

## **MA Sociology; MA Sociology (Inventive Urban Research)** Programme Specification

**Awarding Institution:**

University of London (Interim Exit Awards made by Goldsmiths' College)

**Teaching Institution:** Goldsmiths, University of London

**Name of Final Award and Programme Title:**

MA Sociology

MA Sociology (Inventive Urban Research)

**Name of Interim Exit Award(s):**

Postgraduate Certificate in Sociology,

Postgraduate Certificate in Sociology (Inventive Urban Research)

Postgraduate Diploma in Sociology

Postgraduate Diploma in Sociology (Inventive Urban Research)

**Duration of Programme:** 1 year full-time or 2 years part-time

**UCAS Code(s):** Not applicable

**HECoS Code(s):** (100505) Sociology

**QAA Benchmark Group:** Not applicable

**FHEQ Level of Award:** Level 7

**Programme accredited by:** Not applicable

**Date Programme Specification last updated/approved:** October 2022

**Home Department:** Sociology

**Department(s) which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme:**

Not applicable

### **Programme overview**

MA Sociology will offer postgraduate students the opportunity of advanced engagement with the discipline of sociology. Students have the opportunity to study for an MA in Sociology as such – with dedicated core courses – or to choose one of three pathways through which to develop their interest in a specialized area of Sociology: Visual Sociology, Urban Studies, and Cultural Analysis.

The degree pathways will be structured as follows:

<b>MA Sociology</b>	<b>MA Sociology (Inventive Urban Research)</b>
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<i>Term 1:</i>	<i>Term 1:</i>
Compulsory: Methodology Now	Compulsory: Methodology Now
MA Sociology Option 1:  One 30 credit module from Sociology or the wider School	ONE of the following:  Cities and Society  OR  Talking Practice
<i>Term 2:</i>	<i>Term 2:</i>
Sociological Exhibition Making	Sociological Exhibition Making
MA Sociology Option 2: From across Sociology and the wider School	Option module from Sociology' across the wider School
Dissertation	Dissertation

All students on the MA Sociology will undertake the 'Methodology Now' module (30 CATS) tailored toward the research needs of the three pathways, while also offering students an advanced understanding of the relationship between sociological theory and methods. The assessment for this module will be a portfolio of write-ups based on weekly experiments and workshop tasks.

In the first term, each MA will also undertake its own specialist compulsory module (30 CAT) aside from the MA Sociology students that will take a Sociology option module.

- For MA Sociology (Inventive Urban Research) ) the specialist module will be EITHER 'Cities and Society' OR 'Talking Practice A' Cities and Society brings students up to date with a sequence of research-led lectures and seminars delivered by experts from the field of Urban Studies. Talking Practice A is a practice-based module introducing students to visual urbanism and urban photography.

In term 2, students on the MA Sociology, and Inventive Urban Research pathway will then take the compulsory course Sociological Exhibition Making (30 CAT). For students on both the MA Sociology and Inventive Urban Research pathway they select an option module from Sociology or the wider School.

For part-time students, the structure will work as follows:

- For MA Sociology, students will take Methodology Now + 1 option (year 1) and Sociological Exhibition Making + 1 option (year 2) plus their Dissertation
- For Inventive Urban Research pathway, students will take Methodology Now + Cities and Society OR Talking Practice A (year 1) and Sociological Research Project + optional module plus Dissertation (Year 2).

The core MA and pathway will end in a final dissertation project of 12 – 15, 000-word dissertation. Students on the Inventive Urban Research pathway will have the option of submitting either a visual/sensory project with 5-6000 words textual accompaniment, or a 12-15,000 word written dissertation.

## **Programme entry requirements**

Applicants will normally have a first degree in Sociology, a related social science discipline or a humanities degree. However, the MA may also be considered as a ‘conversion’ course into the social sciences and humanities, as the MA Sociology and each of its pathways also involves an element of appropriate, advanced training in theory and methodology. Students will normally be expected to have an upper second class honours degree or its equivalent. Non-native English speakers will normally have to satisfy Goldsmiths’ requirements of IELTS (6.5 or more). These standard criteria can be altered where applicants demonstrate exceptional commitment or abilities to study for the degree – possibly by interview, because of their possession of other qualifications, or because they have relevant experiences that would qualify them for the programme.

