

CARDIFF SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES (SOCSI)

TAUGHT MASTERS PROGRAMME 2011/12

MODULE GUIDE

Note: Whilst every effort is made to avoid changes to modules, published details may be altered without notice, at any time. The School of Social Sciences reserves the right to withdraw or amend any part of its modules without prior notice. Every effort will be made to minimise inconvenience to students. **Please read the "Further Information" documents for programmes to discover which modules are relevant to particular programmes.**

Please Note:

- 1. All modules are 20 credits unless otherwise indicated;**
- 2. Weekend Modules, where indicated, are taught via a 2-3 day block (Thursday evening to Saturday afternoon) plus 5 hours of additional seminars timetabled during the week;**
- 3. All modules are convened by SOCSI staff unless otherwise indicated.**

GENERIC MODULES

SIT001 – THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF RESEARCH DESIGN

Convenor: Dr Nick Bailey

(COMPULSORY FOR STUDENTS ON ALL DEGREE SCHEMES – except MSc Criminology & Criminal Justice)

This module is designed to equip you with a broad range of knowledge, skills and understanding concerning the conduct of research and the interpretation of research findings, as well as particular knowledge and skills related to your own academic field. The module therefore addresses identifying problem areas, forming research questions, selecting appropriate research designs to answer those questions, selecting appropriate methods of data collection and analysis, presenting and writing research reports, and providing a warrant for the research conclusions.

In practical terms the module is arranged to:

- Introduce you to a range of techniques employed by social scientists to investigate specific research questions and enable you to evaluate the fitness of purpose of methods of enquiry in relation to areas of specific research questions
- Introduce the kind of research conducted in the School of Social Sciences and to gain an understanding from research active staff members of the practical issues involved in undertaking research
- Provide you with knowledge and skills that will assist you to undertake an extended piece of independent research

MSc POST QUALIFYING SOCIAL WORK MODULES

SIT030 – MANAGEMENT IN SOCIAL CARE: PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION (MANAGEMENT IN SOCIAL WORK PERFORMANCE & LEADERSHIP)

Convenor: Professor Andy Pithouse

(COMPULSORY FOR MSc Post Qualifying Social Work students)

Weekend Module

The social work management module aims to help build management performance and leadership shaped by the values and skills of social work. Students will be committed to the responsible management of service planning, delivery and review and to the importance of reflective and innovative management thinking and practice. Evaluative aspects of managing social work are discussed and different focal points are identified, including ways to appraise effort, measure performance, seek to be efficient, address process and risk.

Key ideas about public service management and leadership are explored in a range of contexts such as developing strategy, working in new organisational modes and cultures, project management, commissioning, partnership working with citizens and other providers, managing by outcomes. Organisation and management research findings are examined briefly in terms of their usefulness for our understanding of contemporary management and organisation in UK social care, but with particular emphasis upon the policy context of Wales (and internationally where relevant).

SIT290 ADVANCED SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE 2: (ADULTS) WORKING IN THE PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES

Convenor: Dr Colin Young

This module will focus on models, methods, policies, law, and practice competences for social work with adults. Whereas the module 'Advanced social work practice 1: Debates about good practice' is concerned with generic debates about the nature of social work, this module will concentrate on key issues for working with a specific group of service users in a specific national context. To develop knowledge, understanding and skills in relation to models, methods, policies, law, and practice competences for social work with adults.

SIT019 ADVANCED SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE 2: (CHILDREN) WORKING IN THE PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES

Convenor: Mr Abyd Quinn Aziz

This module will focus on models, methods, policies, law, and practice competences for social work with children, young people and families. Whereas the module 'Advanced social work practice 1: Debates about good practice' is concerned with generic debates about the nature of social work, this module will concentrate on key issues for working with a specific group of service users in a specific national context. To develop knowledge, understanding and skills in relation to models, methods, policies, law, and practice competences for social work with children, young people and families in specific national contexts.

