



## MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Theorising Social Life		
Module Code	UZSY6V-30-2	Level	Level 5
For implementation from	2020-21		
UWE Credit Rating	30	ECTS Credit Rating	15
Faculty	Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences	Field	Sociology and Criminology
Department	HAS Dept of Health & Social Sciences		
Module type:	Standard		
Pre-requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co- requisites	None		
Module Entry requirements	None		

Part 2: Description
<p><b>Educational Aims:</b> This module has been developed to facilitate and support the acquisition of subject knowledge, sociological understanding and a range of practical and intellectual skills. At this level students are expected to generate ideas through the analysis of concepts at an abstract level with a command of specialised skills and the formulation of responses to well-defined and abstract problems: analyse and evaluate information; exercise significant judgement across a broad range of functions; and accept responsibility for achieving personal and group outcomes.</p> <p><b>Outline Syllabus:</b> Indicative Content</p> <p>Culture:            Key Theorists: Frankfurt School            Indicative topic areas:            Popular culture            Consumption            Media</p> <p>Urbanism:            Key Theorists: Simmel and the Chicago School            Indicative Topic Areas:</p>

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Urban conflict and struggle  
The Global/Postmodern City  
Night-time economy

Social Class and Inequality:  
Key Theorists: Pierre Bourdieu, Diane Reay.  
Indicative Topic Areas:  
Social mobility and meritocracy  
Social class and education  
Social class and health.

Feminism, Family and Intimacy:  
Key Theorists: Talcott Parsons, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Kate Millet, Heidi Hartmann.  
Indicative topic Areas:  
The Human family  
The Changing Family  
Families of Choice

Race and Ethnicity:  
Key Theorists – John Rex, Kenan Malik and Patricia Hill Collins (examples not set in stone)  
Indicative Topic Areas:  
Genetics, Scientific Racism  
Multiculturalism  
Intersectionality

Power, Government and Citizenship:  
Key theorist: Michel Foucault  
Indicative Topic Areas:  
Carceral Society  
Migration and Population  
Sexuality

There are also a series of areas that we see as additional as well as desirable for the module but these areas could be substituted for any of those above on the basis of staff availability year on year and would give us some flexibility to reorganise course content in case of staff illness or research leave. These extra areas are:

Environment, Nature and Risk  
Key Theorist: Ulrich Beck, Vandana Shiva  
Indicative Topic Areas:  
Industrialization, Reflexivity and Risk  
The Environment and Identity  
Contested Natures

Economy, Work and Technology:  
Key Theorist: David Harvey  
Indicative Topic Areas:  
Global supply chains  
Informational Economy  
The Precariat

Social Protest and Social Movements:  
Key Theorists: Post-industrial society theory (Castells, Melucci, Gorz, Bell)  
Indicative topic areas:  
Old and new social movements  
Global Justice Movement  
Nationalism and the Far Right

**Teaching and Learning Methods:** This Level two module will be organized thematically, but each thematic block will introduce key theorists and theories of modern society. The module will be organized into six blocks comprising a lecture introducing key theorists and theory followed by topic areas that allow the theories to be applied, analysed and evaluated. The module will provide

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a bridge between the level one social theory module that is focussed on classical sociology and theory-based level three option modules that focus on postmodern and post-structuralist theories and debates.

The module will be delivered via 1-hour weekly lectures, 1 hour weekly seminars and a 1 hour session for book review groups.

### Part 3: Assessment

#### Summative Assessment

Component A will consist of an online assignment with two questions so that students are addressing themes from both semesters. Students will have at least 4 weeks to complete the assessment, and the answers will be limited to 1000 words per question.

Component B will consist of an extended book review (1500 words) which will enable students to display their knowledge of the source and their critical evaluation of it. Each book selected will be linked to a key theme addressed within the module eg. class, culture etc.

#### Formative Assessment:

Students will have the opportunity to discuss plans of their summative assessment (book review) with the relevant module lecturers within and beyond the workshops, and will receive ongoing formative input in the context of discussion within the seminars.

First Sit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Written Assignment - Component B		40 %	1500 word book review
Online Assignment - Component A	✓	60 %	Online assignment (2000 words)
Resit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Written Assignment - Component B		40 %	1500 word book review
Online Assignment - Component A	✓	60 %	Online assignment (2000 words)

### Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods

Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes:	
	<b>Module Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Reference</b>
	Evaluate theoretical and conceptual approaches of Sociological theoretical paradigms	MO1
	Apply theoretical and conceptual understandings to aspects of contemporary society, and from the global to the local	MO2
	Identify and analyse the strengths and weaknesses of different theoretical positions and paradigms in relation to key topic areas studied	MO3
	Undertakes research to provide analysis and/or explore existing data to identify patterns and relationships. Uses appropriate theoretical models to judge the significance of the data collected, recognising the limitations of the enquiry	MO4

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	Use information-gathering skills necessary to successfully completing the assessments	MO5
	Effectively communicate, across a range of assessment types, an applied but critical understanding of theoretical positions in the Sociological canon	MO6
Contact Hours	<b>Independent Study Hours:</b>	
	Independent study/self-guided study	228
	<b>Total Independent Study Hours:</b>	228
	<b>Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:</b>	
	Face-to-face learning	72
	<b>Total Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:</b>	72
	<b>Hours to be allocated</b>	300
	<b>Allocated Hours</b>	300
Reading List	<p>The reading list for this module can be accessed via the following link:</p> <p><a href="https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html">https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html</a></p>	

### Part 5: Contributes Towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Sociology with Psychology {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BSc (Hons) 2018-19  
 Sociology with Psychology {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2018-19  
 Criminology and Sociology {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2018-19  
 Criminology and Sociology {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2018-19  
 Sociology with Criminology {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2018-19  
 Sociology with Criminology {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2018-19  
 Sociology with Psychology [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BSc (Hons) 2018-19