

Sociology

Convener: Dr Tim Majoribanks

Sociology at the University of Melbourne explores the social patterns characterising contemporary societies. The program also equips students with a range of research skills that allow them to design and carry out data collection and analysis, from in-depth interviewing techniques to computer-based data analysis. Many subjects involve a fieldwork emphasis that underpins the professionally oriented skills that students develop. Majoring students may undertake an internship in a public, corporate or community sector organisation. The program has a strong research identity, with international links to North America, Asia and Europe. Sociology graduates are able to choose a variety of career paths that draw on the substantive areas of their study as well as research skills. Students interested in expanding their interests and knowledge are provided with an articulated structure of higher degree options at the University of Melbourne.

The discipline of sociology involves the study of social practices and relationships. The program at the University of Melbourne focuses on major areas of social change and professional employment. These include the social patterns and issues involved in emerging global cities, media and communications, work and organisations, cyberspace, family transformation, youth issues, health and illness, as well as contemporary forms of social movement and social problems from drug use to poverty. The program in sociology also includes subjects offered through the departments of anthropology, political science, criminology, geography and social theory.

Prerequisites

The program commences at first-year and there are no prerequisites for entry at this level.

The general prerequisite for second/third-year subjects in sociology is 25 points of first-year sociology. Students with a 12.5-point sociology subject and another first-year subject from anthropology, criminology, political science or geography may also proceed.

Diploma in Arts (Sociology)

The Diploma in Arts (Sociology) is only available to students who are currently enrolled in a degree course at the University of Melbourne. It consists of a three-year sequence of study, and adds one year to the duration of your degree.

Students must complete 25 points of first-year subjects and 75 points of second/third-year subjects selected from the lists below, including at least five core subjects. Alternatively, students who have completed appropriate background studies at first year may complete 100 points of second/third-year subjects from the list below, including at least five core subjects.

Requirements for a major

A major in sociology usually consists of nine 12.5-point subjects, totalling 112.5 points. It comprises:

- two first-year subjects in sociology (25 points); and
- seven subjects taken at level two or level three (87.5 points), five of which **must** be chosen from the list of sociology **core** units (62.5 points).

Sociology subjects

First year

Students take two of the following first-year subjects towards a major in sociology.

subjects	Sem.
166-104 Trans-Cultural Exploration of Daily Life (<i>p.2</i>)	N/A
166-107 Media, Politics and Society (<i>p.2</i>)	2
166-109 Cyberspace: The Last Frontier? (<i>p.2</i>)	2
166-111 Inequalities in Australian Society (<i>p.3</i>)	2
166-130 Globalisation, the Social & Identity (<i>p.2</i>)	1

Second/third year and third/fourth year

Students must take **five** of the following subjects at second- or third-year level toward their sociology major. Subjects offered at third/fourth-year must be taken at level three. Students planning to undertake fourth-year honours should note the honours entry requirements.

Core subjects	Sem.
Sociology	
166-081 Quantitative Social Research (<i>p.2</i>)	2
166-082 Work, Management & Globalisation (<i>p.3</i>)	1
166-083 Sociology of Youth & Youth Policy (<i>p.3</i>)	2

Core subjects

166-084 Global Cities: Sociological Explorations (<i>p.3</i>)	Sem.
166-085 Identities & Action: Social Movements (<i>p.3</i>)	N/A
166-086 Qualitative Research Strategies (<i>p.3</i>)	1
166-089 Sociology Internship (<i>p.3</i>)	N/A
166-090 Love, Family and Sexuality (<i>p.4</i>)	N/A
166-091 Medicine, Health and Illness (<i>p.4</i>)	N/A
166-210 Political Communication (<i>p.7</i>)	1
166-213 Using Computers in the Social Sciences (<i>p.4</i>)	N/A
166-216 Terrorism: Shifting Paradigms (<i>p.4</i>)	2
166-485 Theorising the Social (<i>p.4</i>)	1

