

# A Guide to HSPS **Sociology** Part IIB Papers 2019-2020

**Sociology Options presentation: Wednesday 8 May, 12.00 noon,  
Room 5, Mill Lane Lecture Block**

Information on Sociology papers can be found on the Sociology website:  
<https://www.sociology.cam.ac.uk/current-students/current-undergraduates/part-iib>

**DEADLINE for registering your choices: 24 May 2019**

If you have any queries, contact [paperchoices@hsps.cam.ac.uk](mailto:paperchoices@hsps.cam.ac.uk)

## Part IIB 2019-2020: Paper Titles Available

### Sociology

- Soc 5 Statistics and Methods  
Soc 6 Advanced Social Theory  
Soc 7 Media, Culture and Society  
Soc 8 Religion and Contentious Mobilization  
Soc 9 Global Capitalism  
Soc 10 Gender  
Soc 11 Racism, Race and Ethnicity  
Soc 12 Social Problems in Modern Britain  
Soc 13 Health, Medicine and Society  
Soc 15/Crim 4 Criminology, Sentencing and the Penal System  
Crim 5 Social Networks and Crime: **Global perspectives on social order, violence and organised crime**  
*(only available to Joint Soc/Crim track)*

**Dissertation** 6,000-10,000 words on a topic chosen by the student.

### Other HSPS and affiliated subjects:

#### Social Anthropology papers:

- SAN5 Ethical Life & the Anthropology of the Subject  
SAN6 Power, Economy & Social Transformation

#### Part II Options:

- Paper SAN4 The Anthropology of an Ethnographic Area:  
*(available to Joint Soc/San track)*
- a)Africa
  - c)Middle East
  - d)South Asia
  - e)Pacific

Paper SAN9 Science and Society

Paper SAN12 Anthropology of Cities and Space

Paper SAN13 Gender, Kinship and Care

#### Politics and International Studies papers:

- POL6 Statistics and Methods  
POL9 Conceptual issues and texts in politics and international relations  
POL10 Political Thought from 1700-1890  
POL11 Political Thought and Philosophy  
POL12 The politics of the Middle East  
**POL13 British and European Politics** *(available to Single Sociology track)*  
POL14 US Foreign Policy  
POL15 The politics of Africa  
POL16 Conflict and Peacebuilding

- POL17**      **Law of Peace: the law of emerging international constitutional order** (*available to Single Sociology track*)
- POL18      Politics of Gender
- POL19      Themes and Issues in Politics and International Relations
- POL20      The politics of the future, 1880-2080
- POL 21      China in the international order

**Psychology papers:**

- PBS 6    Developmental Psychopathology
- PBS 7    Social Psychology
- PBS 8    The Family

**Biological Anthropology papers:**

- B2      Human Ecology and Behaviour
- B3      Human Evolution
- B4      Human Comparative Biology

## Paper combinations

### Paper choice regulations for Part IIB SOCIOLOGY stream

- (i) one paper chosen from SOC5–13;
- (ii) two further papers chosen from SOC5–15, one of which may be substituted by a **dissertation** on a subject approved by the Head of the Department of Sociology;
- (iii) one paper chosen from POL13, POL17, SAN9-13, or B2-4 of the Archaeology Tripos, Papers PBS 6–8 of the Psychological and Behavioural Sciences Tripos or a further paper chosen from SOC5–15.

(Note: Papers B2-4 can be taken only if they were not taken in Part IIA ;  
Papers POL13, POL17 can only be taken if POL3 or POL4 was taken at Part IIA;  
SOC 5 CANNOT BE TAKEN IF IT WAS TAKEN IN PART IIA)

### Paper choice regulations for Part IIB SOC/SOC ANTH joint stream

- (i) two papers chosen from SOC5–15;
- (ii) one paper chosen from SAN5 or SAN6, **AND** one paper chosen from SAN4–SAN13;
- (iii) a candidate may substitute for one paper a **dissertation** within the field of sociology or social anthropology.

(Note: Candidates can only choose any individual paper from the range of papers that they did not take in Part IIA; SOC6 can only be taken if SOC2 was taken in ptIIA)

### Paper choice regulations for Part IIB POL/SOC joint stream

- (i) two papers chosen from POL6, POL10–21;
- (ii) two papers chosen from SOC5–15;
- (iii) a candidate may substitute for one paper a **dissertation** within the field of Politics or Sociology.
- (iv) A candidate may not offer more than one of POL19 or POL20 or a dissertation.

