

Programme Specification Pro-forma (PSP)

1. GENERAL INFORMATION	
1. Programme Title:	BA (Hons) Social Sciences
2. Final Award:	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Social Sciences (480 credits) Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Social Sciences (480 credits) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any major/minor combination from Criminology, History, Politics, and Sociology
3. Exit Awards:	Certificate of Higher Education Social Sciences (120 Credits) Diploma of Higher Education Social Sciences (240 Credits) Bachelor of Arts Social Sciences (360 Credits)
4. Awarding Body:	Glasgow Caledonian University
5. Period of Approval:	2021-25
6. School:	Glasgow School <i>for</i> Business and Society
7. Host Department:	Department of Social Sciences
8. UCAS Code:	L340
9. PSB Involvement:	None
10. Place of Delivery:	Glasgow Caledonian University
11. Subject Benchmark Statement:	Criminology, History, Politics, Sociology, Economics
12. Dates of PSP Preparation/Revision:	May 2024

2. EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME
<p>The Social Sciences programme’s basic rationale and intellectual mission is to prepare students for responsible leadership; global employability; critical citizenship; and life-long learning. Its distinctive strength lies in combining a range of social science disciplines in a broad educational framework. An applied aspect of social sciences education at GCU is embedded throughout the curriculum both in the delivery of modules and in the provision of modules which have a specific applied focus. It also parallels our existing employability spine ‘Careers <i>for</i> BASS’ which already operates as a ‘programme within a programme’.</p> <p>The ultimate educational goal of the programme is to create ‘civic-minded, employable graduates’ committed to The Common Good.</p> <p>With this in mind, we seek to develop the following student attributes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge and understanding of the social relationships, values, processes and institutions that constitute society and social relations; The intellectual capacity to think sensitively and critically about different values, cultures and perspectives, and to engage positively with real world problems at a local, national and global level;

- Practical skills vital to enhancing employability, building careers in a flexible labour market and contributing to the critical development of the global knowledge economy;
- An understanding of the national and international environmental contexts of social organisations, and of the impact of business on society at a local and global level, in line with the Principles of Responsible Management Education (PRME);
- An understanding of role of creativity, innovation and enterprise in society at both national and international levels.
- An enduring self-confidence and spirit of enquiry that encourages and fosters a life-long interest in continued learning in an independent, reflective and fulfilling way;
- Excellent communication, teamwork, presentation and information gathering skills geared towards enhancing graduate employability;
- The ability to utilise learning and other technologies to the social, cultural and economic advantage of others;
- The skills and confidence to apply conceptual and empirical research that advances an understanding of society and the student's employability;
- The ability to transfer skills and knowledge from the classroom to the workplace.
- Active and global citizenship and an entrepreneurial mindset.

In order to ensure the integrated development of knowledge and the progressive building of capacities, educational profiles have been developed for each level of the programme.

Level 1: The focus at this level is on building a comprehensive knowledge base. Students will be expected to demonstrate an understanding of fundamental social science concepts and theories. They will be able grasp the nature of change through time and across different societies, through identifying key social, economic and political processes shaping individual and group behaviour. Student employability will be enhanced as they gain skills in information retrieval and analysis, and in the presentation of reasoned arguments. They will have developed personal learning strategies in a structured and managed environment, communicating effectively in oral and written forms, and using ICT appropriately.

Level 2: Knowledge and comprehension are further developed at this level. Students will deepen their subject knowledge and be able to apply this to a broader range of social, historical, political and economic questions. They will be able to engage with more complex issues of society and human behaviour, while demonstrating a growing awareness of comparative, cross-cultural dimensions of social change. Their capacities for interpretation, evaluation and analysis will be consolidated and developed. They will have built confidence in their personal ability through self-reflection, while being also able to work constructively with others, all of which are central to employability.

Level 3: The emphasis at this level is on promoting the synthesis of knowledge across a range of disciplines. Students are offered opportunities to apply and articulate that knowledge to analyse increasingly complex and creative social structures, social trends, and individual and group behaviour. Student employability will be enhanced notably through research methods teaching, which contains both generic and specialist elements. The student's capacity for self-directed, experiential learning will also have increased, and they will display adaptability in a range of educational contexts, such as study abroad and in the workplace.

