantitative Research (L3G3)

Joint honours
Sociology and ...
• Criminology (LM39)
• Economics (LL13)
• English and American Literature (LQ33)
• Law (LM31)
• Philosophy (LVH5)
• Politics (LL32)
• Social Anthropology (LL36)
• Social Policy (LL34)

Offer levels
Single honours
BBB at A level; IB Diploma
34 points or 15 points at HL;
BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma
Distinction, Distinction, Merit.

Joint honours
For details of offer levels, please go to www.kent.ac.uk/ug and visit the course page for your chosen joint honours programme.

Flexible entry
The School is committed to widening participation and has a successful tradition of admitting mature students. We welcome applications from students on accredited Access courses.

Year abroad
See p9.

Scholarships and bursaries
For details of scholarships and bursaries, please see www.kent.ac.uk/ugfunding

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

This brochure was produced in June 2018. The University of Kent makes every effort to ensure that the information contained in its publicity materials is fair and accurate and to provide educational services as described. However, the courses, services and other matters may be subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, see www.kent.ac.uk/ug and for full details of our terms and conditions, see www.kent.ac.uk/termsandconditions

For the University to operate efficiently, it needs to process information about you for administrative, academic and health and safety reasons. Any offer we make to you is subject to your consent to process such information and is a requirement in order for you to be registered as a student. All students must agree to abide by the University rules and regulations at: www.kent.ac.uk/regulations
COME AND VISIT US

To find out more about visiting the University, see our website:
www.kent.ac.uk/visit