## **Aims of the programme**

MA Sociology is a unique degree, offering students a thorough introduction to key debates about society, culture and the world in which we live. Coupled with the option to specialise in Inventive Urban Research, Cultural Analysis or Visual Sociology, the MA Sociology combines a broad base of knowledge and theory, with a sharp focus on specific areas of expertise (methodological and/or theoretical) within social science.

The programme aims to:

1. empower students to be rigorous, critical and imaginative in their scholarship to enable them to understand crucial social and cultural questions of the 21st century;
2. enable students to develop critical methodological skills for the empirical study of crucial social and cultural topics;
3. provide a lively, creative and progressive environment in which students will sharpen their analytical, research and communication skills;

4. equip students to research and communicate ideas and methods and to process information in ways that will prepare them for a range of jobs in the public, social and NGO sector.

## What you will be expected to achieve

### MA Sociology

Students who successfully complete the Postgraduate Certificate in Sociology will be able to:

#### Knowledge and understanding

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A1	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of selected key texts in sociological analysis.	Across the programme, but especially in the compulsory module Methodology Now
A2	Demonstrate understanding of methodology and methods	Across the programme but especially in the compulsory module Methodology Now, Sociological Exhibition Making, Dissertation
A3	Demonstrate ability to analyse socio-cultural phenomena in relation to specific theoretical approaches and using selected methodologies across a range of fields and topics.	Methodology Now, Sociological Exhibition Making, Dissertation

#### Cognitive and thinking skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B1	Analyse the interactions of history, social and cultural theory, and socio-cultural practice	Across the programme
B2	Demonstrate ability to evaluate sociological analyses, including your own, in relation to research methods and appropriate theoretical issues	Methodology Now.

## Subject specific skills and professional behaviours and attitudes

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C1	Apply sociological skills of analysis, understanding and use of research methods, and social research design	Across the programme, but especially in Methodology Now
C2	Explore socio-cultural processes in relevant specialist terms.	Across the programme

## Transferable skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
D1	Interpret a variety of scholarly sources closely and critically.	Across the programme especially in the compulsory modules
D2	Communicate, explain and debate (in oral and written form) relevant concepts, theories, and approaches for the study of social and cultural processes.	Across the programme.

Students who successfully complete the Postgraduate Diploma in Sociology, in addition to the learning outcomes above, will be able to:

## Knowledge and understanding

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A1	Demonstrate in-depth knowledge and critical understanding of selected key texts in sociological analysis.	Across the programme, but especially in the compulsory modules
A2	Demonstrate advanced knowledge and understanding of methodology and methods.	Methodology Now
A3	Critically analyse socio-cultural phenomena in relation to specific theoretical approaches and using selected methodologies across a range of fields and topics.	Option modules.

## Cognitive and thinking skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B1	Effectively analyse the complex interaction of history, social and cultural theory, and socio-cultural practice	Across the programme, but especially in the compulsory modules
B2	Critically evaluate sociological analyses, including your own, in relation to research methods and appropriate theoretical issues	Across the programme, but especially in Methodology Now

## Subject specific skills and professional behaviours and attitudes

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C1	Apply complex sociological skills of analysis, understanding and use of research methods, and social research design	Across the programme, but especially in Methodology Now.
C2	Critically explore socio-cultural processes in relevant and precise specialist terms.	Across the programme, and especially in the compulsory modules

## Transferable skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
D1	Communicate, explain and debate relevant concepts, theories, methodologies and methods for the study of socio-cultural phenomena	Across the programme.
D2	Effectively communicate, explain and debate (in oral and written form) relevant concepts, theories, and approaches for the study of social and cultural processes.	Across the programme.

Students who successfully complete the MA Sociology will have demonstrated achievement of all of the above outcomes, and in addition, be able to:

## Knowledge and understanding

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A1	Demonstrate a high level of knowledge and critical understanding of selected key texts in Sociological analysis.	Across the programme, but especially in Methodology Now
A2	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of methodology and methods.	Across the programme but especially in the compulsory module 'Methodology Now' and Sociological Exhibition Making
A3	Analyse socio-cultural phenomena in relation to specific theoretical approaches and using selected methodologies across the range of fields and topics followed in your chosen option modules and dissertation.	Option Modules and Dissertation

## Cognitive and thinking skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B1	Critically analyse the complex interaction of history, social and cultural theory, and socio-cultural practice	Across the programme, but especially in the compulsory modules
B2	Critically and creatively evaluate sociological analyses, including your own, in relation to research methods and appropriate theoretical issues	Across the programme, but especially in Methodology Now, Sociological Exhibition Making and the Dissertation
B3	Construct logical and persuasive arguments using a range of appropriate materials (textual, but also in some cases visual)	Across the programme, including in Options and the Dissertation