(Note: Paper SOC5 cannot be taken if a candidate is also taking POL6)

### Paper choice regulations for Part IIB SOC/CRIM joint stream

- (i) two papers chosen from SOC6-SOC13
- (ii) papers CRIM4 and CRIM5;
- (iii) a candidate may substitute for one paper a **dissertation** on a subject within the field of Criminology or Sociology

**Important:** Students will have chosen a stream in their second year. They are **not permitted to switch tracks between Part IIA and Part IIB** unless they switch from a Joint to a Single track (for example Soc/Soc Anth part IIA to Sociology part IIB)

## Sociology Paper Descriptions

**(Note: All these papers will be assessed by a 3 hour-examination only)**

### *Soc 5: Statistics and Methods*

*Offered to: students in HSPS single tracks, and HSPS Joint Soc/SocAnth and Pol/Soc tracks; and to students in the Education Tripos.*

In this course students will learn about a range of quantitative and qualitative methods and how they may be applied to explore issues in social science. Students will have the opportunity to apply new skills and knowledge in lab sessions, exploring real-life data. A wide range of statistical methods for data analysis will be covered, from simple descriptive statistics through to multivariate regression, logistic models and factor analysis. The course will also cover survey design, sampling methods, techniques in interviewing, and the principles of ethnography. At the end of the course students will:

1. Be aware of the different approaches to carrying out empirical research and the epistemological backgrounds that inform the approaches
2. Be able to read and understand empirical research published in books and journal articles
3. Know how to perform basic statistical analysis using SPSS software, and to interpret findings correctly
4. Have a solid foundation in basic methods and statistics, which will enable progression to more advanced courses, if desired

The focus of this course will be on research methods as practical tools to address real-life questions relevant to sociologists and social science. No prior expertise in mathematics or statistics is necessary. The skills and knowledge gained from studying on this course will be of benefit to students embarking on a substantial research project such as a dissertation, and will be useful for those interested in a career involving use, and interpretation, of data.

### *Soc6: A subject in sociology I*

*Offered to: students in HSPS single tracks, and HSPS Joint Soc/SocAnth, Soc/Crim, Pol/Soc tracks*

A prescribed paper in sociology. In 2019-20, it will be **Advanced Social Theory**. This course offers students the opportunity to pursue their interests in contemporary social theory at an advanced level. The aim of the course is to encourage students to use social theory in order to think creatively, constructively and critically about the ways in which the social and political world is changing today. The course takes for granted an intermediate level of knowledge of classical and contemporary social theory; students are expected to develop and extend their knowledge of key thinkers by reading their work

in greater depth during this course. However, the course itself is organized around problems and issues, not around thinkers and texts. The emphasis is on encouraging students to practise social theory by thinking theoretically about particular problems and issues. The course seeks to bring social theory alive by getting students to draw on the resources of social theory in order to understand the world of the 21<sup>st</sup> century and how it is changing.

### ***Soc7: A subject in sociology II***

*Offered to: students in HSPS single tracks, and HSPS Joint Soc/SocAnth, Soc/Crim and Pol/Soc tracks; and to students in the PBS Tripos.*

A prescribed paper in sociology. In 2019-20, it will be **Media, Culture and Society**. This paper focuses on the sociological study of media and of cultural and symbolic forms, ranging from youth subcultures to media power and communications media, including television, the press and the internet. The precise topics and scope of the paper vary each year, but may include the political economy of media and culture; the study of media and cultural institutions; online privacy and surveillance; journalism and news; audience studies and the role of ethnography, identity and representation in relation to culture and media; theories of the public sphere and of cultural citizenship; the changing nature of political communications; theory and analysis of digital media and the internet and their implications for social and political life. The work of theorists such as Adorno, Benjamin, Habermas, Bourdieu, Barthes, Baudrillard, McLuhan, Williams, Becker, Hebdige, Goffman and Castells is discussed in relation to the substantive themes.

### ***Soc8: A subject in sociology III***

*Offered to: students in HSPS single tracks, and HSPS Joint Soc/SocAnth, Soc/Crim and Pol/Soc tracks*

In 2019-20, it will be **Religion and Contentious Mobilization**.

Aims and objectives of the paper:

At the end of this paper students have the ability to critically

- differentiate, compare and assess key debates and core concepts in A) studies on the sociology of religion and B) social movements and contentious politics. These include, but are not limited to, concepts and debates around the formation of religion in public life, (post-)secularization and the secular; and social movements and contentious politics.
- assess how the mobilization of religion intersects with issues regarding gender, media and technology, revolution and populism by exploring contemporary examples of contentious mobilization of religion in the US, Europe, Middle East and Asia.

Course content: From Narendra Modi's use of Hinduism in nationalist mobilization, Jihadist movements in the Syrian civil war and European right

wing movements referring to a Christian heritage: religion is a divisive topic in contemporary societies today and a crucial component of contentious mobilization around the globe. In this course we explore the ways in which religious beliefs, practices and objects intersect with, and are shaped by, these episodes of contentious mobilization and social conflict.