Criminology

191-008 Sociology of Crime and Deviance (<i>p.3</i>)	2
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Geography

121-017 Society and Environments (<i>p.3</i>)	2
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Social theory

136-074 Society: Revolutions to Social Movements (<i>p.2</i>)	Sem.
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Optional subjects

Political science	Sem.
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166-004 Change & Conflict in Australian Society (<i>p.3</i>)	N/A
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166-032 Sexual Politics (<i>p.6</i>)	1
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Social theory

136-073 Critical Theories (<i>p.2</i>)	2
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Anthropology

121-057 Ethnic Nationalism and the Modern World (<i>p.2</i>)	N/A
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121-060 Power, Ideology and Inequality (<i>p.2</i>)	1
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Criminology

191-003 Crime and Public Policy (<i>p.2</i>)	1
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191-415 Youth Crime and Society (<i>p.3</i>)	2
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191-417 Corporate and White Collar Crime (<i>p.3</i>)	2
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191-422 Women, Gender and Crime (<i>p.4</i>)	2
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Geography

121-015 Development and the Third World (<i>p.3</i>)	2
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Honours entry

The prerequisite for entry to fourth-year honours in sociology is:

- completion of all the requirements for the BA; and
- completion of a major in sociology with an average grade of H2A or higher over the second/third-year subjects within the major; and
- completion of 166-081 Quantitative Social Research (*p.2*) and 166-086 Qualitative Research Strategies (*p.3*).

Entry to honours must be approved by the convener of sociology and the Faculty of Arts honours course adviser.

Students wishing to undertake their thesis in sociology will need to make a written application to the sociology convener by 31 October. Forms are available in the political science office from September.

Honours requirements

Pure honours

Students undertaking pure honours in sociology must complete:

- 166-500 Sociology Thesis (*p.5*) or 166-528 Sociology Thesis (MYE) (*p.5*) (37.5 points); and
- five honours subjects in sociology chosen from the list below (62.5 points).

Honours and postgraduate diploma students who did not complete 166-485 Theorising the Social (*p.4*) at third-year level must complete this subject as part of their fourth-year studies.

Combined honours

Students undertaking combined honours in sociology and another area of study must complete:

- 166-500 Sociology Thesis (*p.5*) or 166-528 Sociology Thesis (MYE) (*p.5*) (37.5 points); and

- two honours subjects chosen from the list below; and
- three honours subjects in the combined area of study (37.5 points).

or

- honours thesis in the combined area of study (37.5 points); and
- two honours subjects in the combined area of study (25 points); and
- three honours subjects chosen from the list below (37.5 points).

Honours subjects

	Sem.
Sociology	
121-503 Research Methods and Design (p.8)	Summer
166-414 Comparative Social Policy (p.5)	2
166-415 Organisations and Social Policy (p.5)	1
166-485 Theorising the Social (p.4)	1
History and philosophy of science	
136-532 Reading Texts in Social Theory (p.3)	N/A
136-533 Theories of Modernity (p.3)	2
Politics	
166-410 Approaches to Political & Social Inquiry (p.9)	1
166-412 Heterarchy, Networks & Self Organisation (p.9)	N/A
166-413 Network Society (p.10)	N/A
Criminology	
191-417 Corporate and White Collar Crime (p.3)	2
191-422 Women, Gender and Crime (p.4)	2
191-434 Victims (p.5)	2

Further study

Masters and doctoral thesis supervision is available, depending on the area of research of the candidate. A coursework masters option in social policy is also available.

Career opportunities

Sociologists work in a wide range of areas, in government, private and community sectors. They work on questions such as changing family patterns, changes in ethnic communities, health and employment issues. In the public sector sociologists work in areas such as neighbourhood and community service development, or in social policy in areas dealing with ageing, youth or women's issues and services. They are involved in program implementation and development, in social and environmental impact assessment, and in evaluation in areas such as health programs, urban development or housing policies.