## Subject specific skills and professional behaviours and attitudes

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C1	Demonstrate sociological skills of analysis, understanding and use of research methods, and social research design	Across the programme, but especially in Methodology Now, Sociological Exhibition Making and the Dissertation
C2	Communicate complex ideas and facts in textual, and where appropriate, visual form	Across the programme

## Transferable skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
D1	Effectively communicate, explain and debate relevant concepts, theories, methodologies and methods for the study of socio-cultural phenomena.	Across the programme, and especially in the compulsory modules
D2	Exercise initiative and person responsibility in effective independent work with the attendant skills of work organization, time planning, independent decision-making, and keeping to deadlines under often complex and unpredictable circumstances.	Across the programme and especially in Sociological Exhibition Making and the Dissertation

For the separate pathways, students will develop the following learning outcomes.

## Inventive Urban Research Pathway

Students who successfully complete the Postgraduate Certificate in Sociology (Inventive Urban Research) will be able to:

### Knowledge and understanding

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A1	Demonstrate conceptual and methodological knowledge of the key concepts and debates in urban studies— with an emphasis on intersecting the histories, cultures and economies of cities across the world-and social transformation including new approaches to the field.	Methodology Now; Cities and Society
A2	Synthesise and critically analyse the literature on, and development of, urban life and world cities within the history of sociology and related academic areas, such as geography, political science, post-colonial theory, architecture, social economy and cultural studies.	Cities and Society
A3	Devise and develop a comparative framework for examining cities of	Cities and Society



Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
	divergent histories, geographies, and economic positionalities, taking into consideration the complexity of global and local conceptualisations of normativity and change.	
A4	Understand the positionalities of cities from the viewpoints of other disciplines in the humanities and social sciences	; Methodology Now; Cities and Society; Talking Practice A
A5	Identify ways of using the study of urban life as a means of simultaneously engaging apparent discrepancies amongst people, things, and fields of study; to articulate dimensions of living that supposedly are dissonant or contradictory. Distinguish and appraise a range of sociological research methodologies and their potential applicability as well as their possible limitations.	Methodology Now;
A6	Recognise and account for sensitive ethical issues relating to research and representation.	Methodology Now
A7	Apply a conceptual understanding of the use of different media in sociology, and decide between and use a variety of multimedia methods to do sociological research	Talking Practice A, Sociological Exhibition Making, Methodology Now

## Cognitive and thinking skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B1	Understand and apply advanced skills in critical thinking and analysis, academic writing and presentation skills	All modules
B2	Systematically and creatively engage in debates relating to the main historical themes of urban development, change,	Cities and Society, Talking Practice A

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
	governance, culture and economy in original and imaginative ways.	
B3	Critically engage sociological (and more generally social science) theories and methodologies relevant to contemporary problems , and generate intellectual engagement with these through a project.	Sociological Exhibition Making
B4	Rethink urbanising processes as applicable to various scales and entities of consideration that go beyond the “city” or “region”, with an emphasis on examining multiple temporalities in order to supplement the more conventional spatial discourses of urban studies.	Cities and Society
B5	Establish creative connections between previous academic and work experiences with themes emerging from the programme, including your own development and implementation of a research focus, and appraise the usefulness of sociological models and methodologies when applied to specific issues and problems.	Cities and Society Methodology Now
B6	Adapt concepts and methods flexibly and imaginatively to pursue your future specific aims relating to employment or further research linked to the study of work cities and urban life (e.g. research degrees; studies for national or international agencies or government organisations; policy design, implementation or evaluation).	Methodology Now; Sociological Exhibition Making; Talking Practice A

## Subject specific skills and professional behaviours and attitudes

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C1	Synthesise and analyse how sociological and creative methods and concepts can, and potentially might further, relate to intervention in urban life and in the sustainability and transformation of cities, in both conceptual and practical ways.	Methodology Now;
C2	Analyse and evaluate different kinds of knowledge in the context of core themes in urban history, development, culture, politics, and change through individual research.	Methodology Now
C3	Compare, contrast and analyse sociological perspectives on conflict, controversy and social change with the perspectives of other disciplines, other expert sectors and lay knowledge and action.	Option modules
C4	Elaborate the difficulties, possibilities, constraints and ethical concerns of working in complex urban situations and in multiple cities of divergent backgrounds and conditions, demonstrating self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems.	Methodology Now; Sociological Exhibition Making; Talking Practice A
C5	Demonstrate basic literacy in using a variety of media, including photography, drawing, videography and audiorecording	Talking Practice A; Sociological Exhibition Making
C6	Demonstrate the ability to use a variety of media to problem-solve, research and investigate sociological problems	Talking Practice A; Sociological Exhibition Making