MSc EDUCATION MODULES

SIT121 WORKING AND LEARNING IN THE FURTHER EDUCATION AND POST COMPULSORY SECTORS

Convenor: Dr Jane Salisbury

This module will be structured around an engagement with research on and evidence about the post compulsory sector. The contents will build upon two recent TLRP/ ESRC funded research projects which concentrated on the FE sectors in England and Wales. [*Learning and Working in FE colleges in Wales* and *Transforming learning cultures in Further Education*]. It will focus upon theory, research, policy and practice related to the diverse provision embraced by this pivotal education and training sector. The analysis of patterns of student participation over time as well as the study of some comparative post compulsory education systems in Europe and beyond will enable students to understand the broader policy thrusts of Lifelong learning and widening participation along with their impacts.

SIT122 MANAGING AND IMPROVING LEARNING IN SCHOOLS AND CLASSROOMS

Convenor: Dr Martin Jephcote

With a focus on schools, it addresses the interconnections between learning, teaching and assessment, giving particular attention to the role of the teacher and for improving classroom practice. As appropriate, it will engage participants in reflection on their own experiences as learners and/or as teachers to open up questions about the nature of learning, teaching and assessment, and the constraints on and possibilities for change. Assessment is by coursework assignment either in the form of a coursework essay or the implementation and evaluation of a structured classroom intervention study. Teaching is by lectures and seminars, and seminars are peer-led.

SIT123 LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT IN SCHOOLS AND FURTHER EDUCATION

Convenor: Dr Martin Jephcote

This module draws upon recent theory and research from fields of educational management and leadership to provide insights into the problems and challenges of leading and managing educational organisations, with particular reference to schools and further education. It will be concerned with specific issues relating to the management of educational change, responding to external pressures and contemporary issues and challenges. The module will be of interest to those with a general interest in leadership and management and for those intending to advance to such roles later in their careers.

SIT202 PSYCHOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES IN TEACHING AND LEARNING

Convenor: Dr Raya Jones

This module is intended to provide students with an introduction and opportunity to develop their knowledge of psychological theories and research as they have been applied to the study of processes of teaching and learning. The module will offer students the opportunity to evaluate critically the theories, methods and research evidence concerning psychological processes involved in teaching and learning and to adapt and apply these ideas, theories and methods to their own professional studies.

SIT203 CRITICAL DEBATES IN EDUCATION

Convenor: Dr Stuart Tannock

This module explores the background to and research around contemporary debates in education. It is designed to provide students with a substantive grounding in key issues in education and the ability to identify the roots of controversy and how these are articulated

in policy and practice, research and media representations. Additionally, it will provide students with an overview of the changing structure of education provision in the UK and international developments to develop understanding of the promise and perils of comparative analyses of education. Critical debates to be explored include markets, choice and diversity in education, academic selection and widening participation in higher education. Students will be assessed through two formal written assignments of up to 3000 words each. The first will arise out of their presentation on a key debate in education and the second out of a portfolio of media coverage of educational issues.

SIT205 SOCIOLOGY OF CHILDHOOD: POLICIES, PERSPECTIVES AND PRACTICES

Convenor: Dr Emma Renold

The module is intended to introduce students to and develop their knowledge and understanding of sociological approaches to the study 'children' and 'childhood' in a range of contexts. The module will offer students the opportunity to critically evaluate the status of contemporary childhood from a range of sociological perspectives, social policies, child-centered methods and research and to adapt and apply these theories and methods to their own professional studies and practices. Students will be introduced to child-centered methods to the study and understanding of children's lives in contemporary society across a range of contexts (e.g. family, school, public spaces etc.).

SIT792 – THE KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY (10 CREDITS)

Convenor: Professor Caroline Lloyd

Creating the 'knowledge economy' has become one of the key aims of education policy. National governments across the world have adopted policies intended to foster forms of education and training which promote economic competitiveness and growth, especially in the 'leading' sectors of the economy. Equally, international organisations (such as the World Bank, the OECD and the EU) have promoted learning as the key to innovation-rich forms of economic activity; whilst regional and local governments have also sought a solution to economic problems in the development of 'knowledge-based' economies. Despite this significance in the policy arena, the 'knowledge economy' remains under-developed in conceptual terms and inadequately explored empirically. This module critically examines the ideas around the knowledge economy, and the role of skills and education in improving economic performance, prosperity and equality.

