Aston University

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

2013-2014

Programme Title	Business and Sociology
UCAS/JACS Code	LN31
School/Subject Area	Sociology, Languages & Social Sciences & Aston Business School
Final Award	BSc (Hons)
Interim Award(s)	Certificate of Higher Education Diploma in Higher Education
Mode(s) of Study	Full time or part time
Normal Length of Programme	4 years
Total Credits	480 credits
Programme Accredited By	
Dates Programme Specification Written and Revised	Written July 2011: Dr Pam Lowe (LSS) Dr Chris Jones (ABS), March 2013, format change August 2013

Educational Aims of the Programme	• To provide students with an excellent learning experience that draws on the research and consultancy of Aston academic staff. • To provide students with an intellectually rigorous and up-to-date education in Business and Sociology which will help them to identify and achieve their personal, academic and professional goals. • To provide a good understanding of the history of sociological thought, and sociological theories and methods • To provide students with the ability to analyse and understand social problems, social change and social structures; • To ensure familiarity with key concepts in sociological theories and key issues in contemporary societies; • To provide training in research methods and analysis. • To provide a programme which responds to the needs of a wide range of entrants from a variety of routes. • To develop the ability to recognise and analyse the economic, technical, financial, social and organisational parameters within which modern managers make decisions. • To ensure relevance by maintaining and enhancing the School's links with business, professional and public sector organisations. • To produce graduates who have the knowledge and skills to find employment in a range of business and management roles. • To provide well qualified graduates with key skills for life long learning. • To meet the accreditation requirements of appropriate management-related professional bodies.

Relevant Subject Benchmark Statements and other External and Internal Reference Points used to inform programme outcomes	• Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Subject Benchmark Statement for General business and management • Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Subject Benchmark Statement for Sociology • QAA UK Quality Code for Higher Education Chapter A1 (2011)

STAGE 1						
Programme Structures and Requirements: Levels, Modules and Credits						
Module Title	Credits	Level	Module Code	Core/ Option	Condonable Y/N	Pre-requisite(s) Y/N
Social Theory I	20	4	LK1007	Core	Y	N
Identities and Inequalities	20	4	LK1001	Core	Y	N
Research Methods I	20	4	LK1002	Core	Y	N
Foundations of Business Analytics	10	4	BN1115	Core	Y	N
Organisational Behaviour	10	4	BH1107	Core	Y	N
Principles of Financial Accounting	10	4	BF1101	Core	Y	N
Economic Environment of Business	10	4	BS1102	Core	Y	N
IT for Business	10	4	BN1160	Core	Y	N
Introduction to Marketing Management	10	4	BM1134	Core	Y	N
TOTAL	120					

STAGE 2						
Programme Structures and Requirements: Levels, Modules and Credits						
Module Title	Credits	Level	Module Code	Core/ Option	Condonable Y/N	Pre-requisite(s) Y/N
Social Theory 2	20	5	LY2018	Core	Y	N
Research Methods 2	20	5	LY2012	Core	Y	N
Management Accounting	10	5	BF2262	Core	Y	Y
Operations Management	10	5	BN2216	Core	Y	N
Business Policy	10	5	BS2232	Core	Y	N
Business Game	10	5	BN2225	Core	Y	N
Business Economics	10	5	BS2240	Core	Y	Y
Business, Government and Society	10	5	BS2246	Core	Y	N
Choice of Sociology options to total 20 credits						
Technology and Social Theory	10	5	LY2021	Option	Y	N
Global Society	10	5	LY2022	Option	Y	N
Embodiment and Feminist Theory	10	5	LY2009	Option	Y	N
CSI: Crime, Subversion and Injustice	10	5	LY2023	Option	Y	N
Media and Society	10	5	LY2024	Option	Y	N
Sociology of Racism	10	5	LY2017	Option	Y	N
TOTAL	120					

STAGE 3						
Programme Structures and Requirements: Levels, Modules and Credits						
Module Title	Credits	Level	Module Code	Core/ Option	Condonable Y/N	Pre-requisite(s) Y/N
Placement	120	P	LKP001 or BUP100	Core 4 year	Y	N
TOTAL	120					

STAGE F						
Programme Structures and Requirements: Levels, Modules and Credits						
Module Title	Credits	Level	Module Code	Core/ Option	Condonable Y/N	Pre-requisite(s) Y/N
Final Year Project	30	6	LY3028	Core	Y	N
Finance	10	6	BF3351	Core	Y	Y
Value Based Strategy	10	6	BS3352	Core	Y	N
Choice of Sociology options to total 40 credits						
Governance of Economic Development Policy	10	6	LB3006	Option	Y	N
Modern British Governance	10	6	LB 3010	Option	Y	N
Risk, Regulation and Financial Crisis	10	6	LB3011	Option	Y	N
Risk, Environment and Society	10	6	LY3020	Option	Y	N
The Sociology of Work, Organisations and Society	10	6	LY 3012	Option	Y	N
Racism, Class and Gender	10	6	LY 3018	Option	Y	N
Health matters: understanding patterns and policies	10	6	LY 3013	Option	Y	N
Contemporary Social Movements	10	6	LY 3021	Option	Y	N
Corporate Power in a Globalised World	10	6	LY3022	Option	Y	N
The Sociology of Sport and Society	10	6	LY 3023	Option	Y	N