## Transferable skills

<b>Code</b>	<b>Learning outcome</b>	<b>Taught by the following module(s)</b>
D1	Effectively communicate, explain and debate in a wide range of contexts and with a broad range of interlocutors (specialist and non-specialist)	Sociological Exhibition Making; Talking Practice A
D2	Evaluate and assess a range of research methods, and the use of computer applications for data collection and processing, bibliographic searches, and a critical appreciation of the Internet as a resource.	Methodology Now
D3	Demonstrate the capacity to translate major concepts of urban studies into the conceptual frameworks of other humanities and social science disciplines.	Cities and Society
D4	Exercise initiative and personal responsibility in effective independent work with the attendant skills of experimentation, work organisation, time planning, independent decision-making and keeping to deadlines under often complex and unpredictable circumstances.	Across all modules
D5	Work productively in a team, to conceptualise particular research strategies and opportunities, as well as organise and allocate responsibilities and provide mutual support.	Methodology Now

Students who exit the programme with the award of the Postgraduate Diploma in Sociology (Inventive Urban Research) will have demonstrated a developed competence in the areas below.

## Knowledge and understanding

<b>Code</b>	<b>Learning outcome</b>	<b>Taught by the following module(s)</b>
A1	Demonstrate conceptual and methodological knowledge of the key concepts and debates in urban studies—with an emphasis on intersecting the histories, cultures and economies of cities across the world-and social transformation including new approaches to the field.	Methodology Now; Cities and Society
A2	Synthesise and critically analyse the literature on, and development of, urban life and world cities within the history of sociology and related academic areas, such as geography, political science, post-colonial theory, architecture, social economy and cultural studies.	Thinking Sociologically; Cities and Society
A3	Devise and develop a comparative framework for examining cities of divergent histories, geographies, and economic positionalities, taking into consideration the complexity of global and local conceptualisations of normativity and change.	Cities and Society
A4	Apply a conceptual understanding of the use of different media in sociology, and decide between and use a variety of multimedia methods to do sociological research	Methodology Now, Sociological Exhibition Making; Talking Practice A

## Cognitive and thinking skills

<b>Code</b>	<b>Learning outcome</b>	<b>Taught by the following module(s)</b>
B1	Systematically and creatively engage in debates relating to the main historical themes of urban development, change, governance, culture and economy in original and imaginative ways.	Cities and Society
B2	Establish creative connections between their previous academic and work experiences with themes emerging from	Cities and Society;

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
	the programme, including their own development and implementation of a research focus, and appraise the usefulness of sociological models and methodologies when applied to specific issues and problems.	
B3	Understand and apply advanced skills in critical thinking and analysis, academic writing and presentation skills	All modules

## Subject specific skills and professional behaviours and attitudes

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C1	Analyse and evaluate different kinds of knowledge in the context of core themes in urban history, development, culture, politics, and change through individual research.	Methodology Now
C2	Compare, contrast and analyse sociological perspectives on conflict, controversy and social change with the perspectives of other disciplines, other expert sectors and lay knowledge and action.	Option modules
C3	Synthesise and analyse how sociological and creative methods and concepts can, and potentially might further, relate to intervention in urban life and in the sustainability and transformation of cities, in both conceptual and practical ways.	Methodology Now;
C4	Demonstrate basic literacy in using a variety of media, including photography, drawing, videography and audiorecording	Talking Practice A; Sociological Exhibition Making
C5	Demonstrate the ability to use a variety of media to problem-solve, research and investigate sociological problems	Talking Practice A; Sociological Exhibition Making

## Transferable skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
D1	Effectively communicate, explain and debate in a wide range of contexts and with a broad range of interlocutors (specialist and non-specialist) or topics.	Sociological Exhibition Making; Talking Practice A
D2	Demonstrate the ability to be independent and creative workers and learners, able to exercise initiative and personal responsibility in their work	All modules
D3	Demonstrate the ability to do academic research and writing	All modules
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Students who successfully complete the MA Sociology (Inventive Urban Research) will be able to do the following:

