BA SOCIAL SCIENCE
4 year extended degree programme
The BA Social Science extended degree is designed for those without standard entry requirements who feel they have missed out on education. It allows you to realise your potential and explore different aspects of society.

IS THIS FOR ME?
There can be good reasons why someone does not achieve their best at school or college. Your learning may have been disrupted by adverse circumstances; you may have had limited opportunities – or support; you may have left formal education some time ago and gained experience, abilities and maturity that you did not have when younger.

What we are looking for in applicants is less about prior qualifications and more about your capacity for hard work and dedication to realising your potential.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Usually, we look for evidence of prior study at GCSE level, such as maths and English at GCSE Grade C or equivalent. However, we do consider applications from people who can demonstrate their potential and commitment in other ways.

We welcome applications from mature students that do not meet the standard entry requirements, and all shortlisted applicants will be given the opportunity to demonstrate their potential to succeed at an informal interview (see website for full details).

You should apply for the BA Social Science through UCAS. If you are presently taking a course at a school or college, your institution should have UCAS application forms. Application forms are also available online at UCAS, www.ucas.com

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?
There is a strong emphasis in the programme on helping you to develop skills for success. Teaching is imaginative and supportive to make sure that you are intellectually stretched and helped through any sticking points in your learning. Group sizes are small enough for you to engage actively and be well supported by your peers. Members of the course team are available to offer help with all aspects of your progress and you will have periodic individual meetings with your personal tutor to help you realise your goals.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?
Methods of assessment reflect those that you will find later in your degree programme in order to ensure that you are well prepared for your continuing study. We see assessment as a key way of enabling you to learn by doing and we make sure that feedback from tutors supports this process.

HOW WILL I BE SUPPORTED?
Our aspirations go beyond academic and teaching excellence; we are also concerned for the welfare of our students outside the classroom. Our staff provide a supportive environment and add to our friendly and welcoming atmosphere. We also have a dedicated Student Experience Manager, who provides advice and support to undergraduate students with regards to pastoral care. Students are also assigned an academic personal tutor to discuss academic, career and personal matters.

FEES
For the latest information on fees please visit www.leeds.ac.uk/yourfinances

FUNDING
University support
Tuition fee scholarships are offered for UK students on a foundation year depending on household income. For 2018 these are:

- £3,000 for students with a residual household income of up to £25,000
- £1,500 for students with a residual household income of £25,001 to £30,000
- £1,000 for students with a residual household income of £30,001 to £36,000
- £500 for students with a residual household income of £36,001 to £42,875

For the latest information please visit www.leeds.ac.uk/leedsfinancialsupport (this is where you can find out about financial support for the years following your foundation year).

Government funding
You can find out more about funding available from the government here: www.gov.uk/studentfinance

IMPORTANT INFORMATION
Information provided by the University such as in presentations, University brochures and the University website, is accurate at the time of first disclosure. However, courses, University services and content of publications remain subject to change. Changes may be necessary to comply with the requirements of accrediting bodies or to keep courses contemporary through updating practices or areas of study. Circumstances may arise outside the reasonable control of the University, leading to required changes. Such circumstances include, industrial action, unexpected student numbers, significant staff illness (where a course is reliant upon a person’s expertise), unexpected lack of funding, severe weather, fire, civil disorder, political unrest, government restrictions and serious concern with regard to the transmission of serious illness making a course unsafe to deliver. After a student has taken up a place within the University, the University will look to give early notification of any changes and try to minimise their impact, offering suitable alternative arrangements or forms of compensation where it believes there is a fair case to do so. Offers of a place to study at the University will provide up to date information on courses. The latest key information on courses, entry requirements and fees can be found at www.leeds.ac.uk/coursefinder. Please check this website before making any decisions.

WE CONSIDER APPLICATIONS FOR THIS COURSE ALL YEAR ROUND
This course is not open to international students.

The degree is an extended four-year degree programme, designed for those who do not meet the standard entry requirements.

The first year of the programme forms a 'level zero' foundation year. Delivered in a friendly and supportive environment, this offers you a unique combination of academic and skill-based modules, blending a firm academic grounding in social science with study skills and information technology.

Successful completion of the foundation year will allow you to progress on to some of the most popular degree programmes within the Faculty of Education, Social Sciences and Law, and the School of Healthcare (see page 6).

You will study three core streams during your first year:

**Social Inequalities in Contemporary Society** provides an introduction to understanding how society is socially divided based on key sociological concepts. The inequalities associated with gender, class, race, disability and health will be explored to give students a thorough understanding of how ‘individuals’ and groups in society are disadvantaged across the life-course. The module is designed to enable students to develop these skills in order to eventually meet level 1 requirements. Students will be able to grasp the relevancy of study skills through practically applying them to the areas of law, crime and politics. You will look at historical and contemporary basic theories and concepts within the criminal justice and political system both nationally and internationally; and be able to demonstrate academic writing and presentation skills.