Sociologists also work in the media, public communication and marketing. They are involved in workplace change, employed by union or employer organisations, or work as consultants. They are found in private and public social forecasting organisations. They are involved in community consultations and community relations work, where for example, large organisations such as hospitals have to understand and respond to community concerns or specific groups.

Sociologists are also found in non-government organisations such as social change groups, peak bodies and research and policy organisations such as the Institute of Family Studies.

Sociologists are involved in policy evaluation and program implementation. They are involved in promoting public debate, constructing competing ways of exploring questions facing our society and culture. In a whole range of areas, sociologists are employed in jobs that are part of shaping and making sense of the world we live in.

For more information

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First-year subjects**166-111 Inequalities in Australian Society**

See full subject details on page 3.

166-107 Media, Politics and Society

See full subject details on page 2.

166-109 Cyberspace: The Last Frontier?

Availability: 1st year

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Millsom Henry-Waring

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures and a 1-hour tutorial per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: Cyberspace is arguably one of the last frontiers known to humankind, yet little is known about its social impact. This subject introduces students to sociological analyses of cyberspace. It critically examines the development, maintenance and potential of cyberspace within a framework that questions the neutrality of technology and also pays particular attention to the social construction of the individual, the collective and wider social institutions. By exploring key contemporary theoretical debates and changing paradigms in sociology about identity, belonging and difference, this subject looks critically at the emergence of cyberspace as a new form of social interaction and organisation. Students will examine the social impact of cyberspace through a series of contemporary issues around the rise of online virtual communities; in particular, the use of fragmented, selected and anonymous online identities; new and existing forms of inequalities in cyberspace, specifically in relation to gender, ethnicity, racialisation and sexuality; the role of the state and private enterprise in promoting and curtailing cyberspace; the relationship between cyberspace and conventional and new forms of social movements.

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words.

166-130 Globalisation, the Social & Identity

Note: Formerly available as 166-080. Students who have completed 166-080 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 1st year

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Millsom Henry-Waring

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures and a 1-hour tutorial per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject introduces students to sociology, using self-identity as a lens to examine emerging social patterns linked to globalisation. The subject explores new forms of consumption; network as social structure; the transformation of technology from a tool to an environment; sport, religion and the symbolic; subcultures; the intimate family; the nature of contemporary social problems; emerging forms of conflict associated with globalisation. The subject is organised around key concepts of risk, identity, uncertainty, individualisation, network society, and power. The subject is 'decentred', exploring globalisation and social life in both Western and 'non-Western' societies, in particular Asia.

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words.

Prescribed texts: A subject reader will be available.

K McDonald, *Pressing Questions: Explorations in Sociology*, Issue 3, Pearson 2002.

166-104 Trans-Cultural Exploration of Daily Life

Availability: 1st year

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Semester: Not Offered

Description: Students will explore various aspects of society and everyday life using a trans-cultural sociological approach. Globalisation is as much a personal matter as it is a social transformation. This subject uses classical and contemporary sociological perspectives to examine - in Australia and beyond - such issues as race/ethnicity, class, gender, sexuality, life course, education, popular culture, religion and belief. In order to make the course concrete and relevant, students will participate in a sociological research project, to be conducted through the whole semester, wherein they will *apply* this trans-cultural sociological approach to study their own everyday lives. They will also get a sense of what and how sociologists can do professionally.

Second/third-year subjects**Core subjects****166-081 Quantitative Social Research**

Note: Students intending to do fourth-year honours in sociology must have completed this subject as part of their major.

Availability: 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Jui-Shan Chang

Prerequisites: Usually two first-year subjects in sociology, political science or a related area.

Contact: A 1.5-hour lecture and a 1-hour tutorial/workshop per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject introduces students to the logic and major processes of quantitative research focusing on survey research in particular. Students are taught how to do quantitative research via hands on experience in workshops or labs, which include the use of SPSS (industry standard data analysis software). Topics covered include research design and operationalisation, questionnaire design, data analysis and proposal and report writing.