## Knowledge and understanding

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A1	Demonstrate conceptual and methodological knowledge of the key concepts and debates in urban studies with an emphasis on intersecting the histories, cultures and economies of cities across the world-and social transformation including new approaches to the field.	Methodology Now; Cities and Society; Dissertation
A2	Synthesise and critically analyse the literature on, and development of, urban life and cities within the history of sociology and related academic areas,	Cities and Society;; Dissertation; option modules

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A3	Identify ways of using the study of urban life as a means of simultaneously engaging apparent discrepancies amongst people, things, and fields of study; to articulate dimensions of living that supposedly are dissonant or contradictory.	Methodology Now; Cities and Society; Talking Practice A; Dissertation
A4	Distinguish and appraise a range of sociological research methodologies and their potential applicability as well as their possible limitations.	All modules
A5	Recognise and account for sensitive ethical issues relating to research and representation.	Methodology Now; Dissertation
A6	Understand the positionalities of cities from the viewpoints of other disciplines in the humanities and social sciences	Cities and Society; Dissertation
A7	Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of how different media and sociological materials connect in different ways to different questions and objects of research	Talking Practice A, Sociological Exhibition Making, Methodology Now; Dissertation

## Cognitive and thinking skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B1	Critically analyse the complex interaction of theoretical, practical and applied sociological approaches to urban life, city development, world economy, and social transformation.	Dissertation
B2	Systematically and creatively engage in debates relating to the themes of urban development, change, governance, culture and economy in original and imaginative ways.	Cities and Society; Talking Practice A; Sociological Exhibition Making; Dissertation
B3	Critically engage sociological (and more generally social science) theories and methodologies relevant to contemporary	Dissertation; Sociological Exhibition Making



Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
	problems and generate intellectual engagement with these through project work.	
B5	Conceptualise ways for articulating institutions, circuits of movement, and types of work and material practices that are not obviously related, and demonstrate thinking and actions that challenge conventional understandings of the spatialisation of cause and effect, of the architectures of proximity and relevance, and of the assessment of the possible.	Dissertation
B6	Establish creative connections between your previous academic and work experiences with themes emerging from the programme, including your own development and implementation of a research focus, and appraise the usefulness of sociological models and methodologies when applied to specific issues and problems.	Cities and Society;; Dissertation
B7	Adapt concepts and methods flexibly and imaginatively to pursue your future specific aims relating to employment or further research linked to the study of work cities and urban life (e.g. research degrees; studies for national or international agencies or government organisations; policy design, implementation or evaluation).	Methodology Now; Dissertation; Sociological Exhibition Making; Talking Practice A; Cities and Society.
B8	Critically engage social science theories and methodologies to the analysis of cities	Dissertation

**Subject specific skills and professional behaviours and attitudes**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Learning outcome</b>	<b>Taught by the following module(s)</b>
C1	Synthesise and analyse how sociological and creative methods and concepts can, and potentially might further, relate to intervention in urban life and in the sustainability and transformation of cities, in both conceptual and practical ways.	Methodology Now;; Dissertation
C2	Analyse and evaluate different kinds of knowledge in the context of core themes in urban history, development, culture, politics, and change through individual research.	Methodology Now; Sociological Research Project; Dissertation
C3	Demonstrate basic literacy in the use of a variety of media and the ability to use these media to problem-solve, research and investigate sociological problems	Talking Practice A; Sociological Exhibition Making; Dissertation
C4	Conduct research in situations where individuals, households, communities, cities, nations, regions, sectors, disciplines, and groups are no longer necessarily the predominant or most salient subjects and objects of processes, actions or events; no longer the sole launching pads for investigations of the social, even if these distinctions continue to be enforced.	Methodology Now; Dissertation
C5	Elaborate the difficulties, possibilities, constraints and ethical concerns of working in complex urban situations and in multiple cities of divergent backgrounds and conditions, demonstrating selfdirection and originality in tackling and solving problems.	Methodology Now; Dissertation
C6	Critically assess the approaches and philosophies, structures and organisation of various urban formations and their concomitant cultural processes, as well as political systems and actors.	Cities and Society; Dissertation

