



Durham
University

School of Applied Social Sciences

Postgraduate study opportunities 2012/13

World-class taught and research degrees to PhD

Top 10

Ranked 3rd in the UK for Sociology
and 2nd for Sport.

*Ranked by *The Complete University
Guide 2012*.



90%
of our research was rated by the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise as being of international significance, with 60% being internationally excellent, or of world-leading originality.

Applied Social Sciences

The School of Applied Social Sciences is an interdisciplinary School located in well-equipped buildings in the heart of the historic and beautiful City of Durham.

Our vision is to be a leading international centre of excellence in interdisciplinary applied social research that shapes and informs social policy and practice, enhances individual, community and social well-being, promotes social inclusion, and forms the foundations of research led learning.

ABOUT THE SCHOOL

In the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise, 90% of research in the School was rated as of international significance, with 60% being internationally excellent or of world-leading originality, significance and rigour. The School's 'excellent active and vital research culture' was highlighted, along with our outstanding international collaborations, interdisciplinarity and impact on policy and practice.

The School provides a focus for collaboration across the related academic disciplines of Sociology, Social Policy, Criminology, Sport, Social Work, and Youth and Community Work. Across these disciplines, we emphasise methodological innovation and the production of applied social research of an internationally excellent standard.

Our taught degrees are amongst the best in the country. *The Complete University Guide 2012* ranked our Sociology provision 3rd in the country while Sport was ranked 2nd. Our academic staff have strong national and international reputations as researchers, government advisors and consultants. There is an emphasis on both academic excellence and higher-level skills training in professional practice and quantitative and qualitative research methods.

Three of the School's current subject-based Masters programmes in Social Research are recognised pathways within the newly established ESRC Doctoral Training Centre and we have an impressive track record of receiving ESRC and other funding for PhD studentships and research.



RESEARCH DEGREES

The following research degrees are currently offered:

- MA
- Master of Professional Practice (MProf)
- MPhil
- PhD.

The School of Applied Social Sciences offers an internationally recognised interdisciplinary environment for research and research training across a range of subject areas. The commitment of our academic and research staff is to work together in a cosmopolitan and informal environment to produce scholarship of the highest academic standard.

The School is a centre for innovation in research methods and techniques. Our work applies these in order to contribute effectively to understanding and solving real world problems.

MAIN RESEARCH AREAS

- **Criminology:** criminality and deviance, hate crime, crime reduction and prevention, forensic investigation, criminal justice systems, prisons
- **Sociology:** globalisation, science and technology, identity, culture, social capital, entrepreneurialism, social inequality, health and illness, complexity theory, methodologies
- **Social policy:** health inequality, social exclusion, regeneration, housing, education, local and regional government, professional ethics, cultural strategies
- **Social work:** child well-being, children's rights and child maltreatment; adoption, fostering, and residential child care; disability, mental health and older age; service user involvement, community development and social change, globalisation and international social work

- **Sport:** sport and social inequality, sport and globalisation, sport and identity, sport and the media, sport events, sport careers, youth sport, sport and health improvement, sport and regeneration
- **Community and youth work:** community practice, faith-based community and youth work, the history of youth work, neighbourhood renewal, cross-community interaction.

The School is a centre for innovation in research methods and techniques. Our work applies these in order to contribute effectively to understanding and solving real world problems. We have a strong record of externally funded research that informs policy and professional practice as well as shaping contemporary views of society, economy and culture.

RECENT THESIS TITLES

- Narrating Identity: Career Soldiers Anticipating Exit from the British Army
- Exploring Irish Nursing Careers in the British National Health Service
- The Management of Oppression: Focusing on relationships between refugees and the British state in Newcastle upon Tyne
- Patterns and Trends in Ethnic Residential Segregation in England, 1991–2001: A Quantitative and Qualitative Investigation
- “Same but Different”: A Visual Ethnography of the Everyday Lives of Siblings of Autistic Children in South Korea
- What Makes Adoptive Family Life Work? Adoptive Parents’ Narratives of the Making and Remaking of Adoptive Kinship
- Participant or Protagonist? The impact of the personal on the development of children and young people’s participation in Sao Paulo, Brazil
- Working out our melancholy, our muscles and our masculinities: Depression, anomie, alienation, commodity fetishism, body-modification and masculinity in a de-industrialised Northumbrian Town

- Active Sports: The First Step to Sporting Excellence?

POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH FACILITIES

Each postgraduate researcher, typically, has a shared office with their own desk and networked computer. Postgraduate researchers will have the opportunity to participate in the School’s research groups, regular seminars, research conferences, and a vibrant and supportive postgraduate research network.

STAFF RESEARCH INTERESTS

The School’s research structure consists of a mixture of ‘research group’ activity and individual research and scholarship, each of which contributes to the interdisciplinary character both of research and the School itself. The current groups are: Crime Violence and Abuse; Sociology and Social Policy; Policy, Professions and Communities; and Sport, Health and Policy. These groups meet regularly and are the focus for research seminars and sharing of ideas between academics and postgraduate researchers. More details of research group activity and of individual staff research interests can be found on our website.

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR RESEARCH DEGREES

- Upper second class degree.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

- IELTS of 6.5 or equivalent.

We welcome applications from holders of international qualifications. For advice on the equivalency of international qualifications and further information on English language requirements, please contact our International Office on international.office@durham.ac.uk or visit our website at www.durham.ac.uk/international

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH STUDENTS

- Economic and Social Research Council Funded studentships for UK and EU students for PhD and for Masters plus PhD (1+3) via North East Doctoral Training Centre.

The University also has a range of funding opportunities for postgraduate students. To find out what support you could be eligible to receive see our online funding database at www.durham.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/fees/search



TAUGHT PROGRAMMES PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMMES Master of Social Work

The Master of Social Work (MSW) provides a two year fast-track social work qualifying programme that prepares postgraduates for professional practice in contemporary society. It is run in partnership with local service providers in the statutory and voluntary sectors that supply practice placements. Successful completion of the MSW entitles students to apply to the General Social Care Council (GSCC) for registration as social workers, a protected title in the UK. Home students studying for the MSW are normally entitled to a bursary and tuition fees from the GSCC. For precise details of this funding, see www.gsc.org.uk

The programme is delivered through a combination of lectures, workshops, discussion groups, enquiry and action learning, experiential learning, observation studies, practical exercises, development groups, independent study, personal tutorials and professionally supervised practice placements.

MA in Community and Youth Work

This programme is ideal for those who are already practising or want to practise

in the community and youth work field but do not have a professional qualification. For those interested in specialising in the themes of Sport, Faith or Creativity, there are opportunities to undertake focused study, fieldwork practice and research in these areas. This programme is professionally validated by The National Youth Agency (with JNC recognition) and combines professional practice development with academic study. This programme combines university based study with two periods of fieldwork practice. Part-time students study one day a week in the University for two terms, followed by fieldwork practice. One period of fieldwork can be undertaken in students' current place of employment, if appropriate.

OTHER PROGRAMMES FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT MA/PG Dip/PG Cert in Managing Community Practice

This programme is designed for a range of professionals who have a 'community brief' as part of their work and wish to undertake advanced level study. This might include those practising or managing professionals in the fields of community development, neighbourhood

regeneration, community health, community arts, community enterprise and those in a range of statutory and voluntary sector posts that have an element of community involvement and engagement.

MA/PG Dip/PG Cert in Managing Youth Work Practice

This programme provides an ideal route for practitioners working with young people, including youth workers and those who manage them, enabling them to develop an advanced understanding of the issues involved in managing work with young people. It is designed for those who wish to further their understanding of these issues at postgraduate level as part of their continuing professional development.

MA in Social Work Studies

The MA Social Work Studies focuses on the completion of a dissertation project usually associated with social work policy and practice, supported by research methods training. This is a one-year course that may be taken by anyone in the UK or any other country with an interest in social work or contemporary social problems, but not intending to register as a social worker.





OTHER TAUGHT PROGRAMMES **MSc in Criminology and Criminal Justice**

This exciting new programme provides an in-depth, advanced level study of crime and criminal justice that can be applied across British, European and international contexts. Studying with expert staff the programme provides a core focus on the discipline of Criminology whilst allowing students to pursue specialised areas of interest. The programme focuses upon understanding crime, its causes and prevention, criminal justice policy, and the links between crime and societal responses. The core modules facilitate the advanced study of theories of crime and criminal justice, the acquisition of research skills and the synthesis of specialist knowledge and innovative criminological research methods in a dissertation. Optional modules are likely to include: global issues in criminology (including migration, conflict, post conflict, transnational justice and security); gender, violence and abuse; the sociology of punishment; youth justice; policing and punishment.