MSc SCIENCE, MEDIA & COMMUNICATION MODULES

SIT055 SCIENCE IN THE RISK SOCIETY

Convenor: Dr Rob Evans

NOT open to students on other degree schemes

COMPULSORY FOR MSc Science, Media & Communication students

Science and technology are ubiquitous in modern society but what does this imply for the way citizens engage with them? In some cases, science and technology are hardly remarked upon at all. In others, they become the centre of heated public debate and controversy. This module seeks to understand both the ubiquitous embedding of science and technology in everyday life and what happens when it becomes a matter of controversy. Drawing on research conducted in the field of science and technology studies (STS) the module shows how naïve theories in which public scepticism was attributed to ignorance have been replaced by more complex models in which expertise and uncertainty are seen to reside on both sides of debates and to be found in both 'scientific' and 'citizen' testimony. The implications for this re-conceptualisation of legitimate knowledge are then explored in the context of media reporting, science communication and experiments using deliberative forums. As with much social science, a range of different scenarios are consistent with the research evidence and students are encouraged to think through the implications of different theoretical positions for their own research practice and the appropriate relationships between scientists, citizens and policy makers in contemporary society.

SIT053 VISITOR STUDIES

Convenor: Dr Bella Dicks

NOT open to students on other degree schemes

COMPULSORY FOR MSc Science, Media & Communication students

There is world-wide recognition that if science and technology are to continue to underpin the economic well-being of society then science must be brought to a central position in our culture and efforts must be made to promote the public understanding of, and engagement with, science, engineering and technology. In this module significant emphasis is placed on students acquisition of the awareness, understanding and skills necessary to communicate directly with a range of 'publics' in a variety of contexts and to determine the effectiveness of that communication. This experience will be supported by an introduction to two fields whose conceptual understanding is crucial to their practical application in communicating science, namely evaluation (front-end, formative, and summative) and educational theory. Practical experience will be gained by working with the different 'publics' who visit Techniquet, the science discovery centre in Cardiff Bay.

SIT052 PRESENTING SCIENCE

Convenor: Ms Anita Shaw, Techniquet

NOT open to students on other degree schemes

******PLEASE NOTE: Due to the nature of the module, students are required to have a high standard of spoken English before taking module******

This module will equip students with the skills to communicate science to a range of different audiences, including both schools and the general public, using a variety of different presentation techniques. It will seek to integrate students' practical experience in working in Techniquet, the science discovery centre in Cardiff Bay, with theoretical inputs in a variety of styles through a reflective approach to learning. Students will develop an

understanding of what makes a good presentation as well as the skills to develop and present science activities in a range of different formats including science theatre shows, laboratory workshops, and outreach activities.

MC3562 MEDIA SCIENCE & HEALTH (MCT498 REPORTING HEALTH AND SCIENCE)

Convenor: Dr Andrew Williams, School of Journalism

COMPULSORY FOR MSc Science, Media & Communication students

NOT open to students on other degree schemes

Health and science are integral parts of much media coverage – whether it involves ‘moral panics’ about the threat of climate change, fears about genetically modified food, or concerns about cloning. This module examines the production, content and reception in health and science reporting. It explores the factors which shape coverage, examines a series of case studies (MMR, BSE, genetics, obesity) of coverage of science/health events and locates all this in social context by looking at public responses to media ‘scares’.

MCT458 INTERNATIONAL NEWS PRODUCTION 1

Convenor: Ms Sara Hadwin, School of Journalism

COMPULSORY FOR MSc Science, Media & Communication students

NOT open to students on other degree schemes

Students are given a general orientation and a clear understanding of best principles and practice in print and online journalism. The aims of this module are to give students an understanding of good journalism and its processes and to develop in them the practical ability to produce effective journalism.

MSc CRIMINOLOGY & CRIMINAL JUSTICE MODULES

SIT018 CRIMINOLOGICAL RESEARCH METHODS

Convenor: Dr Matthew Williams

NOT open to students on other degree schemes

COMPULSORY FOR MSc Criminology & Criminal Justice Students

This module aims to provide students with a substantive knowledge of the range of research techniques used by criminologists, and a detailed understanding of the particular difficulties and challenges that arise in relation to studying offending behaviour, victimisation and the agencies of the criminal justice system. The formative assessment consists of a 3,000 word portfolio of work, culminating from workshop tasks, that focuses upon the evaluation of both a range of qualitative and quantitative research practices and strategies. The summative assessment for the module consists of a 4,000 word report outlining the proposed research design for the planned dissertation work, and undertaking critical reflection upon it in light of the research methods literature covered during the module.