## Transferable skills

<b>Code</b>	<b>Learning outcome</b>	<b>Taught by the following module(s)</b>
D1	Design, formulate and conduct research on a topic relevant to contemporary debates in urban studies	Methodology Now; Dissertation; Sociological Exhibition Making; Talking Practice A
D2	Effectively communicate, explain and debate in a wide range of contexts and with a broad range of interlocutors (specialist and non-specialist), including designing and producing clear and well structured reports on specific themes or topics.	All modules
D3	Evaluate and assess a range of research methods and the use of computer applications for data collection and processing, bibliographic searches, and a critical appreciation of the Internet as a resource.	Methodology Now; Dissertation
D4	Provide concrete demonstrations of how specific ensembles of places, institutions, policies, and control systems could be engaged so that each might do something differently—through conceptual writing, project planning, media projects, and active engagement with the field.	Dissertation; Sociological Exhibition Making
D5	Provide concrete demonstrations on how different economic, cultural, political and historical differences are simultaneously brought to bear on cities, as cities themselves are remade, through conceptual writing, project planning, media projects, and active engagement with the field.	Cities and Society; Dissertation
D6	Exercise initiative and personal responsibility in effective independent work with the attendant skills of experimentation, work organisation, time planning, independent decision-making and keeping to deadlines under often	Across all modules

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
	complex and unpredictable circumstances.	
D7	Work productively in a team, to conceptualise particular research strategies and opportunities, as well as organise and allocate responsibilities and provide mutual support.	Methodology Now
D8	Demonstrate the capacity to translate major concepts of urban studies into the conceptual frameworks of other humanities and social science disciplines.	Cities and Society; Dissertation
D9	Propose, plan and execute a significant piece of work that engages with relevant texts and events, and utilizes appropriate research methods to investigate a problem	Dissertation

## How you will learn

We are committed to a diverse and stimulating range of learning and teaching methods that ensure the programme outcomes are addressed rigorously and effectively. There are compulsory courses for each pathway of the programme (see structure above). Learning and teaching takes place through lectures and seminars – and in the Visual Sociology compulsory course ‘Introduction to Visual and Inventive Practice’ through technical workshops and practice-based learning.

**Lectures.** The compulsory and option modules for every pathway use lectures, normally of one hour, to introduce key concepts in relevant debates. For the compulsory and optional modules, students are required to read at least one set reading, which will be a common reference point for the lecture. The lecture will enable students to self-assess their comprehension, develop critical perspectives on the reading, place the reading within broader debates and the historical development of the field. The lecture will, additionally, provide a modelling of the way to summarise and critically interrogate case studies and other kinds of data. Each lecture is associated with a further, more extensive reading list which students are encouraged to explore, and which they will need when they do their assessed coursework.

**Seminars.** The compulsory module and options modules employ seminars, normally following the lecture and of one hour duration. Seminars provide students with practice in

articulating their thoughts on complex theoretical texts and socio-cultural processes, and an opportunity to explore concepts in relation to examples and to test their ideas against and alongside others.

Technical workshops. Practice workshops develop technical skills in sound and image making in response to current sociological topics

Fieldtrips. Students will be encouraged to extend learning beyond the classroom: to go to exhibitions, film showings, public meetings and so on that are relevant to the programme, whether with the programme convenor, in groups or as individuals. Sociology with Inventive Urban Research contains several 'walks' as part of programme. Methodology now will also involve regular engagement with the world outside the class room.

Supervision. One to one supervisions offer valuable continuity of in-depth discussion about the dissertation. Students will discuss the texts, approaches, ethics, resources and questions of writing and presentation in dissertation workshops and with their supervisors. They will be allocated a supervisor early in the Spring term on the basis of their provisional research topic.

Dissertation Workshops. Students will be provided with opportunities to discuss the research process, including choosing a research question, devising appropriate methods, selecting and sourcing literature and the ethics of their research. Workshops in Visual Sociology will address visual and sensory outputs.

Consultation and feedback hours. Students are encouraged to visit lecturers outside class time to discuss ideas from the module and to plan essays. There is a formative assessment (not compulsory and not marked) in each compulsory course of each pathway, to enable students to learn what is required for scholarship at the Post-graduate level in the UK Higher Education system. In addition, after students have received feedback from their Autumn term coursework (in February), they are encouraged to meet with lecturers to discuss any implications for future work. Lecturers have office hours in term time that students may use without advance arrangements; there is also provision for lecturers to meet with students individually during term time by prior mutually agreeable arrangement. This is particularly encouraged to facilitate the planning of essays. Students are also encouraged to see their dissertation supervisors during term-time as they may not be available in person over the summer break – though it will be possible to communicate in other ways (when supervisors are available). Supervisors may agree to meet with students and to read and comment on drafts of their dissertations – up to but not including the final draft. Alternatively, students and supervisors may communicate by email, phone, and/or skype.