In the first part of the paper we start by critically assessing classic sociological debates on 'secularization' 'the secular' and '(de-)privatization of religion'. We then explore how conceptual divisions between the secular and religious have faced increasing criticism through debates on 'post-secularism' and 'religious' social movements. Finally, we discuss approaches to the conceptual genealogy of religion, and relational approaches to its mobilization. In the second part of the paper we critically assess the utility of these debates by applying them to contemporary cases of mobilized religion in the US, Europe, Middle East and Asia. In doing so, we also assess how the mobilization of religion intersects with issues of gender, media and technology, revolution, and populism.

#### ***Soc9: A subject in sociology IV***

*Offered to: students in HSPS single tracks, and HSPS Joint Soc/SocAnth, Soc/Crim and Pol/Soc tracks; and to students in the Economics Tripos.*

A prescribed paper in sociology. In 2019-20, it will be **Global Capitalism**. These lectures seek to develop an understanding both of capitalism in general - its fundamental structure and functioning - and of its national varieties. Last, the global extension of capitalism receives consideration. The course of lectures covers three main areas. The first examines general theories of the structure of capitalism in both the classical and modern literature; its historical development and fundamental institutions, such as the firm, the market etc. Second, some of the major capitalist economies are examined in detail, particularly the USA and Japan. Third, two important related issues in the development and change of capitalist economies are examined: the question of globalization and 'varieties of capitalism'; and the transition to capitalism in post-communist societies.

#### ***Soc10: A subject in sociology V***

*Offered to: students in HSPS single tracks, and HSPS Joint Soc/SocAnth, Soc/Crim and Pol/Soc tracks*

In 2019-20, it will be **Gender**. This 20-week Part Two paper introduces key theorists, concepts and developments in the sociology of gender and contemporary feminist theory.

Lectures outline the feminist analysis of sex, gender, the sexual division of labour, intersectionality, and the gendered economies of production and reproduction. The paper includes lectures on masculinities, new reproductive technologies, affect and embodiment, international feminism, black feminist thought, and trans/queer theory. The paper is offered in a lecture/seminar format and a key text (or texts) are required reading which students are expected to prepare in advance.

### ***Soc11: A subject in sociology VI***

*Offered to: students in HSPS single tracks, and HSPS Joint Soc/SocAnth, Soc/Crim and Pol/Soc tracks; and to students in the PBS Tripos.*

In 2019-20, it will be **Racism, Race and Ethnicity**.

This course explores the emergence of modern notions of race and ethnicity, contemporary forms of racism, processes of racialisation, and the social and political forces that have shaped them. Key questions will include: How are racial ideas conceptualized and justified through a variety of biological, social and cultural discourses? How did race and ethnicity come to be defined and embedded in the context of colonial and post-colonial rule? What are the, often complex, relations between ideas of race, the production of difference and identity, and the pervasiveness of social exclusion? Why does race remain such a powerful determinant of individual and collective identities? What is the specificity of ethnicity in contemporary society? Why and how does race and ethnicity matter?

### ***Soc12: A subject in sociology VII***

*Offered to: students in HSPS single tracks, and HSPS Joint Soc/SocAnth, Soc/Crim and Pol/Soc tracks; and to students in the Economics Tripos.*

A prescribed paper in sociology. In 2019-20, it will be **Social Problems in Modern Britain**.

The paper focuses on significant changes in British society since 1945 with specific reference to the relations and interplay between aspects of gender, ethnicity, national identity and class. It provides knowledge and understanding of the political, economic, and social forces underpinning the trajectory of modern British society. The paper develops critical and intellectual skills and an appreciation of the contribution of political ideology and social theory to the analysis and interpretation of social change. The core lectures deal with the following topics: politics and society since 1945; nationalism and devolution; class and work; gender and family; and race and ethnicity.

Modes of Teaching and Supervision Arrangements:

The course is taught by means of lectures and supervisions. Students will be expected to produce a minimum of 4 essays. They will be supported with 6 supervisions. Each supervision session will typically be used to read and discuss an article, and students may be asked to present on a topic, or find other ways to address the topic in ways that are stimulating and provide a learning experience for students. Students are expected to prepare for a supervision in advance and to actively engage in discussion.

Mode of Assessment: One three hour examination paper from which three questions must be answered.