This subject is relevant to research and to the informed interpretation of quantitative data in a range of disciplines. It is also relevant to employment in environments where numerical social data is collected or applied, including government, commercial, health and community organisations.

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words.

Prescribed texts: E Babbie, *The Basics of Social Research*, Wadsworth Publishing, 1999.

166-082 Work, Management & Globalisation

Note: Formerly available as 166-246/346. Students who have completed 166-246/346 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Tim Marjoribanks

Prerequisites: Usually two first-year sociology subjects.

Contact: A 1.5-hour lecture and a 1-hour tutorial per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: The subject provides a critical analysis of the structure and organisation of work and of managerial practice in an era of globalisation. It focuses on major contemporary issues such as the social organisation and experience of work; managerial practices in the firm; and transformations in work-related organisations. We will investigate specific topics including social relations within the workplace; the dignity of work; power and resistance in the workplace; knowledge work; experiences of race and gender in work; the emergence of new management techniques; and the influence of globalisation and technology. The subject will equip students with the ability to assess critically global transformations in the areas of work and management, with particular emphasis on the social, political and cultural dimensions of these transformations.

Assessment: Written and examination work totalling 4000 words.

Prescribed texts: A subject reader will be provided

M Noon & P Blyton, *The Realities of Work*, (2nd ed) Palgrave 2002.

166-083 Sociology of Youth & Youth Policy

Note: Formerly available as 166-250/350. Students who have completed 166-250/350 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Johanna Wyn

Prerequisites: Usually two first-year sociology subjects.

Contact: A 1.5-hour lecture and a 1-hour tutorial per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject introduces major sociological approaches to youth, and explores ways different groups of young people experience and interact with the state through examining youth policy. The subject locates youth experience in changing forms of socialisation, with reference to school, work, family, gender and sexual identities. It examines ways youth is constructed as a category of policy, discussing contemporary issues such as youth homelessness, health and legal issues. It focuses on young people's responses, exploring ways young people can be understood as social actors. On completion of this subject students should have a knowledge of contemporary sociological approaches to youth; have a knowledge of contemporary youth policy, with reference to current Australian debates; and have an ability to critically evaluate areas of contemporary youth policy.

Assessment: Essay and examination work totalling 4000 words.

Prescribed texts: P Dwyer & J Wyn, *Education and Risk: Facing the Future*, Routledge/Falmer 2001. • J Wyn & R White, *Rethinking Youth*, Allen & Unwin 1997. • J McLeod & K Malone (eds), *Researching Youth*, Australian Clearinghouse for Youth Studies 2000.

166-084 Global Cities: Sociological Explorations

Note: Formerly available as 166-255/355. Students who have completed 166-255/355 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Prerequisites: Usually two first-year sociology subjects.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject introduces the sociological study of the urban experience, in particular what it means to live in global cities. It is grounded in the sociological tradition, from Weber through the Chicago School to contemporary urban sociology, and grapples with defining dimensions of living in the global city: changing meanings of place and neighbourhood; and the changing meanings of the suburban experience and urban culture. The subject focuses on ways of exploring forms of urban practice, from gangs and graffiti to the development of community areas, such as gay and ethnic areas, to women's and young people's experience of place. Students should complete the subject with a strong sense of the sociology of the urban, and having carried out a field project exploring a particular dimension of urban experience.

166-085 Identities & Action: Social Movements

Note: Formerly available as 166-257/357. Students who have completed 166-257/357 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Prerequisites: Usually two first-year sociology subjects.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject explores forms of identity and action associated with contemporary social movements, the conflicts these movements are engaged in, their modes of organising and mobilising, the ways they produce meaning and transform culture. The subject explores forms of action and identity associated with emerging conflicts around globalisation, both in countries of 'North' as well as the 'South'. Sociological approaches are introduced and critically examined in relation to a series of case studies: Direct Action and globalisation conflicts; the ecology movement; animal rights; the Zapatista movement in Chiapas; the Chinese student movement; Islamic youth and women's movements. The rise and decomposition of social movements is explored, as well as their relationship to other forms of action, from subcultures to terrorism.