Seminars and conferences within the Department of Sociology as well as in other departments of the College will complement and help enrich the students' understanding

and development of ideas. Events organised by the Centres associated with the Department are likely to be especially relevant to students on this programme, but they will also find events that are put on elsewhere in College as of interest.

The VLE. The virtual learning environment is used to give departmental guidance and regulations, access to academic and other articles and links to websites, as well as to maintain contact with the students as a group. News of relevant forthcoming seminars and conferences at Goldsmiths and elsewhere in London will also be disseminated to the students via the VLE.

## How you will be assessed

The programmes are assessed as follows:

- Methodology Now' module (30 CATS) will be assessed by a portfolio of write-ups based on weekly experiments and workshop tasks.
- For MA Sociology (Inventive Urban Research ) students choose EITHER: 'Cities and Society' (30 CAT) assessed by either a 5000 word essay or a multimedia presentation (to be agreed with convener) accompanied by a minimum 2000 text OR Talking Practice A assessed by a photogra[hoc portfolio and accompanying commentary (1000-1500 words).
- For MA Sociology and MA Sociology (Inventive Urban Research) Sociological Research Project (30 CAT) will be assessed by a 2500-3000 word written submission of research reports/process diary and a public output Both the MA Sociology and Inventive Urban Research pathway end in a final dissertation project of 12-15,000 word dissertation. Alternatively, the Inventive Urban Research students have the option of submitting a visual/sensory project with 5-6000 words textual accompaniment.

## Marking criteria

Mark	Descriptor	Specific Marking Criteria
80-100%	Distinction (Outstanding/ Exceptional)	A mark in the 80s will be awarded in the case of really accomplished work, demonstrating high levels of scholarship and originality; although grades in the 90s will be reserved for work deemed to be outstanding, and of publishable quality.
70-79%	Distinction	A mark of 70-79% is awarded when candidates show evidence of an excellent application of appropriate knowledge, understanding and skills as specified the module learning outcomes. Typically, this involves extensive reading and grasp of questions and their context and an exceptional degree of clarity in argument and use of evidence. Knowledge and

Mark	Descriptor	Specific Marking Criteria
		understanding will have been presented critically, with insight and independence of thought. Argument and analysis of reading will demonstrate the candidate's own reasoning and be exceptionally clear, critical, well-focused and cogent.
60-69%	Merit	A mark of 60-69% is awarded when candidates show a good application of appropriate knowledge, understanding and skills as specified in the module learning outcomes. This involves consistency and fluency in discussing and evaluating reading from a range of sources and an ability to relate this reading to the assessment tasks.
50-59%	Pass	A mark of 50-59% is awarded when there is clear evidence of a satisfactory application appropriate, knowledge, understanding and skills as specified in the module learning outcomes. Typically this involves evidence of knowledge and understanding where there is a limited development of ideas and critical comment.
30-49%	Fail	A mark between 30-49% is awarded when there is not a satisfactory application of appropriate knowledge, understanding and skills as specified in the module learning outcomes. There may be confusion and incoherence and unfocused comment on the literature.
10-29%	Bad fail	A mark between 10-29% is awarded when only some but not all of the learning outcomes specified for the Module have been achieved. Typically a candidate in this position will not have satisfied the examiners that they have read and understood the essential texts of the module. Research involved in the writing of coursework or the dissertation will be poorly organised and inadequately discussed.
1-9%	Very bad fail	A submission that does not even attempt to address the specified learning outcomes.
0%	Non submission or plagiarised	A categorical mark representing either the failure to submit an assessment or a mark assigned for a plagiarised assessment.