Sociology of Human Reproduction	10	6	LY3024	Option	Y	N
Sociology of Education	10	6	LY 3009	Option	Y	N
Sociology of Religion	10	6	LY 3027	Option	Y	N
Tattoos, TV & Trends: Understanding Popular Culture	10	6	LY3029	Option	Y	N
Sociology of Music	10	6	LY3030	Option	Y	N
Choice of Business options to total 40 credits:						
Making Managerial Decisions using Accounting Information	20	5	BF2210	Option	Y	Y
Theories and Practice of Leadership	20	6	BH3319	Option	Y	N
Psychology & Work	20	6	BH3328	Option	Y	Y
Consumer Behaviour	10	6	BM3376	Option	Y	Y
Advanced Consumer Behaviour	10	6	BM3377	Option	Y	Y
International Marketing	20	6	BM3309	Option	Y	N
International Operations	20	6	BN3322	Option	Y	N
Effective Project Delivery	20	6	BN3385	Option	Y	N
Entrepreneurial Management	20	6	BS3357	Option	Y	N
Learning, Training and Development in Organisations	10	6	BH3392	Option	Y	Y
Global Working	10	6	BH3393	Option	Y	Y
Business Ethics	10	6	BL3307	Option	Y	N
International Business Economics	10	6	BS3337	Option	Y	Y
TOTAL	120					

Programme Outcomes, Learning and Teaching and Assessment Strategies			
A. Knowledge and Understanding			
	On successful completion of their programme, students are expected to have knowledge and understanding of:	Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
		Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1	The scope and nature of sociology as an academic discipline, conceptual, ethical and historical issues and the contributions of different perspectives	These are developed through lectures and seminars, associated handouts and visual presentations, together with individual supervision in preparation of the student's final year project. • lectures (A1-6) • seminars (A1-6) • individual work (A1-6) • guided reading (A1-6) • individual supervision (A3,4) • placement and/or project work (A3, 4)	Seen and unseen exams, class tests, essays, on-line quizzes, practical reports, projects, portfolios, posters and presentations. • assignments (A1-6) • end of teaching period examination (A1, 2) • individual project (A3,4)
2	The nature of modern societies (social structures, social problems, and social change)		
3	The practical applications of subject knowledge and the links between theory and practice.		
4	Research methods used to investigate issues in social sciences		
5	The main functions of business and management.		
6	How strategic decision-making within organisations as a whole takes place.		

B. **Intellectual Skills**			
	On successful completion of their programme, students are expected to be able to:	Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
		Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1	gather, organise, deploy and analyse evidence, data and information from a variety of primary and secondary sources	• lectures (B1-6) • seminars (B1, 2, 3, 4) • individual work (B1-7) • guided reading (B1-6) • individual supervision (B1-5, 7)	• Examination (B2,3,5,6,) • essay (B1, 2, 3, 5, 6) • individual project (B1,2,3,4,5,7) • group project (B1-6)
2	Reason scientifically and demonstrate the relationship between theory and evidence.		
3	Think critically and question received wisdom.		
4	Show competence in research design, qualitative and quantitative analysis.		
5	Present arguments that are clear, structured and sustained.		
6	analyse sociological /management concepts and theories and apply them to the analysis of social/management problems		
7	Carry out a sustained piece of independent research.		

	C. **Professional Skills**		
	On successful completion of their programme, students are expected to be able to:	Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
		Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1	Ability to read and understand sociological and business texts	• lectures (C1-3) • seminars (C1-3) • individual work (C1-4) • guided reading (C1-3) • individual supervision (C4, C6)	• Examination (C1,3) • Essay (C1,3) • Individual project C1,2,4, 6)
2	Identify a research question and design, execute and report an empirically-based research project		
3	Ability to use theory to help understand case studies, events portrayed in the media and personal experiences		
4	Use a range of practical research methods and to discriminate intelligently among sociological methods in terms of their applicability to specific research problems		
5	Display confidence in areas of particular interest and relevance to their chosen career path		
6	Apply their key skills and competencies within a real work-based situation (via optional placement experience)		

	D. <u>Transferable Skills</u>		
	On successful completion of their programme, students are expected to show:	Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
		Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1	Good written communication skills.	Communication skills are developed through seminars, study skills essay feedback Effective use of information sources, analytical ability, independent and group work are all developed through study skills classes and independent supervision. • tutorials (D1,4, 6) • seminars (D1, 2, 3, 4, 6) • group work (D2,4) • individual work (D1,2,3,5, 6)	• Essay (D1,2,3) • individual project (D1,2,3) • group project (D1,2,3,4,)
2	Competence in the use of information technology for word processing, data handling, communication and information gathering.		
3	The ability to undertake self-directed study and project management.		
4	The ability to work effectively in teams, reacting appropriately to contextual and interpersonal factors.		
5	The ability to reflect upon own learning and development.		
6	Competency in understanding relevant statistical analyses and financial reports		

Entry Requirement	In addition to satisfying the general entry requirements, candidates must satisfy any specific entry requirements for each programme as approved by the School Learning and Teaching Committee. These may include undertaking an interview.
Programme Regulations	This programme is governed by the University's current General Regulations for Undergraduate Programmes (reference REG/05/358 and subsequent editions), except where they are modified by the following Programme Regulations.

General Regulations (http://www1.aston.ac.uk/registry/for-staff/regsandpolicies/general-regulations/) and the Regulations for the programme (above) take precedence over other information sources such as student handbooks if there is a conflict. If there is a conflict between General Regulations and Programme Regulations then General Regulations take precedence unless an exemption has been approved.

Further Information	

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the threshold learning outcomes that a student might normally be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. **The individual modules included in the programme may differ from those included in this programme specification as our programmes are subject to continuous review.** Information on admissions requirements and career opportunities is available in the relevant prospectus. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in the appropriate module guides and programme handbook(s) which are available to students on enrolment.