166-086 Qualitative Research Strategies

Note: Students intending to do fourth-year honours in sociology must have completed this subject as part of their major.

Availability: 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Tim Marjoribanks

Prerequisites: Usually two first-year sociology subjects, political science or related fields

Contact: A 1.5-hour lecture and a 1-hour tutorial per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject introduces students to qualitative research strategies and methods. As such, it provides insights into the exciting and original contributions that social researchers can make to contemporary understandings of the worlds we inhabit. The subject examines how qualitative researchers gather and analyse data, using observation, interviews and document analysis, and then write a research report. Research strategies considered include case studies, grounded theory, ethnography and action research. This subject is based on students obtaining hands-on experience, through developing a field-based project of relevance to their interest exploring qualitative methods. On completion of this subject students will understand the process of conducting qualitative research; have hands-on experience in using qualitative research methods; and be familiar both with theoretical approaches used in designing qualitative social research, and with key examples of qualitative research. The subject is structured to be of relevance to students in social science and humanities based disciplines, and to provide skills in a wide range of cases.

Assessment: Written work totalling 4000 words.

Prescribed texts: A subject reader will be provided

K E Esterberg, *Qualitative Methods in Social Research*, McGraw-Hill 2002.

166-089 Sociology Internship

Note: Entry to this subject is by quota, with a maximum of 15 students enrolled at any one time. Students are advised to complete the Professional Skills Program offered by the Careers and Liaison Unit prior to undertaking this subject.

Availability: 3rd year

Credit points: 25

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: to be advised

Prerequisites: Students wishing to enrol in this subject must have completed two first year sociology subjects in addition to 166-086 Qualitative Research Strategies (p.3) and 166-081 Quantitative Social Research (p.2).

Contact: Weekly seminar and work with organisation (*Not Offered*).

Description: In this subject a student, under academic supervision from the sociology program, undertakes a sociological research project in an organisation outside the university, such as a trade union, social movement, women's organisation, welfare service provider, government or non-government organisation or business organisation. The project will be determined jointly by the student and the organisation concerned.

Assessment: A research report of 8000 words.

Prescribed texts: Y Wadsworth, *Do it Yourself Social Research*, 2nd edn, Allen & Unwin, 1997. • C Hakim, *Research Design: Strategies and Choices in the Design of Social Research*, Allen & Unwin, 1987. • T Sullivan, *Applied Sociology: Research and Critical Thinking*, Macmillan, 1992. • J Gubrium & D Silverman (eds), *The Politics of Field Research: Sociology Beyond Enlightenment*, Sage, 1989.

166-090 Love, Family and Sexuality

Note: Formerly available as 166-266. Students who have completed 166-266 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Prerequisites: Usually two first-year sociology subjects.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject focuses on the impact of sociocultural change on, and cultural representations of love, family and sexuality in a variety of cultural contexts and social systems. The subject also explores a range of non-normative arrangements regarding family and sexuality. Projects enable students to analyse degrees of variation regarding the systems and the meanings of love, family and sexuality that occur between norms, representations and actual daily living. Specific sociocultural comparisons should enable students to develop sociological insights and arguments using a grounded theory approach.

166-091 Medicine, Health and Illness

Note: Formerly available as 166-267/367. Students who have completed 166-267/367 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Prerequisites: Usually two first-year sociology subjects.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject examines how medical knowledge, practice, and technology, as well as individual and group experiences of health and illness, are socially shaped and organised. The subject begins with analyses of the medical profession, of medical education, and of medical-state relations. The subject then considers the social experience of health and illness in terms of relations including gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality and class, with specific reference to HIV/AIDS and other case studies. Attention will then be turned to technological and scientific developments in medicine, and their role in the social construction of medicine and of medical practice. Of particular interest here will be developments in organ transplantation and cloning, and the strategies of the global biomedical and biotechnology industries. Students should complete the subject with a sociological understanding of the social, political and cultural dimensions of medicine, health and illness and have gained experience in sociological research methods.

