

Department of Sociology Digital Editorial Guidelines

All members of the Department, including students, are encouraged to develop content for the departmental website and associated blogs and podcasts.

The purpose of publishing this content is to stimulate and nurture the research culture within our Department, and to showcase a series of lively, innovative and critical debates to the wider world.

1. Good practice

Content should be based on the same standards of good practice that apply to academic work generally. This includes the use of evidence to support arguments, and citing (or attributing ownership of) publications and ideas to the relevant authors. The Department is committed to a process of decolonisation; we particularly encourage contributions which challenge existing, dominant frames of knowledge, which provide insights outside of a strictly Eurocentric and North American frame, and which draw on work from a diverse range of authors.

2. Use of critical sociological imagination

Contributions should be original, and written or recorded in ways appropriate for the publishing platform (brevity and clarity are especially important). They should seek to engage a critical sociological imagination to help readers understand society in new and challenging ways, to interrogate or extend existing debates, or to point readers towards new directions and questions, within the discipline and beyond.

3. Caring for the community

Care for members of the Department and the wider community should underlie the development and publishing of all content. Critical engagement is encouraged, but should be constructive and must illustrate respect for others. This means avoiding the use of personal criticisms or attacks.

4. The editorial process

Published contributions will generally bear the disclaimer that they represent the opinions of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the views of the Department. Editorial oversight by the Communications Committee will be of a very light-touch nature. Contributors will be asked to confirm that they believe their work adheres to the basic standards outlined above; in addition, all contributions will be read by a member of the Communications Committee. In the case of contributions prepared by students, the normal procedure would be for a member of staff to have been involved in the process; where this is not the case, opinions may be sought from an additional staff member.

If there is any concern or uncertainty regarding content that will be published, please get in contact with one of the members of the Department Communications Committee.

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