Level 4: The priority for Level 4 lies in promoting independent learning and personal responsibility, thus continuing to attune students to the demands of the global labour market and/or further study. They will typically display a deep and critical knowledge of their academic field, and be able to engage with advanced resources and techniques in a systematic and comprehensive manner. Their intellectual capacity and confidence will have grown, enabling them to formulate and present evidence-based solutions and arguments, with a minimum of supervision. They will be able to articulate their personal strengths and perceived areas of future development, demonstrating self-awareness related to well-considered career aspirations. Employability will be further enhanced by applying research skills developed at level 3 to dissertation projects, which encourage a critical engagement with theory and its application to a range of economic, social and cultural institutions, relations and processes.

4. PROGRAMME STRUCTURES AND REQUIREMENTS, LEVELS, MODULES, CREDITS AND AWARDS

SCQF 7

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
M1L326643	Social Science: An Interdisciplinary Introduction	20
M1V326626	History 1: Rise of Western Societies	20
M1L326651	Criminology 1: Criminology and Criminal Justice	20
M1L326650	Sociology 1: Individuals and Society	20
M1L230279	Politics 1: Structures and Institutions	20
M1L126648	Economics 1: International Economic Issues & Challenges	20
EXIT AWARD: Certificate of Higher Education		120

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Module Code	Module Title	Credit
M2V130586	History 2: Making of the Contemporary World	20
M2L226636	Politics 2: Concepts, Themes and Responses	20
M2L326619	Sociology 2: Culture and Society	20
M2L126647	Economics 2: Contemporary Economic Issues	20
M2L426623	Criminology 2: Crime, Law and Society	20
M2I326646	Quantitative Research: Critical Introduction	20
EXIT AWARD: Diploma of Higher Education		240

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Students to choose 5 optional modules in addition to Applied Research Methods Core module

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
M3L426645	Applied Research Methods	20
M3L326644	Work Placement: Scottish Poverty and Inequality Research Unit	20
M3L326625	Work Placement (Special Constabulary)	20
M3L930259	International Politics: Structures, Theories, and Issues	20
M3L226639	Scottish Politics and Policy	20
M3V326628	Good Times, Hard Times: America in the 1920s and 30s	20
M3L323122	Theories of Crime and Punishment	20
M3L424396	Policing and Society	20
M3L326652	Gender and Society	20
M3V230585	Ending Empire in South Asia. The Twentieth Century	20
M3L130418	Economics of International Trade and Regulation	20
M3L326653	Poverty, Inequality and Policy	20
M3L226637	Contemporary Ideologies	20
M3V326629	Lion vs Eagle: Germany, Britain and the First World War	20
M3L426655	Comparative Youth, Crime and Justice	20
M3L326649	Evidence and Justice	20
M3V225835	Sport and Popular Culture in Britain 1850-1939	20
M3L130417	Economic Policy & Problems	20
EXIT AWARD: Bachelor's Degree		360

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Students to choose four modules (ideally in two disciplines if they wish to be awarded a joint or major/minor degree) and Dissertation/Honours Project as a Core module

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
MHL425163	GSBS Dissertation/Honours Project	40
MHL930260	Critical Issues in Global Politics	20
MHV126631	Hitler's War: The Third Reich, German Society and the	20

	Second World War	
MHL426624	Globalisation and Crime	20
MHL326621	Race, Nature and our Multispecies Future	20
MHL326620	Public Sociology	20
MHL326622	Forensic Criminology	20
MHL126586	Environmental Economics	20
MHL226641	Democratic Challenges: Ideas and Issues	20
MHL226640	Making and Managing Public Policy	20
MHV224523	Ireland: From Famine to Independence	20
MHV326632	The American Century: 20 th Century American Popular Culture	20
MHM225681	Miscarriages of Justice	20
MHL323044	Victimology, Trauma and Social Harm	20
MHL426544	Criminological Perspectives on Violence	20
MHN225546	Contemporary Issues in the World Economy	20
EXIT AWARD: Bachelor's Degree with Honours		480

8. ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

Students should expect to complete their programme of study under the Regulations that were in place at the commencement of their studies on that programme, unless proposed changes to University Regulations are advantageous to students.

The Glasgow Caledonian University Assessment Regulations which apply to this programme, dependent on year of entry can be found at:

[GCU Assessment Regulations](#)

DATE: Aug 2024