166-210 Political Communication

See full subject details on page 7.

166-213 Using Computers in the Social Sciences

Availability: 2nd, 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Prerequisites: Usually 25 points of first-year sociology or political science or admission to the BPPM.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject introduces students to the use of computers at all stages of the research process, and does not presume previous experience using computers. It covers the use of various computer packages for locating, acquiring and managing references, literature and various forms of data, including the internet; data analysis (both textual and numerical); working with large, complex, linked and multi-authored projects; tools for data and report presentation. Programs include a selection from the following: Advanced uses of *Endnote*, *Word*, *SPSS*, *N-Vivo* and *Powerpoint*. Students learn these skills through applying them to each stage of an individual class research project. Students are encouraged to use projects they are engaged in for other courses for this purpose.

166-216 Terrorism: Shifting Paradigms

Availability: 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Kevin McDonald

Prerequisites: Normally two first year Sociology or political science subjects

Contact: A 1.5-hour lecture and a 1-hour tutorial per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: Through case studies and theoretical analyses this subject examines social processes involved in the rise, decline and transformation of different forms of terrorism, with particular reference to the student movement (Red Brigade, Weathermen); national movements (ETA, PLO); communitarian terrorism (Hezbollah, Hamas); populist terrorism (American Militias); narcoterrorism (Sendero Luminoso); sects and terrorism (Aum Shinrikyo); the shift from 'international' to global terrorism (deterritorialized/diasporic networks - Al Qaeda). The subject explores theoretical approaches to changing paradigms of terrorism; the privatisation and deterritorialization of vio-

lence; secrecy, the sacred and the social; forms of subjectivity evident in emerging martyrdom terrorism; violence as communication; the relationship between terrorism and religious and fundamentalist movements; the role of criminal networks and the media; the relationship between terrorism, modernity and globalization. The subject examines what, if anything, the different terrorist projects explored have in common. On completion students should have an understanding of key dimensions of contemporary terrorism, in particular as both a product of and generator of contemporary globalization.

Assessment: Analysis/presentation of primary source material of 1000 words; a class test of 1000 words; and a research essay of 2000 words.

Prescribed texts: M Wieviorka, *The Making of Terrorism*, (2nd ed) Chicago University Press 2000. • S Eisenstadt, *Fundamentalism, Sectarianism and Revolution*, Cambridge University Press 1999.

121-017 Society and Environments

See full subject details on page 3.

136-074 Society: Revolutions to Social Movements

See full subject details on page 2.

191-008 Sociology of Crime and Deviance

See full subject details on page 3.

Optional subjects**121-015 Development and the Third World**

See full subject details on page 3.

121-057 Ethnic Nationalism and the Modern World

See full subject details on page 2.

121-060 Power, Ideology and Inequality

See full subject details on page 2.

136-073 Critical Theories

See full subject details on page 2.

166-004 Change & Conflict in Australian Society

See full subject details on page 3.

191-003 Crime and Public Policy

See full subject details on page 2.

191-415 Youth Crime and Society

See full subject details on page 3.

191-417 Corporate and White Collar Crime

See full subject details on page 3.

191-422 Women, Gender and Crime

See full subject details on page 4.

Third/fourth-year subjects**166-485 Theorising the Social**

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: to be advised

Prerequisites: Completion of 37.5 points of second/third-year sociology subjects for third year. Admission to the postgraduate diploma or fourth-year honours for fourth year.

Contact: A 1-hour lecture and a 1.5-hour seminar per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject examines major orientations and debates within contemporary sociological theory, and the different research directions that they give rise to. The subject focuses on the current shift from classical sociology, focused on national societies, roles, classes and institutions, to contemporary sociological approaches to globalisation, risk, network society and individualisation. Students should complete this subject with knowledge of approaches and debates shaping contemporary sociological theory, and an ability to use sociological theory to construct research questions.

