

## **Module Specification**

## **Module Summary Information**

1	Module Title	Public Sociology
2	Module Credits	20
3	Module Level	5
4	Module Code	SOC5040

## 5 Module Overview

Public sociology takes sociology out of the university classroom to directly impact social change, social justice, and decision making in the public sphere. This module is an introduction to the field of public sociology:

- What it is
- What it can and should mean
- The question of whether and how sociologists can simultaneously negotiate identities as both scholars and activists and, indeed, as scholar/academic activists.

It covers topics such as:

- The public sociology orientation of early (19th and 20th century sociology)
- Public sociology student activism
- Engaged ethnography
- Participatory action research
- The debates surrounding Burawoy's call for the development of public sociology
- The role of public intellectuals in the UK and elsewhere
- Reflects on exactly how one might go about trying to be a public sociologist within the structural constraints of the academy.

This module is aligned with the programme aims in that it is very much concerned with applying sociology and being practice-led in our design and delivery.

## 6 Indicative Content

- Introduction to the Neo-Liberal University
- 'Dismantling The Master's House': Our Theory
- The Public and its Problems
- Michael Burawoy and Public Sociology
- Towards an engaged ethnographic practice
- Can Sociology truly be public? The challenge of the public sociologist
- Visual ethnography of the neo-liberal space
- 'The science of liberation': The Black Studies Movement
- 'The personal is political': The impact of feminisms on the academy
- Public Sociology after Brexit
- Grenfell: What use Public Sociology?



7	M	Module Learning Outcomes			
	On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:				
	1	Critically evaluate the theories of public sociology.			
	2	Understand the practical ways of engaging in public sociology.			
	3	Analyse the role of student activism in influencing social change, social justice, and decision making in the public sphere;			
	4	Demonstrate critical understanding of neoliberal spaces like the university through coursework			

8 Module	Assessment	sessment				
Learning Outcome						
Outcome						
	Coursework	Exam	In-Person			
1	X		X			
2	X		X			
3	X		X			
4	X		X			

9 Breakdown Learning and Teaching Activities				
Learning Activities	Hours			
Scheduled Learning (SL) includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, peer group learning, Graduate+, as specified in timetable	36			
Directed Learning (DL) includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE	44			
Private Study (PS) includes preparation for exams	120			
Total Study Hours:	200			