SIT010 THEORIES OF CRIME & CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR

Convenor: Mike Levi

COMPULSORY FOR MSc Criminology & Criminal Justice Students

This module provides a detailed overview of the theoretical explanations of crime and criminal behaviour, and of their development over time. It covers the emergence of criminology as an area of study; biological, psychological and sociological theories of crime; different schools of criminological thought; environmental criminology and contemporary criminological theoretical approaches such as those involving risk and governance, and cultural criminology.

SIT308 CONTEMPORARY CRIMINOLOGICAL PRACTICE

Convenor: Adam Edwards

COMPULSORY FOR MSc Criminology & Criminal Justice Students

To examine the relationship between research design, methods, data analysis and the narration of findings in criminological practice;

To consider the relationship between science, politics and ethics in criminological practice;

To examine the interrelationship between theory and method in contemporary criminological research;

To consider the role of conceptual analysis in designing and conducting criminological research.

SIT011 POLICE & POLICING

Convenor: Amanda Robinson

The course introduces students to the literature on policing and its regulation by the criminal law and mechanisms of political and public accountability. It also aims to familiarise students with the range of theoretical, empirical and policy issues that surround contemporary policing

SIT306 METHODS & EVIDENCED BASED POLICY & PRACTICE IN COMMUNITY SAFETY & YOUTH JUSTICE (RESEARCHING POLICY AND PRACTICE IN COMMUNITY SAFETY AND YOUTH JUSTICE)

Convenor: Gordon Hughes

This module provides students with a substantive knowledge of the range of research strategies used by criminologists, current policy and practice developments, and a detailed understanding of the particular challenges that arise in relation to studying the multi-agency policy field of community safety and youth justice social scientifically.

SIT013 SENTENCING & PENAL THEORY

Convenor: Kirsty Hudson

This module provides students with a critical understanding of the different sociological and philosophical approaches to punishment, and the impact that these have had on the development of penal policy and practice. Particular attention will be paid to sentencing policy and practice, the effects of penal sanctions, and contemporary research on imprisonment and community sanctions.

CLT625 - Criminal Justice in Europe [20] (Semester 2) (currently timetabled for 10.00 - 1.00 on Thursday mornings)

Convenor: Stewart Field

This module aims to develop a comparative and critical understanding of the different traditions of criminal process in Europe by studying the key institutional structures and procedures of major jurisdictions and placing them in their historical, cultural and political context.

It also examines the developing legal framework associated with the European Court of Human Rights and the European Union and considers the pressures and prospects for, and constraints upon, greater harmonization, co-operation and/or integration within Europe.

CLT626 - Legal Theory [20] (Semester 1) (currently timetabled for 2.00 - 5.00 on Thursday afternoons)

Convenor: Jiri Preban

Drawing on debates in modern and recent social and political theories and philosophies of law, the principal aim of the module is to provide students with key conceptual tools for the design of studies in legal theory. The module also aims at providing students with the knowledge of historical, cultural and political contexts of different legal theories. Through a comparative study of common law and continental legal cultures and their impact on the theoretical knowledge of law, students will gain a critical appreciation of the range of theoretical perspectives of modern law and their sociological, political and philosophical contexts. They also will be able to relate recent legal theories to supranational, especially European and global political, economic and cultural developments.

The module is taught in seminars. Each student shall have an opportunity to make at least one presentation during the module and for that presentation to be written up as a formative assessment for tutor feedback.

MSc EQUALITY & DIVERSITY MODULES

SIT110 – CONTEMPORARY DEVELOPMENTS IN EQUALITY THEORY AND PRACTICE

Convenor: Alison Parken

COMPULSORY FOR MSc Equality & Diversity students

Weekend Module

The module examines different models of equality and policies designed to address inequality. Individual sessions examine some of the equality dimensions in the Amsterdam Treaty: sex, race and ethnic origin, disability – as well as other equality ‘strands’. Attention is also focused on the various meanings of ‘racism’; promoting equality in the workplace; and, developing an appropriate legal and institutional framework for the promotion of equality in the modern state.

