

Module Details	
Module Title	Interpreting the Social World
Module Code	SAC4017-B
Academic Year	2021/2
Credits	20
School	School of Social Sciences
FHEQ Level	FHEQ Level 4

Contact Hours	
Type	Hours
Lectures	12
Directed Study	176
Tutorials	12

Availability	
Occurrence	Location / Period
BDA	University of Bradford / Semester 2

## Module Aims

Interpreting the Social World will provide you with the space and resources needed to explore your ideas on what it means to view the world from a range of sociological perspectives. Tapping upon experiential knowledge and theoretical understandings you will be able to see more clearly possible ways in which the personal overlaps with the interpersonal and public domains of life. Classical sociological theories will be enriched with contributions by contemporary sociologists, critical thinkers, poststructuralists, feminists, postcolonial and cultural studies theorists. In addition to taught sessions, your knowledge will evolve in the context of independent exploration of current case studies in areas such as diversity, inclusion and equalities, politics, power and ideology, identity, culture and representation, globalisation, economy and consumer culture, digitisation and mass media, public empathy, cohesion and social movements, and more.

The module will allow you a deeper insight into the processes in which political, economic, social and cultural relationships are produced in varied social contexts. Particular aims involve:

- Positioning Sociology within other disciplinary paradigms of knowledge production.
- Exploring key debates in Sociology (such as that between culture/nature and individual/society or structure/agency).
- Exploring different intellectual approaches to social inquiry.
- Applying analytical skills to real world experience and case studies.
- Practicing academic writing in the context of social inquiry.
- Understand the significance of social processes (political, economic and cultural) to the construction of social reality.
- Debate alternative sociological understandings in the explanation of multiple and diverse social world phenomena.

## Outline Syllabus

Your ability to interpret the social world will develop in the context of interactive and complementary modes of teaching and activities. Learning will be led by the exploration of the following topics:

- Thinking Sociologically (key debates)
- Sociological perspectives (from classical to contemporary)
- Social inquiry
- Introducing culture, divisions and representation
- Interpreting power, ideology and social processes
- Globalisation and consumer/mass culture
- Digitisation and social media
- Intersectionality, radical empathy and social movements
- Alterity, social cohesion and diversity

## Learning Outcomes

Outcome Number	Description
01	Understand the relationship between sociology and other disciplines.
02	Develop analytical insights in the context of social inquiry.
03	Explore contemporary sociological perspectives and apply your understanding in real world cases and situations.
04	Be able to utilise a range of materials and sources in the real world in order to demonstrate your understanding of social issues.
05	Learn to deconstruct social organisation (economic, political and cultural processes).

## Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

Weekly lectures will introduce you to key concepts, theories, debates and social issues that will help you achieve the aims of the module.

Weekly tutorials will help you with the support of your tutor to steer your independent study towards areas of personal interest.

Interpretative and analytical skills will develop through the identification and examination of materials and sources that help you understand and communicate processes of social construction in areas of social life you are interested in.

Quizzes, videos, digital materials, groups activities and synchronous and asynchronous blended learning methods will help you to complete the assessments of this module.

An individual poster presentation will allow you to deepen your understanding and apply your analytical skills to an area of social life you are interested in.

An individual reflective portfolio will give you the opportunity to engage with a range of issues and case studies in the form of reflective entries accompanied by theoretical explanations and ideas (you may use visual and textual and other resources to highlight your insights).

### Mode of Assessment

Type	Method	Description	Weighting
Summative	Presentation	Individual Poster (10 Minutes)	50%
Summative	Coursework - Written	Individual reflective Portfolio (1500 words)	50%

### 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.*