**Understanding Social Welfare** will provide an introduction to the key ideas in political and social thought in particular the Liberal, Marxist and Feminist traditions. It will discuss ideas of citizenship and democracy. The second half of the module will consider the development of public policy in the light of these key ideas and encourage students to reflect upon the relevance of these theoretical positions in relation to welfare policy and citizenship.

Focusing on the British experience, the module is designed to encourage students to use theory to explain social change and also to use theory to critically assess existing social institutions.

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**COURSE CONTENT**
**BA SOCIAL SCIENCE DEGREE PATHS**

Following completion of this ‘level zero’ foundation year, successful students would be expected to progress onto a full undergraduate degree. Details of approved social science degrees are below.

**SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL POLICY**
- BA Sociology (requires a pass at 40)
- BA Social Policy (requires a pass at 40)
- BA Social Policy and Sociology (requires a pass at 40)
- BA Social Policy and Crime (requires a pass at 40)
- BA Geography and Sociology (requires a pass at 60)
- BA Sociology and International Relations (requires a pass at 60)
- BA Social Policy with Enterprise (requires a pass at 40)

**POLITICS**
- BA Politics and Social Policy (requires a pass at 60)
- BA International Development (requires a pass at 60)
- BA International Relations (requires a pass at 60)
- BA Politics (requires a pass at 60)
- BA Politics and Sociology (requires a pass at 60)

**HEALTHCARE**
- BA Social Work (requires a pass at 65 and successful interview) see website for further details
- BSc Nursing (Adult) (requires a pass at 65 and successful interview)
- BSc Nursing (Child) (requires a pass at 65 and successful interview)
- BSc Nursing (Mental Health) (requires a pass at 65 and successful interview) see website for further details

**LIFELONG LEARNING**
- BA Professional Studies (requires a pass at 40 and successful interview)

See website for additional part-time courses.

**IMPROVING EMPLOYABILITY**

A qualification from Leeds counts. Our graduates are highly valued by employers.

When you complete your degree programme, you will also become part of a network of highly employable graduates. From the very start of your foundation year you will be encouraged and supported to make the most of the career development opportunities on offer.

We always have the careers of our students in mind and here are a few examples of careers you could go on to do:

**CAREERS IN BUSINESS, INDUSTRY AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR:**
- graduate trainees with some of the biggest UK companies (WHSmith, Arcadia Group, Deloitte); human resources; careers in law; communications management and broadcasting; advertising.

**CAREERS IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR:**
- Civil Service; teaching; youth work; fostering/children’s services; probation services; social work; prison service; housing and homelessness prevention.

**POSTGRADUATE STUDIES:**
- in teaching; journalism; occupational therapy; marketing; town planning; social work; criminal justice studies; social research.

Helping students to develop transferable skills is key to our programmes of study.

We offer a study abroad year, which is a real ‘CV-builder’ (and great experience intellectually and personally).

We also offer a work placement year, which will give you great experience and which is key to our strategy for enhancing the employability of our students.

**WHAT DO OUR STUDENTS SAY?**

"I thought I couldn’t go to university without a maths GCSE, but found out about the BA Social Science foundation year programme. It is made for people like me who have the potential to study at university but may not necessarily have the formal qualifications to do so.

The course is really interesting and engaging; I’ve learnt about topics such as class and welfare legislation, both of which have directly affected my life without me realising. It has been a real eye-opener.

Coming to university is the best thing I have ever done. It has allowed me to achieve things that I never thought possible and this has really helped to rebuild my lost confidence. During my time here so far I have made a strong network of friends and realised that I have a lot to offer people.

Before I came I was quite apprehensive about how people would treat me and whether I was actually good enough to be here, but all my worries were dispelled and I was welcomed with open arms by everyone."

Liam Knights, former BA Social Science student

"For anyone that’s considering going to university, if they missed out originally, I’d highly recommend the BA Social Science. It can be daunting thinking about coming to university as a 20+ year old but it wasn’t as scary as I thought! It had been a long time since I’d written an essay or done any research but this course guided me back into that.

While doing the foundation year I already knew I wanted to study International Development, because it links in with what I want to do as a career. I’d heard that you could do a semester abroad in your second year so I’m hoping to go to Ghana.

The workload in the foundation year, is very well balanced if you have other commitments. I just couldn’t recommend it enough – it’s brilliant.”

Sean McKillop, former BA Social Science student who has now progressed on to the BA International Development course.
FIND OUT MORE
You can find more information on the course on our website: www.sociology.leeds.ac.uk/undergraduates/ba-social-science

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