SIT125 – MAINSTREAMING EQUALITY

Convenor: Professor Susan Baker

COMPULSORY FOR MSc Equality & Diversity students

Weekend Module

The aim of this module is to familiarise students with the concept of gender mainstreaming, both theoretically and in terms of policy and practice. It introduces tools and skills necessary to mainstream gender equality in a range of settings, and in both employment and service delivery. Gender mainstreaming is an approach to equality that is the official policy of the European Union and its Member States. But what is gender mainstreaming? There is considerable confusion both as to what it is and as to how it can be delivered. This module draws upon international experiences of gender mainstreaming, in particular from Canada and Nordic countries to introduce the tools to mainstream gender equality – in employment, in service delivery and in projects.

SIT112 INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE: POWER, POLITICS AND POLICY

Convenor: Alison Parken

COMPULSORY FOR MSc Equality & Diversity students

Weekend Module

This module explores contemporary initiatives to achieve an inclusive mode of governance; one that addresses the longstanding patterns of marginalization and discrimination experienced by a variety of social groupings. It uses a range of theoretical perspectives and empirical studies that relate to the public, private and voluntary sectors in order to develop a comprehensive analysis of present attempts to reframe governance in a way that promotes equality, addresses diverse needs, and fosters citizen participation from all sections of society. We examine civic activism, representation, consultation and policymaking. Critical analysis is undertaken of democratic innovations designed to foster ‘inclusiveness’ and models of best practice are identified.

FURTHER OPTIONAL MODULES

SIT043 – THEORIES AND ISSUES ABOUT GLOBALISATION AND POLITICAL ECONOMY (10 CREDITS)

Convenor: Professor David Walters

This module addresses critical themes and issues about the relationships between state, economy and civil society. It is aimed at students who wish to develop an understanding about the current political economy, at the local level as well as internationally. There is opportunity for students to follow up interests in the form and character of globalisation. This module draws on theories and ideas at the forefront of academic debate, particularly from the discipline of sociology.

SIT044 HEALTH, MEDICINE & SOCIETY

Convenor: Professor Adam Hedgecoe

Weekend Module

This module introduces students to a range of social science perspectives and methodologies for exploring and understanding the contemporary importance of health, medicine and health care organization policy and practice. It offers different approaches for examining how health care systems are organized and how different ideas about the causes of health and ill health suggest different kinds of interventions; and explores important questions for our understanding of the relationship between health and health care practices and contemporary society, particularly in terms of processes of inclusion and exclusion, identity and ideas of personhood. The module aims to students to broad, research-based, critical understanding of key aspects of the social basis of health and illness. The module focuses on the production and consumption of illness, health and healthcare, the socially constructed nature of the body, medical and health knowledge, and debates on contemporary healthcare systems. Students will be encouraged to understand how these aspects of health may be related to lay knowledge and professional healthcare work, practice and policy.

SIT054 ENABLING PRACTICE LEARNING

Convenor: Dr Alyson Rees

The course provides qualified practitioners with an understanding of the assessment requirements for social work learning and practice by qualifying social work students. Key topics covered will be an introduction to the practice learning requirements, rules and regulations, the programme handbook, learning agreements and models of assessment. The course will also cover adult learning theory, critical reflection, evidence based practice, the use of empirical research, supervision skills, working with challenging issues, anti-discriminatory practice and the Welsh context.

SIT081 COMMUNITY, SUSTAINABLE HEALTH AND WELL BEING

Convenor: Professor Gareth Williams

Weekend Module

This module addresses the relationship between social structures and processes, patterns of health and illness and the experience of and responses to threats to well being. The module will introduce an innovative range of state-of-the-art perspectives bringing together empirical research grounded in social processes with a distinctive concern with the contemporary world of inter-connected public policy and partnership working. It thus aims to equip students with a broad, research-based, critical understanding of key aspects of the structured patterning of health, relationships between social capital and health, and

relationships between the economic and material environment, public services and positive community well-being.