### ***Soc13: A subject in sociology VIII***

*Offered to: students in HSPS single tracks, and HSPS Joint Soc/SocAnth, Soc/Crim and Pol/Soc tracks; and to Students in the BBS Tripos*

A prescribed paper in sociology. In 2019-20, it will be a paper on **Health, Medicine and Society**. This paper provides students with a critical survey of principal themes and debates in contemporary medical sociology. It explores the major social causes of health and illness in modern societies with special reference to such factors as social class, gender, ethnicity, and age; provides students with a sociological grasp of the issues and problems associated with chronic illness; investigates a variety of key topics in the sociology of mental health; and, finally, develops a sociological analysis of the major organizational, professional, and technological components of medical institutions and medical practice in contemporary society. The paper also explores new methods of health care delivery with an eye to understanding their roles in either fostering or minimising social inequalities pertaining to health and illness. In addition to these substantive topics, the paper also examines cutting edge theoretical approaches to the study of health and illness in society, including: social constructionism, feminist theory, the sociology of the body, the sociology of science, and phenomenology. In short, the paper explores a wide range of both substantive and theoretical issues pertaining to the nature and distribution of health and illness in modern societies.

***Soc15: Criminology, Sentencing and the Penal System (Paper 34 of the Law Tripos)***  
***Also serves as Crim4 in the Joint Soc/Crim Track***

The Paper aims to give students an informed and critical understanding of key issues in Law, Criminal Justice and Penal Policy in England and Wales (with reference to other countries where relevant). It does so in five ways. Firstly, by helping student to read the evidence for patterns of crime and for pathways into and out of offending in the context of i) fads, fashions and political ideas in criminal justice, ii) our knowledge of individual, family and situational risk factors, and iii) offender rehabilitation and desistance from crime. Secondly, by looking at the principles of punishment and at empirical evidence for the effectiveness of different crime reduction strategies. Thirdly, by considering the legal framework of sentencing and the theoretical and practical dilemmas facing judges and magistrates. Fourthly by examining some of the challenges faced by the criminal justice and penal system in dealing with specific groups of offenders such as adolescents, women, and those who are regarded as 'dangerous'. Finally, there is consideration of community penalties, prisons and parole, and broader questions of gender, equality and fairness in contemporary criminal justice.

***Crim5: Social Networks and Crime: Global perspectives on social order, violence and organised crime***

***(Only offered to students in the Joint Soc/Crim Track)***

This course offers an analytical exploration of social order, violence and organised forms of criminality. Particular emphasis will be placed on the mechanisms underpinning such phenomena. The course adopts a comparative

approach to tease out similarities – and differences – between phenomena observed in different locales across the world and/or at different points in time. The course begins in Michaelmas Term by discussing the problem of social order. Next, it looks at violence in a series of seminars devoted to the study of long-term trends in violence, global patterns of violence in contemporary societies, the relationship between social inequality and violence, and violence as an economic activity. The course then discusses issues related to governance and order supplied, respectively, by States and illegal actors (organised crime groups).

In Lent Term, the course focuses on specific forms of organised crime: drugs production and trafficking; human trafficking; migrant smuggling; cybercrime; gangs and Mafias.

The course is multidisciplinary and draws on concepts from sociology, law, criminology, history, industrial economics, political economy and political theory.

### ***Sociology Dissertation***

Students may offer a dissertation of between 6,000 and 10,000 words in place of a paper; they choose a topic and approach a supervisor of their choice. For many students the opportunity to study a topic of their choosing in depth is the most rewarding part of the Tripos. Students are advised to start considering a topic and supervisor for their dissertation before the end of their second year; Directors of Studies can help with these decisions. Many students do fieldwork for their dissertations over the summer vacation before the start of the third year. Titles should be submitted as soon as possible, but not later than the second week of Michaelmas term, and must be approved by the Head of the Sociology department. Before undertaking fieldwork students will need to submit a research ethics and risk assessment form, available from the website. In addition to individual supervision, workshops will be provided to assist students with the collection and analysis of data. The dissertation is submitted in the first week of Easter term.

### **Administrators**

If you have any queries about a particular subject, or need to notify us of any changes, please contact the relevant Administrator:

Archaeology:	James Walpole, <a href="mailto:jw2078@cam.ac.uk">jw2078@cam.ac.uk</a>
Politics & IR:	Patrycja Koziol, <a href="mailto:pk467@cam.ac.uk">pk467@cam.ac.uk</a>
Social Anthropology:	Claudia Luna, <a href="mailto:cl353@cam.ac.uk">cl353@cam.ac.uk</a>
Sociology:	Odette Rogers, <a href="mailto:ohmr3@cam.ac.uk">ohmr3@cam.ac.uk</a>
Psychology:	<a href="mailto:teaching@psychol.cam.ac.uk">teaching@psychol.cam.ac.uk</a>

Or you may contact the Faculty Teaching Administrator, Hayley Bell, [hab41@cam.ac.uk](mailto:hab41@cam.ac.uk)

### **Part IIB Option Sessions for HSPS Departments:**

#### **Politics and International Studies**

Tuesday, 30 April 2019 9am-11am, ARB

#### **Sociology**

Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2019 12pm-1pm, Mill Lane Room 5

#### **Social Anthropology**

Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019 12pm-1pm