



PARTNERS ACADEMIC SUMMER SCHOOL 2025

Syllabus for Sociology

Subject Area

This syllabus is for PARTNERS applicants seeking to progress to the degrees of:

- L300 BA Hons Sociology
 - LL32 BA Hons Politics and Sociology
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Aims

To allow students to demonstrate their potential to succeed in specified degree programmes by showing a grasp of entry-level subject-specific knowledge, understanding, cognitive and subject-specific skills.

Learning Outcomes

A good knowledge and understanding of ...

- Students will gain a broad understanding of theories and methods in sociology. They will have the chance to understand how these theories and methods are applied in practice in several specific research areas/topics (e.g. migration, urban sociology, heritage, social identities, inequalities, etc.).

The ability to apply this knowledge and critical understanding to...

- Students will apply the theoretical knowledge they gain in seminar group exercises and in the formative assessment which requires them to delve more deeply into one of the substantive topics covered and devise a well-structured essay plan.

Competence in...

- Demonstrate introductory knowledge of theories, skills and methods in the social sciences.
- Apply sociological theories and concepts to a written assignment.
- Begin to think critically, to develop sociological arguments, and to carry out their own research on a particular topic.
- Learn through participation in small group discussions (online).

Summer School Syllabus

1. Content: Following three sessions introducing sociology as a discipline and the specificities of the sociology degree at Newcastle University, there will be five topical learning blocks. The specific focus of these topics depend each year on the specialisms of the lecturers who will deliver them, but in previous years these included: migration, inequalities, poverty, cities and urban sociology, and heritage.

2. Teaching methods: in order to achieve the stated aims and objectives, a variety of teaching methods will be used including lectures and seminars (both on campus and online), Canvas discussion board activities to facilitate engagement with the teaching team and students, and hours dedicated for personal reading. A 'Hints and Tips' live zoom session will include an opportunity for an assignment-specific Q&A. Please see Timetable for specific details.

3. Purpose/objectives:

- theories and methods in the social sciences;
- thinking more critically about issues developed in lecture and seminar discussions;
- developing practical skills, including searching for information in the university library and on the internet; computing and word processing skills in completing assignments; and, communication skills through participating in seminar discussions and presenting ideas in writing and orally.

Activities for Personal Study

At the start of the week, students will be provided with required readings and set questions to help them prepare for the seminar sessions, discussion boards and formative assessment.

On-Campus Teaching:

Sunday 29th June (PM), Monday 30th June & Tuesday 1st July

Online Teaching:

Wednesday 2nd, Thursday 3rd & Friday 4th (AM only) July

Formative Assessment Details

Single page essay outline

More details will be given during the event by your Academic Strand Lead.

Hand-in Method

Digital

Assessment deadline

Friday 4th July – 1pm