SIT092 APPROACHING SUBJECTIVITY

Convenor: Professor Valerie Walkerdine

Subjectivity is a major issue in contemporary social science. How do we understand how people becomes subjects and experience their own subjectivity? How is subjectivity constituted historically, discursively, affectively and socially? What is the place of embodiment? What is the role of theories of affect? This module will explore these important debates, providing a basis for engaging with subjectivity in social scientific research, that is, modes of theorising and research which take subjectivity seriously. It introduces to social, gender and cultural theories as they relate to the problem of subjective experience and explores current approaches using examples and case-studies concerned with, for example, neoliberal politics, transnationalism, new forms of labour, health and embodiment and new modes of material and knowledge production.

SIT305 CURRENT DEBATES IN PSYCHOSOCIAL STUDIES AND CRITICAL PSYCHOLOGY

Convenor: Dr Steven Stanley

*****Please note: this module will be of interest to students wishing to specifically study critical psychology*****

This module will look at approaches from sociology and social theory and bring these into dialogue with work coming from critical psychology and critical social science, in particular post-structuralist, Marxist, discursive, dialogical and feminist accounts. Furthermore, the module aims to provide students with a substantive knowledge of the range of concepts and key ideas used in critical psychology and psychosocial studies and provide students with an opportunity to investigate and develop their theoretical understandings in ways that are directly relevant to substantive areas of research and study.

SIT307 INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOSOCIAL RESEARCH METHODS

Convenor: Professor Valerie Walkerdine

This module provides an introduction to the major methods of doing psychosocial research. The student is invited to understand and to learn to use the key methods, so that they are able to understand their strengths and weaknesses and to be able to utilise them within their own social research. The module will enable students to become well-versed in approaches to psychosocial and critical research methods. It will introduce students to a selected range of approaches to the practice of psychosocial research. The aim is to provide the foundation for the application of these approaches critically in the context of academic research.

SIT793 – LABOUR AND CAPITAL IN CURRENT POLITICAL ECONOMY (10 CREDITS)

Convenor: Dr Surhan Cam

This module addresses critical issues for an understanding of contemporary capitalist societies. The focus is on labour and capital relations, historically and in their current form. This examination provides students with the opportunity to address contemporary debates on these issues, as well as explore the detail of specific cases and societies. One of the features of the module is that leading researchers present a number of the sessions. The result is a thorough grounding in debates on the subject.

CPT797 – GOVERNANCE, EQUITY AND EUROPE (10 CREDITS)

Convenor: Professor Kevin Morgan, School of City and Regional Planning (tbc)

This module addresses the complex policy problems triggered by post-devolution Britain on the one hand and by the advent of multi-level governance in the European Union on the other. Running through the module is the systemic tension between two equally important public policy goals, namely subsidiary (democracy) and solidarity (equality). The first half of the module sets out the emerging multi-level governance system in the EU and examines how it deals with territorial policy in practice in two of the most important policy communities in Europe - regional policy and agri-environmental policy. The second half of the module focuses in more depth on the question of territorial equity at a number of different scales, from the EU level to the local level. These sessions will address the question of fiscal federalism and the management of equity problems across the territorial jurisdictions of a multi-level polity.

CPT829 – SPACES OF INNOVATION: REGIONS, CITIES AND CITY-REGIONS (10 CREDITS)

Convenor: Professor Kevin Morgan, School of City and Regional Planning (tbc)

This module examines why some spaces - be they firms, cities, regions or city-regions – are considered to be more innovative and dynamic than others. The module explores the key determinants of innovation and development, from tangible factors like infrastructure and technology to intangible factors like trust, voice and other forms of social capital. The aim of this module is twofold: first, to introduce students to debates about why some spaces are more innovative than others and to the factors which shape innovation in the space economy, factors like the role of cities in their regions (the city-region effect), the uneven geography of research and development, the significance of skills and organisational learning capacity, the role of technology transfer mechanisms and the divergent impact of digital infrastructures like Information and Communication Technology (ICT); second, to examine the scope and limits of urban and regional innovation strategies in different countries, covering 'core' areas as well as the 'peripheral' areas; The module aims to blend theory, policy and practice to promote a rounded understanding of innovation and urban and regional development, highlighting the continuing significance of geography at a time when some theories of globalisation speak of the 'end of geography' and the 'death of distance'.