MA Social Science Research (Social Policy and Social Work)

Study at one of the UK’s top 5 universities for social policy and social work*

nottingham.ac.uk/go/ma-research-social

Undertake advanced training in research methods

Prepare for a career in social science research

Develop essential research skills

Contribute to wider society
Prepare for a successful career in social science research

Overview
Providing broad-based training in social science research, this course will equip you with the skills to contribute to wider society in a number of ways.

It is part of the Midlands Graduate School Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) Doctoral Training Partnership, which recognises the importance of bringing cutting-edge expert knowledge to the heart of doctoral training.

Content
Core modules provide a comprehensive basis to progress to advanced training in research methods. You will be able to undertake advanced subject-specific training in our areas of expertise, providing a wide range of opportunities to deepen and broaden your skills.

Primarily aimed at students following an ESRC-funded pathway onto a PhD, this course may also be suitable if you are intending to apply for +3 ESRC funding (to cover a PhD) or are interested in developing a wide range of social science research skills. It will also prepare you for research posts in academic, voluntary, private and third-sector settings.

Structure
You will complete 100 credits of core research methods modules, plus 20 credits of advanced research methods or subject-specific training, and a 60-credit 15,000-word dissertation. You will be assigned an appropriate dissertation supervisor who will oversee your progress.

Each module is individually assessed, giving you the opportunity to demonstrate a range of research skills including critical analysis, report writing, group work, verbal presentations and project development and completion.

Modules
Core
- Philosophy of Social Science Research
- Research Design, Practice and Ethics
- Fundamentals of Quantitative Analysis
- Foundations in Qualitative Methods
- Dissertation

One of:
- Investigating Social Policy (Social Policy pathway)
- Contemporary Issues and Debates in Social Work (Social Work pathway)

Optional
You will choose 20 credits of optional modules from the school or advanced research methods modules offered by our ESRC doctoral training centre.

Entry requirements
Applicants require a 2:1 (or international equivalent) in a relevant arts, humanities or social science discipline.

If English is not your first language, you must achieve IELTS 7.0 (no less than 6.0 in any element).

Careers and employability
With a clear grasp of the ethical and political issues which arise in social science research, you will be equipped to pursue a range of careers. This could include research and managerial roles in private, public, and third sector organisations, non-governmental organisations, academia, civil service and journalism.

This course provides an excellent route into further academic study and many of our students go on to complete doctoral research before pursuing an academic career.

Funding your studies
This course forms the ‘1’ component of a 1+3 ESRC-funded scholarship. It will equip you with the skills to apply for +3 study on the social policy and social work pathway.

University of Nottingham has made every effort to ensure that the information in this leaflet was accurate when published. Please note, however, that the nature of the content means that it is subject to change from time to time, and you should therefore consider the information to be guiding rather than definitive. © University of Nottingham 2018. All rights reserved. Printed March 2018.