

Module Details	
Module Title:	Studying Social Sciences: A Critical Approach
Module Code:	SAC4009-B
Academic Year:	2019-20
Credit Rating:	20
School:	School of Social Sciences
Subject Area:	Sociology and Criminology
FHEQ Level:	FHEQ Level 4
Pre-requisites:	
Co-requisites:	

Contact Hours	
Type	Hours
Lectures	22
Tutorials	2
Directed Study	176

Availability	
Occurrence	Location / Period
BDA	University of Bradford / Semester 1 (Sep - Jan)

Module Aims
1. To provide the academic skills needed to support successful study at undergraduate degree level. 2. To introduce students to the foundational principles of study in social sciences. 3. To develop the ability to collect and provide evidence of academic development to support future career opportunities.

Outline Syllabus
Academic Writing: including using argument, logic, evidence and evaluation techniques, as well as writing academically and critically using subject-specific language.

Exploring different communication and writing styles: including reflective, descriptive and evaluative writing.

Engaging with virtual learning environments and research tools and using academic libraries effectively as research hubs.

Assessment planning, including drafting, editing and proof-reading essays, referencing and preparation for examinations. Development planning and evidencing achievement.

Skills in collaborative working.

Effective interpretation and use of both qualitative and quantitative social science data.

Effective reading, note-taking and researching and reviewing appropriate literature within your academic discipline.

Learning Outcomes

1	Apply basic principles and good practice in academic writing, including distinguishing between 'reflective', 'critical', 'evaluative' and 'descriptive' writing.
2	Employ effective reading strategies for research, including finding appropriate material and using a critical approach.
3	Use the additional processes of the higher education learning environment at Bradford, such as electronic essay submission and use of virtual learning environments.
4	Discover, recognise and use substantive sources of academic information, evaluation them for scholarly significance and critical analysis in your chosen discipline.
5	Be able to plan your future development and evidence achievement throughout your course.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

Major academic skills common to all social science disciplines will be taught through lectures. Discipline-specific skills in Sociology and Criminology will be taught through library-based workshops, Personal Tutor Seminars and individual tutorials with Personal Tutors.

Students will use online worksheets to practice and demonstrate their skills. Students will select from a specified number of these worksheets to develop a portfolio to present for final assessment.

Mode of Assessment

Type	Method	Description	Length	Weighting
Formative	Coursework	Students will have the opportunity to discuss the portfolio and present their work sheets for feedback and provisional assessment during lecture and tutorial		%

		time.		
Summative	Coursework	Completion of portfolio showing key academic and discipline skills, taken from work sheets completed during the semester and showing awareness of skills gained and development needed.	-3500 words	100%

Reading List

To access the reading list for this module, please visit <https://bradford.rl.talis.com/index.html>.

Please note:

This module descriptor has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but minor changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Upon commencement of the module, students will receive a handbook with further detail about the module and any changes will be discussed and/or communicated at this point.