

Bachelor of Social Science

MH107 – BSOCS (LEVEL 8 HONOUR)

ARTS, CELTIC STUDIES & PHILOSOPHY
AND SOCIAL SCIENCES FACULTIES

172-173

Do you like...

**Analysing and discussing
challenging social issues?**

Conducting social research?

**Formulating social
policy responses?**

Communicating your ideas?

CAREER OPTIONS

Social science can provide a valuable academic foundation for many vocations and occupations; it is particularly associated with policy analysis and the social professions of social work, community work and youth work. Graduates are also to be found in a wide range of other careers, including management and public administration, journalism, the media and social research.

If you wish to become a professional social worker, you must undertake the National Qualification in Social Work. (The accrediting body is the National Social Work Qualifications Board; visit their website at www.nswqb.ie). Most social workers qualify by completing a Bachelor of Social Science first and, later on, a postgraduate professional qualification.

POSTGRADUATE OPTIONS

- MSocSc (Rights and Social Policy)
- Masters in Community & Youth Work
- MA (Applied Social Studies)
- MLitt
- PhD

COURSE STRUCTURE

As a Double Honours Bachelor of Social Science degree, three subjects are taken in First Year and two in Second and Third Year.

In First Year, all students take Social Policy, Sociology and choose one subject from Anthropology, Economics, Geography, History, or Philosophy. In Second and Third Year you continue with Social Policy and one of your First Year subjects.

Students who do not wish to continue with Social Policy in second year, may transfer to MH101 Arts with their other two subjects and qualify with a BA Honours degree.

Social science is the study of how human societies are organised. It involves the analysis of the social forces that govern the world we live in and their impact on individuals, families, communities and countries. It is also the study of how class, gender, religion and ethnicity affect groups of people, and of the roles played by large institutions like political or education systems. The course in Social Policy includes introductory-level content on the applied social sciences and on the social professions, e.g. social work, community work and youth work.

This programme emphasises the study of applied social science through the subject Social Policy. This subject is concerned with government and institutional policies in relation to human welfare. As a student, you will get to grips with contemporary issues in society, especially Irish society, learning to explore practical problems using conceptual and analytical tools. You will be encouraged to rigorously and systematically scrutinise commonsense and partisan views of society, developing your skills of enquiry, research and communication.

COURSE INFO

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

2HC3 +4OD3, English, Irish + a third language.

DURATION

3 Year (BSocSc) or 4 year (BSocSc International)

POINTS 2012

410

FETAC LINK

Yes - see FETAC section page 286.

PLEASE NOTE

Applicants presenting non EU Qualifications should contact the International Office, see page 290 for further details.

COURSE OUTLINE

FIRST YEAR

- Social Policy
- Social Policy and Public Administration (Introduction)
 - Development of Irish Social Policy
 - Introduction to the Applied Social Sciences
 - Introduction to Study, Inquiry and Research
 - Irish Social Policy in Context
 - Introduction to Equality Studies +
 - Sociology (see page 146) +
- Choose one subject from:
- Anthropology, Economics, Geography, History or Philosophy.

SECOND YEAR

- Continue with one of your First Year subjects +
- Comparative and European Social Policy
 - Social Policy and Public Administration (Advanced)
 - Policy Analysis and Practice
 - Research Proposal Development
 - Issues and Inequalities
 - Life Stages, Old and New Risks
 - Economics of Social Policy
 - The Social Professions

THIRD YEAR

- Continue with Second Year subjects +
- Research Project
 - Linking Equality and Social Inclusion
 - Case Studies (a) Drugs (b) Criminal Justice
 - Social Policy and Welfare States in Times of Change
 - Social Policy and Gender
 - Social Policy and Philosophical Questions
 - Ageing and Social Policy

CONTACT DETAILS

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The study of Social Science at Maynooth is unique in that Anthropology can be taken as part of the programme. NUI Maynooth is the only university in the Republic of Ireland offering a comprehensive Anthropology course at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels.