PhD Programmes
2016/17
Welcome to Sociology

The Graduate School of Sociology at Warwick University is a well-established and vigorous location in which you can develop and extend your research skills as well as your understanding of a wide range of societal and cultural issues. The Department will help you develop your understanding and your confidence in the research process. Postgraduate study will enhance your ability to think about complex problems – and sometimes deceptively obvious and simple ones – and to adopt an analytical and inquisitive stance towards the ones you are studying.

The wide range of courses that we offer can help advance both your research skills and your employability. Of course, postgraduate study is necessary for entry into an academic career and many of you may be thinking of becoming the next generation of sociology and social science academics. If so, let me extend a warm early welcome to you. Developing research and analytical skills are not, however, restricted to the academic labour market. Increasingly, decision makers in all sectors of the economy rely on individuals who have been trained in the rigour and focus of the research process.

You will be joining a team of staff at various stages of their academic careers, all of whom are active researchers and teachers who are internationally recognised and respected for their academic work. The research culture here is strong, and we encourage you to become a part of it.

Professor John Solomos
Head of Department
Why Sociology at Warwick?

Ranked 23rd in the world for Sociology, we are internationally renowned for our research and teaching in sociology. We are also rated as one of the top UK departments, as confirmed by our consistently highly placing across the range of national leagues tables: we are rated 4th in the UK by the Guardian University Guide 2016, 5th by The Times/Sunday Times Good University Guide 2016, and 7th by the Complete University Guide 2016.

Extensive sociological expertise

Our research areas are varied, and we have considerable expertise in areas such as: gender studies, social theory, health and illness, migration and ethnicity, work and employment, political sociology, the sociologies of religion, bioscience, markets, knowledge and media.

Our department is structured into five vibrant research clusters:

- Theories and Methodologies
- Culture, Media and Creativity
- Body, Science and Society
- Inequalities and Social Justice
- Politics, Community and Civic Engagement

Our thriving community

Warwick Sociology has 25 members of academic staff at all stages of their academic careers with wide-ranging theoretical, methodological and substantive research interests. Experts in their field, they welcome enquiries from potential PhD students with an idea for a research project. Warwick Sociology also has a large and active graduate community with PhD students working on a wide range of subjects, and it is part of the Department's philosophy to encourage graduate students to participate fully in its intellectual life. This includes a considerable range of activities from peer study and support groups, to themed writing workshops among students, to Departmental Research Seminars involving both staff and students.
What is a PhD?

Technically speaking, the PhD, or ‘Doctor of Philosophy’, is the highest qualification that a student can achieve. Practically speaking, it’s a 3-4 year individual research project involving advanced scholarship focusing on a specific area of interest to you within the field of sociology, and which makes an original contribution to knowledge.

Each student’s experience of the PhD is unique - some will undertake primary data collection through fieldwork and interviews, while others will do all their research in the library - but all PhDs require a high degree of self-motivation, self-reflection and self-discipline in order to be completed on time and in a way that accomplishes all they originally set out to do. While the degree can be lonely or exhausting at times, there are always opportunities to reach out to your peers, supervisors or other colleagues through conferences, workshops and study groups both on and off campus – and through these, you’ll get important insights into your own topic and keep you engaged in the wider academic community.

Throughout this process, all PhDs also gain valuable skills in research, writing, public speaking, networking and critical thinking which are important not only in academic careers, but also in many other professions.

What is a PhD in the UK?

As opposed to undertaking the degree in other countries, a PhD in the UK is based more around individual research. In Sociology, it does not include any taught element, though you are able and encouraged to pursue additional training through the University (details on page 7). Instead of examinations, your progress will be marked through regular reports and presentations, culminating in the final viva process.

Normally you will be expected to complete your thesis in three years, with a maximum registration period of four years if you require additional time. In contrast with some other countries, where a PhD can stretch to 7-8 years full time, a PhD in the UK is shorter because there is no significant taught component to the course. You are also not required to teach during the course of your PhD*, although optional teaching opportunities can provide you with valuable experience if you wish to pursue a career in academia.

*Many Warwick Sociology PhD students choose to take up sessional teaching of undergraduate seminars within the department. Teachers are appointed by the University only on the recommendation of the Head of Department after completing an application and consulting with their supervisors; current PhD students are given priority for teaching.
On teaching in Sociology

“I relished the opportunity to teach whilst studying for my PhD. Not only is it a fantastic opportunity to increase your skills and personal development, but for me, as a part-time student who spends minimal time on campus, teaching means I can remain involved with the department on a wider scale. It also allows me to step outside of my ‘PhD bubble’, as teaching undergrads a subject you are passionate about can be very rewarding and beneficial to the whole PhD process.”

Emma Beckett,
Current candidate, PhD Women’s and Gender Studies

Our outstanding PhD programmes

Warwick Sociology is a leading centre of international research and offers an excellently successful PhD in Sociology alongside our other programme in Women’s and Gender Studies. The interests of the academic staff are no less diverse than those of the graduate courses and students, with multi-disciplinary strengths across the range of social and cultural research from traditional sociology and social theory to contemporary cultural and media studies. We also have strong clusters in gender and women’s studies, health and illness, postcolonialism, racism and ethnicity, and social and political thought.

PhD in Sociology

The Sociology PhD spans a diverse range of areas reflecting the strengths of our staff, graduate students and courses. These include strong clusters in: gender, sexuality and women’s studies; health and illness; visual sociology; traditional media forms and new social media; the sociology of science; body and society; bioethics and bio-power; postcolonialism; politics and political cultures; mourning and the sociology of death and dying; racism and ethnicity; and social and political thought.

PhD in Women’s and Gender Studies

Women’s and Gender Studies is an interdisciplinary area of study which draws on Sociology and other social science disciplines, as well as those which are located in the humanities. It encompasses a wide area of interests ranging from investigations into the ways in which society is structured to explorations of cultural representations and texts. A central concern is to analyse how different bases of inequality and identity, such as race, gender and class, intersect with each other. The Department has particular expertise in: gender and sexualities; the body; families and households; paid and unpaid work; gender and migration; gender and politics; gender and development; education; gender and violence; feminist social movements; feminist theory and methods; Black feminist thought; feminist media and cultural studies; and food policy.
The PhD programme

Undertaking a research project that spans at least three years* can be a daunting task. While not as structured as a taught postgraduate programme, the PhD is segmented into four stages, each with distinct milestones to help you monitor your progress and pursue your research at the best pace.

Year 1

Your first year lays the foundation for your research. In the autumn term, you are required to take a PhD training module run by the Doctoral Training Centre (DTC) at Warwick, The Practice of Social Research (with a dedicated class for Sociology students). In the spring term, you will take the module Research Process and Research Design, in which you will set out your research proposal, the strategy you propose to adopt, and the research questions which will guide your doctoral research.

In June, you will submit a 5,000 word document detailing your progress that will be used to determine whether you are ready to upgrade from MPhil student to a full PhD.

Year 2

Many candidates use part or all of the second year to conduct fieldwork elsewhere in the UK or abroad, digging into the heart of their research. The second year culminates with a review of your progress, on which your supervisor(s) will write an end-of-year report.

Year 3

While you should be in the habit of writing from day one, the process of tying your thesis together and finalising it for submission begins in earnest during year 3 and normally continues into the first part of year 4. The review process, as in year 2, involves a supervisor-written report on your progress.

Year 4

Although you should aim to finish in year 3, realistically most students submit their thesis in year 4. The University does not normally allow an extension beyond year 4.

Submission and the viva

You should aim to submit your finished thesis in the first 6 months of your fourth year. After you submit, you will defend your thesis in front of internal and external examiners as your final assessment for the degree (the viva).

*Full-time students are registered for four years initially, the fourth year being a writing-up period not subject to fees; part-time students are initially registered for five years. Part-time students are still expected to submit First Year Review documents during year 1 of their studies.
The PhD programme in Sociology at Warwick is very well-structured, with the Research Process and Research Design first year module in particular providing valuable advice and guidance on the progression from your proposal to the upgrade at the end of year 1. The excellent supervisory arrangements, with every research student being allocated two supervisors and regular meetings taking place in the first year, provide a supportive but intellectually stretching space for your development towards the upgrade. Research students are also actively encouraged to participate in Departmental activities, with opportunities ranging from running the Centre for the Study of Women and Gender’s graduate seminar series to organising academic conferences. Students are offered excellent advice and guidance on gaining publications as you progress through your PhD, as well as access to a broad range of training programmes run across the University.

Liz Ablett
Current candidate, PhD Sociology

Additional training

Additional research training and personal and professional development are available through the Department, the Social Sciences Doctoral Training Centre, the Graduate School and the Library. You are also welcome to audit MA modules, for which no assessment is required. Warwick also provides support through the Careers & Skills Office to help you build your CV and enhance your employment prospects well ahead of graduation.
The PhD experience

It is part of the Department’s philosophy to encourage graduate students to participate fully in its intellectual life. This includes a considerable range of activities from peer study and support groups and themed writing workshops among students, to Departmental Research Seminars involving both staff and students. There are also a variety of seminar series involving guest speakers that are organised by Research Centres both within and outside of the Department at which you will be very welcome.

Research activity

There are two active research centres (the Centre for the Study of Women & Gender and the Social Theory Centre) and a number of research groups and networks that are led by members of our Department. These interact across our research cluster areas, as well as across disciplines within the University and beyond, and frequently play host to guest workshops, conferences and seminars. In addition, we offer limited funding for students to attend conferences outside of Warwick and present their research to a wider audience.

Student-led initiatives

There’s more to life as a PhD student than research—in fact, we offer many opportunities for you to engage with the academic community in the department and participate in university-wide activities. One of these is the Warwick Sociology Journal, a student-run journal within the department seeking to showcase some of the best undergraduate and postgraduate work on a range of contemporary topics. Students and staff also organise and participate in seminars and workshops within our research centres and clusters.

Events and societies

We also host a number of events featuring staff members and guest speakers, including our Departmental Seminar Series, the focal point of research culture and activity in the department. Past presentations have covered topics including ‘The Culture of Competition in Modern Liberal Societies’ and ‘Decentering Beauty in Latin America’.

Beyond the department, there is a vibrant campus atmosphere, with many societies and initiatives to get involved with including the Warwick Sociology Society, which regularly holds academic talks, charity and careers events, offers mentoring and puts on an annual Christmas dinner. Students also frequently organise drinks and socials after seminars or other events in the department.
I chose Sociology at Warwick for two reasons: first, because Warwick is one of the best universities in the world in the social sciences; and second, because the Sociology Department includes excellent academic professionals specialising in the welfare arena in the European context, my area of research. Apart from attending a lot of seminars, workshops and MA modules, the Department can also help you attend other events in other universities through conference funding.

I really like the freedom the Department gives you to research what you really like (even if it is not conventional or popular). Moreover, one of the best things about our Department is the feeling that you’re becoming part of a really multicultural environment. In this globalised world, learning to adapt and deal with people from all parts of the planet is essential and the Department pushes you to gain this ability. In addition, the Department Officers are always ready to help you and listen in a constructive and optimistic way; it is difficult to find other departments with this quality of service.

Apart from being a PhD student, I am currently an Associate Lecturer at the International Law & Economy Department at the University of Barcelona. My job position includes lecturing on European Integration and following a Master’s degree in university teaching methodologies. I am also a research assistant at the Smith School of Enterprise and Environment at the University of Oxford in one research project.
Finding a supervisor

The relationship with your supervisor is of crucial importance to your research and progress as a PhD candidate. The department will normally allocate two supervisors, at least one of whom will be actively engaged in, or has had experience of, research in the field of your thesis. Your supervisors will be your guides and mentors as you design, research and finally write up your PhD project.

Supervision

Before you submit your application, you should ensure we have a member of staff who shares your research interests. We receive many good applications each year that we cannot accept simply because we have nobody to supervise the thesis in the department. Therefore, once you have written your proposal, you should consult our staff research directory to find out who is doing what in the department and identify potential supervisors. Applicants are encouraged to make contact with potential supervisors prior to submitting an application. While individual academics cannot make a decision to accept a given application, most successful applicants have contacted potential supervisors to ensure that there is an interest in supervising their particular research project.

Please note that if the department does not have a member of staff in your specialist area, or if all academics in your area are currently at full supervisory capacity, we will not be able to make an offer no matter the quality of your application as a whole.

Making contact

Once you have identified a potential supervisor, you are very welcome to approach them to see whether they would be interested in your particular project. The best method for making contact is by emailing your proposal with an introductory letter and project summary to your potential supervisor(s).

Please note that while many academics are happy to speak with prospective students, not all are receptive to speculative contact. Also note that an expression of interest from a supervisor, or even their involvement in refining your proposal, is not a guarantee that your application will be successful—particularly if your submitted proposal is not up to scratch.

One of the primary reasons for unsuccessful applications is an inadequately specified research proposal which does not go far enough in convincing potential supervisors that the applicant has it within them to write a successful PhD. In order to get your prospective supervisor(s) to say ‘yes’, you really do have to submit an excellent proposal!

Find an expert through our staff listing online: warwick.ac.uk/sociology/staff/academicstaff
For my own PhD, I was lucky to benefit from having amazing and supportive supervisors. This has made me appreciate and understand the special role that a supervisor has over the course of the PhD.

I work between the areas of social science, health and biomedicine and supervise students working in these areas. Much of my research takes me into labs, where, for example, I talk with researchers who are using the latest genetic technologies. I recently visited a lab where researchers are rewinding human blood cells and reprogramming them into human heart cells. These new technologies that involve human (as well as animal) bodies raise a host of political, economic, ethical and cultural questions—the kinds that need more social scientific analysis and investigation. Working with PhD students to examine these issues is one of the most rewarding aspects of academic life.

At this point in higher education, doing a PhD involves much more than the piece of original research you set out to undertake. It also involves navigating academic life in its many forms through planning research, conferences, writing papers, collaborations and, of course, preparing for life after the PhD. In our department you not only benefit from dedicated supervisors who understand these multiple challenges, but you also get to work in a supportive and collaborative research culture—something invaluable during the years you will spend as a PhD student.
The research proposal

The research proposal is arguably the most important element of your PhD application. You need to submit a fully specified research proposal at this stage; while we fully acknowledge that your project will evolve as you conduct your research, you must submit a convincing proposal, worked up in full, which is sufficiently rigorous and of sufficient quality before you will be allowed entry onto our programme.

The type of robust research proposal that is required to attract supervisory commitment and an offer will address the five points outlined below. Typical proposals are 2,000-3,000 words long; however, this is only a guideline. The emphasis will be on the quality of the proposal and whether or not it fits with a particular supervisor’s research interests, not on the word count.
The points you must address in your proposal are:

Central research question
This should be simply stated in the first instance and then suitably fleshed out to show why it is timely and important – both intellectually and politically - for you to be writing a PhD on this topic. The central research question is your first chance to make the case for being accepted onto our programme by capturing the attention of potential supervisors.

Context
You must show how your central research question relates to existing academic studies in your field. This requires a short literature review which will situate your proposed research within the framework of the dominant perspectives on similar issues in the existing literature. Ideally, you should be able to demonstrate how your proposed research fills a gap in the literature and therefore adds substantively and can make a lasting contribution to academic debates. One key criterion for writing a successful PhD is that it is original work, so you must try to avoid setting up your analysis in a way which simply replicates work which can already be found within the literature.

Theoretical framework
The Department has a reputation for prioritising doctoral work which is theoretically oriented. As a consequence, you are much more likely to be successful in your application if you are authoritative in your treatment of theoretical debates. You need to say which body of theory will underpin the explanatory framework to be used in your PhD, why that particular theory was chosen and what advantages it gives you for addressing your central research question.

Case studies and methodology
You must convincingly discuss the type of data you will need to collect in order to empirically ground your research. The only exception in this respect is for projects centred on matters of abstract political theory. It is important to draw attention to the links between your chosen body of theory and the substantive case study (or studies) you will be using. To do so, you will need to name your case studies and demonstrate why they are appropriate to your central research question, outline the methodologies you will adopt and comment on the relevance of those methodologies to meeting your central research aims through focusing on their generic strengths.

Problems
You should reflect on the types of problems you are likely to encounter whilst undertaking your research and how these might be overcome. This will demonstrate that you are forward-thinking in your approach to doctoral studies and that you are aware of the fact that writing a PhD often requires you to activate a secondary plan at some stage of your studies.

Finally, the research you propose should be realistic, neither under- nor over-ambitious for a three-year project.
Examples of current PhD project titles include:

- **Behind the Screens:**
  Women, Alt-porn & Cyber-Sexuality

- **Occupy London:**
  Power, Politics and Resistance

- **Cosmopolitan Expertise:**
  Music, Media and Cultural Identities in Italy

- **Selective Responsibility:**
  The United Nations and Intervention

- **Transgressive Professionals:**
  How Women Tattoo Artists Make Their Mark

- **Gambler motivations:**
  The contemporary experience of gambling in the UK

- **‘Freedom to Speak’?**
  Online citizen news commentary within online, moderated mainstream UK news

- **Popularity and Social Status in Secondary School:**
  Young people’s constructions and experiences

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**Thesis title: Digital Tween Girlhoods**

“Overall, my research aims to explore girlhood through celebrity and fandom cultures. I’m interested in the tensions around a particular stage of girlhood: preteens or ‘tweens’. Tweens are the focus of much recent moral concern, with a particular attention to their consumption of celebrity culture. In addition, there have been several high-profile, government-commissioned reviews exploring the sexualisation and commercialisation of childhood. For my case study, I’ve decided to look at tween queen Miley Cyrus. I explore the creation of online celebrity personas, focusing on how she disrupts the binary notion of ‘childhood’ and ‘adulthood’. Following on from this, I explore the girl’s use of tween social networking sites, Stardoll, to analyse fandom and consumption practices. Through my empirical research into several distinctive sites, I aim to create a rounded picture of tween celebrity and tween fandom and, ultimately, what this can tell us about the construction of contemporary girlhood.”

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**Izzy Gutteridge**
Current candidate, PhD Sociology
About my fieldwork

Thesis title: Thinking emancipation, re-thinking education: difference, resistance and oppression in Indian classrooms

I am a doctoral researcher in my third year at the department of Sociology. I finished fieldwork in April 2015. The system of school education in India is unabashedly stratified, where parental ability to pay for it determines the quality of their children’s education. This has created unacceptable differences in every single aspect of children’s school experience across the various categories of schools. I wanted to understand how classrooms (texts, practices and social relations) in an urban state, government-run school in central India shaped children’s learning experiences, particularly based on their gender and sociocultural (caste, class and religion) locations, and how learners negotiate learning contexts.

This project required a level of engagement that only ethnographic work in a classroom could offer. I spent seven months in a standard VIII classroom with children aged between 13 and 17 years, following classroom and administrative processes as well as informal school rituals. The most demanding, intense and enjoyable times were the long, in-depth conversations I had with everyone who would talk to me: children, their teachers, non-teaching staff, the Head Master and even a few parents. I also visited neighbourhoods, often with children offering insightful running commentaries. The most painful aspect of this experience was the steadfast refusal of school-education to acknowledge children’s circumstances, their tremendous abilities to work hard and care for others and their knowledge, pain and resilience. Schools would not learn from children’s lives.

In addition, this enormous ethical dilemma faced me: half of these children were part of the global informal sector economy. They represented the (underpaid, insecure) labour that went into producing clothes, accessories, etc. that privileged communities (including I) buy. So, could I ignore the ethics of our class and consumer relationship? Could I ignore that as being extraneous to my ethnographic work when goods and services I consume make my life in/outside of academia possible? I left the field and embarked on my writing this summer with such questions around ethics of consumption and knowledge-production shaping my thinking.

The tool box belongs to a boy who, at 13, is quite an electrician and carpenter. It represents children’s efforts to pursue abilities and passions which the school does not recognise or appreciate, and this emerged as a crucial problem with the school system.

Reva Yunus
Current candidate, PhD Sociology
Careers

Whether your aim is to join academia, engage in other professional research or otherwise put your expertise and research skills to use, your Warwick PhD will give you a competitive edge in the job market. A high proportion of our PhD alumni have secured research fellowships, academic posts and positions as analysts and charity workers for other organisations around the world.

Warwick Sociology PhD graduates have gone on to academic positions such as:

- Lecturer, Brighton University
- Associate Professor, Norwegian School of Theology
- Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of Reading
- University Course Leader and Lecturer, University of Gloucestershire
- Teaching Associate Supervisor, University of Cambridge
- Assistant Professor, Universidad Diego Portales

Examples of Warwick Sociology PhD graduates’ job titles include:

- Research Officer, National Foundation for Educational Research
- Customer Service Advisor, HSBC
- Evaluation Analyst, United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)
- Auditor, KPMG
- Lawyer

Six months after graduating, over 67% of Warwick Sociology PhD Graduates were in jobs or further study.

To learn more about where a Warwick Sociology degree can take you – and to see where some of our other alumni have ended up - check out our Careers page online:

[warwick.ac.uk/sociology/prospective/parentsteachersadvisors/careers]
Rewarding, worthwhile and gratifying are some of the words that I use to explain my overall experience at the end of my tenure at the University of Warwick. I have no doubt that I made the best decision for my academic career and professional development. From day one, I have been surrounded with supportive persons, from the academic staff, who undertake the role of advisors and mentors, to the administrative staff to my fellow PhD colleagues. The department has an overall sense of community spirit and togetherness.

I was not left to sit idly but was given the resources and opportunity to expand my knowledge and expertise. As a PhD student in the department, I tutored on the module Sociology of Education which was a fulfilling experience. As a tutor in the department, I am able to pursue the Postgraduate Teaching Award which is accredited by the United Kingdom’s Higher Education Academy.