## How the programme is structured

### Full-time mode

#### MA Sociology

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Methodology Now	SO71148A	30	7	Compulsory	1
Sociological Exhibition Making	SO7XXXX	30	7	Compulsory	2
Students can choose two modules up to the value of <b>60 CATS</b> from Sociology and the wider School	Various	60	7	Optional	1-2
Dissertation	SO71009A	60	7	Compulsory	1,2,3

#### MA Sociology (Inventive Urban Research)

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Methodology Now	SO71148A	30		Compulsory	1
ONE of the following:  Cities and Society  OR  Talking Practice A	SO71042C  SO71223A	30		Compulsory	1
Sociological Exhibition Making	SO7XXXX	30		Compulsory	2
Option 30 CATS from Sociology or the wider School	NA	30		Optional	2
Dissertation	SO71009A	60		Compulsory	1,2,3



**Part-time mode**

**Academic year of Study 1: MA Sociology**

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Methodology Now	SO71148A	30	7	Compulsory	1
Sociological Exhibition Making	SO7XXXX	30	7	Compulsory	2

**Academic year of Study 2: MA Sociology**

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Optional modules to the value of 60 CATS from Sociology or the wider School	Various	60	7	Optional	1-2
Dissertation	SO71009A	60	7	Compulsory	2-3

**Academic year of Study 1: MA Sociology (Inventive Urban Research):**

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Methodology Now	SO71148A	30	7	Compulsory	1
Sociological Exhibition Making	SO71XXXX	30	7	Compulsory	2

## Academic year of Study 2: MA Sociology (Urban Studies)

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
ONE of the following:  Cities and Society  OR  Talking Practice A	SO71042C    SO71124A	30	7	Compulsory	1
Option module (30 CATS) from Sociology or the wider School	Various	30	7	Optional	
Dissertation	SO71009A	60		Compulsory	2-3

## Academic support

Support for learning and wellbeing is provided in a number of ways by departments and College support services who work collaboratively to ensure students get the right help to reach their best potential both academically and personally.

All students are allocated a Personal Tutor (one in each department for joint programmes) who has overall responsibility for their individual progress and welfare. Personal Tutors meet with their student at least three a year either face-to-face, as part of a group and/or electronically. The first meeting normally takes place within the first few weeks of the autumn term. Personal Tutors are also available to students throughout the year of study. These meetings aim to discuss progress on modules, discussion of the academic discipline and reports from previous years if available (for continuing students). This provides an opportunity for progress, attendance and assessment marks to be reviewed and an informed discussion to take place about how to strengthen individual learning and success.

All students are also allocated a Senior Tutor to enable them to speak to an experienced academic member of staff about any issues which are negatively impacting their academic study and which are beyond the normal scope of issues handled by Programme Convenors and Personal Tutors.

Students are provided with information about learning resources, the [Library](#) and information available on [Learn.gold \(VLE\)](#) so that they have access to department/

programme handbooks, programme information and support related information and guidance.

Taught sessions and lectures provide overviews of themes, which students are encouraged to complement with intensive reading for presentation and discussion with peers at seminars. Assessments build on lectures and seminars so students are expected to attend all taught sessions to build knowledge and their own understanding of their chosen discipline.

All assessed work is accompanied by some form of feedback to ensure that students' work is on the right track. It may come in a variety of forms ranging from written comments on a marked essay to oral and written feedback on developing projects and practice as they attend workshops.

Students may be referred to specialist student services by department staff or they may access support services independently. Information about support services is provided on the [Goldsmiths website](#) and for new students through new starter information and induction/Welcome Week. Any support recommendations that are made are agreed with the student and communicated to the department so that adjustments to learning and teaching are able to be implemented at a department level and students can be reassured that arrangements are in place. Opportunities are provided for students to review their support arrangements should their circumstances change. The [Disability](#) and [Wellbeing](#) Services maintain caseloads of students and provide on-going support.

The [Careers Service](#) provides central support for skills enhancement, running [The Gold Award](#) scheme and other co-curricular activities that are accredited via the Higher Education Achievement Report ([HEAR](#)).

The [Centre for Academic Language and Literacies](#) works with academic departments offering bespoke academic literacy sessions. It also provides a programme of academic skills workshops and one-to-one provision for students throughout the year

## **Placement opportunities**

Not applicable

## **Employability and potential career opportunities**

The programme will prepare students to understand crucial social and cultural questions of the 21st century that confront employers in the public, private and third sector. They will gain critical theoretical and methodological skills to research and analyse those questions. Additionally, students will acquire skills that equip them to communicate ideas and methods

and to process information in ways that will prepare them for a range of careers in a variety of organisations (including charities, NGOs, governments and corporations).

## **Programme-specific requirements**

Not applicable

## **Tuition fee costs**

Information on tuition fee costs is available at: <https://www.gold.ac.uk/students/fee-support/>

## **Specific programme costs**

Not applicable