Assessment: An essay of 1500 words and an essay of 2500 for 3rd year, an essay of 1500 words and an essay of 3500 words for 4th year.

Prescribed texts: S Seidman, *Contested Knowledge: Social Theory in the Postmodern Era*, Blackwell Oxford, 1998.

Fourth-year subjects

166-500 Sociology Thesis

Availability: 4th year

Credit points: 37.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Chang/Henry-Waring/Majoribanks/McDonald

Prerequisites: Admission to the postgraduate diploma or fourth-year honours in sociology.

Contact: As determined with thesis supervisor, as well as participation in thesis writing seminars (*Year long*).

Description: This subject constitutes a thesis of 12 000 words on an approved topic and supervised through the sociology program.

Assessment: A thesis of 12 000 words.

Prescribed texts: C Ragin, *Constructing Social Research*, Pine Forge Press, 1994.

166-528 Sociology Thesis (MYE)

Availability: 4th year

Credit points: 37.5

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Chang/Henry-Waring/Majoribanks/McDonald

Prerequisites: Mid-year admission to the postgraduate diploma or fourth-year honours in sociology.

Contact: As determined with thesis supervisor, as well as participation in thesis writing seminars (*Semester 1, repeat 2*).

Description: This subject constitutes a thesis of 12 000 words on an approved topic and supervised through the sociology program.

Assessment: A thesis of 12 000 words.

Prescribed texts: C Ragin, *Constructing Social Research*, Pine Forge Press, 1994.

166-414 Comparative Social Policy

Availability: 4th year and postgraduate

Credit points: 25

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: To be advised

Prerequisites: Admission to the MSP, MPPM, or the postgraduate diploma or fourth year honours in sociology.

Contact: A 2-hour seminar per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject uses a comparative approach to analyse key areas of contemporary social policy, with a focus on the reform strategies that emerged over the 1990s. The subject examines the different social policy responses that have characterised these strategies, and considers ways of evaluating policy models in key areas. It engages with social policy in Australia, Europe and North America, emerging social policy in Asia, as well as with the increasing role of international organizations. The subject focuses on key policy areas, drawn from family policy, health policy, employment policy, ageing and urban policies.

Assessment: Written work totalling 10 000 words.

Prescribed texts: P Pierson (ed), *The New Politics of the Welfare State*, Oxford University Press 2001. • G Esping Anderson, *The Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism*, Polity Press 1990.

166-415 Organisations and Social Policy

Availability: 4th year and postgraduate

Credit points: 25

HECS-band: 1

Coordinator: Tim Majoribanks

Prerequisites: Admission to the MSP, MPPM, or the postgraduate diploma or fourth year honours in sociology, or public policy and management.

Contact: A 2-hour seminar per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: In this subject, student will undertake a critical exploration and analysis of a phenomenon central to contemporary social life and to social policy processes: the organization. The subject engages with theoretical debates and empirical research that focus on different organisational forms, their emergence and their dynamic interaction with their institutional context. We will explore organizations comparatively, both by looking at organizations in different countries and by analysing organizations from diverse sectors, including the private, state, third and household sectors. We will also explore relationships between organizations, everyday experiences within organizations, and emerging organisational forms such as alliances and networks. Through such analyses, we will come to see organizations as contested sites of power and authority, and as sites that both influence and are influenced by social policy processes and through which social policy is experienced. You should complete the subject with a social science understanding of theories and empirical research of organizations, and be able to assess critically the interactions between organizations and social policy.

Assessment: Written work totalling 10 000 words.

Prescribed texts: A subject reader will be available.

121-503 Research Methods and Design

See full subject details on page 8.

136-532 Reading Texts in Social Theory

See full subject details on page 3.

136-533 Theories of Modernity

See full subject details on page 3.

166-410 Approaches to Political & Social Inquiry

See full subject details on page 9.

166-413 Network Society

See full subject details on page 10.

191-434 Victims

See full subject details on page 5.