For me, one of the main features of the PhD programme was the department’s interdisciplinary focus, which allowed for the fostering and forging of relationships with other disciplines. As a result of this, I have worked closely with the Centre for Caribbean Studies and the Department for Politics and International Studies. Internationally, through the Warwick Transatlantic Fellowship, I have been afforded the opportunity to conduct research and present my doctoral research findings at York University in Canada.

Donna Greene
PhD Sociology 2013

Studying for my PhD at Warwick has been a fantastic experience. Many of the staff within the department - both administrative and academic - simply cannot do enough to support your work and your goals, making the otherwise difficult task of completing a thesis as smooth and enjoyable as possible. Even those who are not directly connected with your project, or even the area in which you are studying, tend to operate an open-door policy. Indeed, a PhD thesis might be one of the most challenging things you can do, but the department offers a collegiate and friendly place in which to pursue that challenge.

Warwick Sociology has also given me some amazing opportunities to get my work out there and meet new people. As well as helping me fund a trip to the International Sociological Association Conference in Japan last year (2014), I have also been given the opportunity and financial support to attend study trips to Lisbon and Amsterdam; conferences in Prague and Glasgow; and the annual writing workshop in Prato, Italy. These were not only fantastic experiences, but important for the development of my skill-set and academic network.

As well as writing the thesis, the pressure is on to gain extra experience to make your CV robust. However, the chance to get those extras are definitely on offer and are well supported by things like: the departmental seminars (which are regularly chaired by PhD students); writing workshops; masterclasses with visiting professors; PhD work-in-progress seminars; teaching experience; and events organising-experience. They might be necessary instrumental add-ons to studying a PhD, but I have found that the vibrant academic atmosphere in the department means that there is always something interesting happening and that they always want you to get involved.

Sam Burgum
PhD Sociology 2016
We strongly urge home and EU candidates to apply for funding through the ESRC-funded DTC at Warwick, which makes an annual award of a large number of studentships to applicants across the Faculty of Social Sciences.

Overseas candidates are encouraged, meanwhile, to apply for the University-wide Chancellor’s International Scholarships, which are awarded to the most outstanding international PhD applicants. Other opportunities include the Chevening and Marshall Scholarships and the Warwick-China Scholarship Council.

You can find links to all available opportunities (and their deadlines) on the Sociology website. Check back often, as new opportunities arise throughout the year.

warwick.ac.uk/sociology/pg/currentfunding

“I have found the department to be supportive when requesting funds for opportunities connected to my research. I have gone to various conferences, been on two writing courses and travelled to Minneapolis twice to work with the storytelling charity Neighborhood Bridges as well as Minnesota University.”

Emma Parfitt
Current candidate, PhD Sociology
Next steps

Although there is no strict deadline for applications, you are strongly advised to submit your application at least two weeks before any central funding deadlines at Warwick, and no later than **31 July** if you are not applying for university funding. Late applications, however, will always be considered.

Entry requirements

The PhD programme has strict entry requirements in addition to a strong, viable research proposal that academics in the department are willing to supervise:

- **A statement of purpose.** This is a very important element of your application. It should be approximately one side of A4 long, and if should focus on the following:
  1. How your academic (and perhaps your working, personal or voluntary) experience to date prepares you for the demands of postgraduate study in Social Sciences.
  2. Your reasons for applying for this particular programme.
  3. How obtaining this degree will fit into your future plans.

- **Two academic references.** Please note that if you have been in education within five years before your start date, then your references must be academic and not professional/personal.

- **Your academic transcript.** If your official transcript is not English, then an official certified translation should also be provided.

- **English language proficiency.** You must have a minimum IELTS score of 7.0 with no more than two elements at 6.5/6.0 (and none below 6.0). If your previous education was entirely in English, you may be exempt from this requirement.

Further information

You can find more details about what the PhD programme entails, the extras that our department has on offer, and what students have to say about us online. And if you have any questions about studying at Warwick, what we do in Sociology, or want to ask a current student about their experience at Warwick, please get in touch.

[warwick.ac.uk/sociology/prospective/postgraduate/research](http://warwick.ac.uk/sociology/prospective/postgraduate/research)

Email: socphdresource@warwick.ac.uk

Phone: +44 (0)24 765 24771
Contact us

Department of Sociology
University of Warwick
Coventry
CV4 7AL
United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0)24 765 23600
Email: socphdresource@warwick.ac.uk

@SocioWarwick
Sociology@Warwick

warwick.ac.uk/sociology