The programme is aimed both at new graduates with a relevant Honours degree (or equivalent) and at professionals working within criminal justice agencies and related professions both in the UK and abroad. The programme is particularly suited to international students.

MA in Social Research Methods (Sociology)
Our MA Social Research Methods Programmes offer four routes by which students can gain valuable research methods training. These are primarily designed for students wishing to proceed to postgraduate research. Three of these programmes are currently recognised pathways within the ESRC North East Doctoral Training Centre.

MA in Social Research Methods (Sociology)
Sociology as a discipline encompasses the examination and analysis of all aspects of social life and social relations. This programme is designed to provide students with grounding in social research to enable them to develop sociological investigations of the social world.
N.B. This programme is not currently recognised pathway within the Doctoral Training Centre.

MA in Social Research Methods (Social Policy)
The field of Social Policy examines the definition, pattern and range of social problems in contemporary society and the various policy responses to them. It explores the role of the state in relation to the welfare and management of its citizens and the role of state intervention in determining the conditions under which people live. This programme is designed to provide students with grounding in social research as applied in social policy investigations.

MA in Social Research Methods (Social Work)
This programme provides an introduction to the principles and values of social work and an understanding of the organisation and delivery of social welfare and related services in the UK. It also provides a grounding in the social research methods necessary to conduct applied types of research that are a fundamental part of social work practice and evaluation.

MA in Social Research Methods (Criminology)
For Criminology students planning to progress to doctoral level research, this programme combines our research methods training with a grounding in Criminological theory.



Continuing Professional Development

It is often possible to take individual modules from within these programmes as stand-alone modules for Continuing Professional Development. For up-to-date details, please consult our website.

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR TAUGHT COURSES

- Upper second class Honours degree or equivalent
- Master of Social Work: Candidates will normally have a Maths and English GCSE at grade C or equivalent and relevant practice experience.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

- IELTS of 6.5 or equivalent.

We welcome applications from holders of international qualifications. For advice on the equivalency of international qualifications and further information on English language requirements, please contact our International Office on international.office@durham.ac.uk or visit our website at www.durham.ac.uk/international

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR POSTGRADUATE TAUGHT STUDENTS

- Self-funding or support from employer or career development loan
- ESRC funding as part of '1+3' studentship scheme is available for MAs Social Research Methods, Social Policy, Social Work and Criminology. University scholarships are often available. See our website for details of these
- GSCC bursary and maintenance grant (MSW only)
- Special scholarships are offered for study relating to particular subjects.

The University also has a range of funding opportunities for postgraduate students. To find out what support you could be eligible to receive see our online funding database at www.durham.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/fees/search

CAREERS AND EMPLOYABILITY

For further information on career options and employability, including the results of the Destination of Leavers survey, student and employer testimonials and details of work experience and study abroad opportunities, please visit www.durham.ac.uk/sass/postgraduate/employability

KEY INFORMATION

The School currently has around 30 members of academic staff and 10 research staff. There is a large body of undergraduate students (around 500) across its highly ranked single and joint-honours degree programmes in Sport, Criminology and Sociology and a significant body of postgraduate taught (180) and postgraduate research (28) students.



Name:

Jane Wistow

Home Country:

UK

Postgraduate Course:

PhD Social Work (SASS)

On completion of my Master of Social Work degree lecturers in the school advised me of the options available, both in the University and beyond. I was attracted to undertaking a doctoral degree at Durham as I was keen to carry out further research within a department I knew offered excellent support and the opportunity to carry out work with other departments.

I have enjoyed my time at Durham immensely. Not only have I been taught and mentored by leading academics, but I have also developed professional relationships and personal friendships with people I would not otherwise have had the opportunity to meet.

The academic support within the Department and the opportunity to discuss research projects with both staff and other postgraduate students, including those from other departments, has been really beneficial.

After I complete my doctorate I hope to combine social work practice with teaching and the PhD will open up various career opportunities including further research and tutoring.



Contact details

For further information on all of our research and taught programmes contact:

For Research degrees:

Jill Lea

Tel: +44 (0)191 334 1485

Email: sass.pgadmissions@durham.ac.uk

For Social Work:

Admissions Secretary

Tel: +44 (0)191 334 1473

Email: sass.pgadmissions@durham.ac.uk

All other programmes:

Admissions Secretary

Tel: +44 (0)191 334 1505

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