

Masters in Research In Social Anthropology

Programme Requirements

MRes:

60 credits: SA5010, SA5011

60 credits: SA5521, SS5101 - SS5104, or other SA 5000-level modules as available.

Students may substitute up to 30 credits from 3000- or 4000-level SA modules, with the approval of the Course Coordinator.

60 credits: SA5099

MPhil:

As for MRes plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words (in place of SA5099).

Compulsory module - Semester 1:

| SA5011 The Anthropology of Connections: Interdisciplinarity as Methodology | | | | |
|---|--|---------------|------------------|---|
| SCOTCAT Credits: | 30 | SCQF Level 11 | Semester: | 1 |
| Planned timetable: | To be arranged. | | | |
| <p>This module builds on SA5010 by examining the relevance of other disciplines for Social Anthropology. Through lectures and seminars, students are shown how Anthropology can be extended and illuminated by working with methodologies and concepts drawn from History, Social Science, Philosophy, Language and the Arts. It shows how anthropologists must invoke other specialist disciplines during their work. It invites students to think of societies and anthropological theories as informed by internal and external constraints, dialogues and reinterpretations, which unfold in time. It will show the role of anthropology in articulating different disciplines.</p> | | | | |
| Programme module type: | Compulsory for MRes in Anthropology, Arts and Perception, MRes in Social Anthropology with Pacific Studies and MRes in Social Anthropology and Amerindian Studies Postgraduate Programmes. | | | |
| Learning and teaching methods and delivery: | Weekly contact: 1 lecture, 1 seminar. | | | |
| Assessment pattern: | Coursework = 100% | | | |
| Module Co-ordinator: | Dr M High | | | |
| Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s): | Dr M High | | | |

Compulsory module - Semester 2:

| SA5010 Research Methods in Social Anthropology | | | | |
|---|--|---------------|------------------|---|
| SCOTCAT Credits: | 30 | SCQF Level 11 | Semester: | 2 |
| Planned timetable: | 11.00 am Wed | | | |
| <p>This module aims to examine the methodology of anthropological research through close attention to the relationship between method and fieldwork experience. In particular, students are led into readings of fieldwork diaries, journals and letters, and invited to consider the experience of fieldwork and anthropological research in the round [i.e. not just as methodology for data collection]. A core focus is on what else about fieldwork experience and anthropological research practice we can learn from looking at diaries and letters rather than just at published ethnographic monographs.</p> | | | | |
| Programme module type: | Compulsory for MRes in Anthropology, Arts and Perception, MRes in Social Anthropology with Pacific Studies and MRes in Social Anthropology and Amerindian Studies Postgraduate Programmes. | | | |
| Learning and teaching methods and delivery: | Weekly contact: 1 lecture, 1 seminar. | | | |
| Assessment pattern: | Coursework = 100% | | | |
| Module Co-ordinator: | Dr A Reed | | | |
| Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s): | Dr A Reed | | | |

Compulsory module - Whole Year:

| SA5099 Dissertation | | | | |
|--|---|---------------|------------------|------------|
| SCOTCAT Credits: | 60 | SCQF Level 11 | Semester: | Whole Year |
| Planned timetable: | At times to be arranged with the supervisor. | | | |
| <p>Student dissertations will be supervised by members of the teaching staff who will advise on the choice of subject and provide guidance throughout the research process. The completed dissertation of not more than 15,000 words must be submitted by the end of August.</p> | | | | |
| Programme module type: | <p>Compulsory for Anthropology, Social Anthropology Social Anthropology and Amerindian Studies, and Social Anthropology with Pacific Studies Postgraduate Programmes.</p> <p>Either SA5022 or SA5099 is compulsory for Anthropology, Art and Perception Postgraduate Programme.</p> | | | |
| Learning and teaching methods and delivery: | Weekly contact: Individual supervision. | | | |
| Assessment pattern: | Coursework (Dissertation) = 100% | | | |
| Module Co-ordinator: | Dr A Reed | | | |
| Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s): | Dr A Reed | | | |

Optional modules:

| SA5001 Theory and Method in Social Anthropology | | | | |
|--|---|---------------|------------------|------------|
| SCOTCAT Credits: | 30 | SCQF Level 11 | Semester: | Whole Year |
| Planned timetable: | To be arranged. | | | |
| The module will cover classical social theory and key concepts in social thought. It will review the basic assumptions and methodological implications of a variety of theoretical perspectives (ranging from structural-functionalism to postmodernism), and will examine in detail the logic of different modes of explanation. The paradigmatic positions of key social thinkers will also be considered. | | | | |
| Programme module type: | Optional for Social Anthropology Postgraduate Programme. | | | |
| Learning and teaching methods and delivery: | Weekly contact: 2 hours (seminar, lectures, or tutorials). | | | |
| Assessment pattern: | Coursework = 100% | | | |

| SA5002 Current Issues in Social Anthropology | | | | |
|---|--|---------------|------------------|------------|
| SCOTCAT Credits: | 30 | SCQF Level 11 | Semester: | Whole Year |
| Planned timetable: | To be arranged. | | | |
| The module focuses on recent developments within the discipline, and aims to challenge the student's existing presumptions and preoccupations. It will cover both theoretical and substantive issues. | | | | |
| Programme module type: | Optional for Social Anthropology Postgraduate Programme. | | | |
| Learning and teaching methods and delivery: | Weekly contact: 2 hours (seminar, lectures or tutorials). | | | |
| Assessment pattern: | Coursework = 100% | | | |

| SA5003 Social Organisation and Culture | | | | |
|--|--|---------------|------------------|------------|
| SCOTCAT Credits: | 30 | SCQF Level 11 | Semester: | Whole Year |
| Planned timetable: | To be arranged. | | | |
| The module discusses the description of human society and culture, focusing on both theoretical and empirical issues by reference to selected ethnographic material. It will consider such matters as relativism, deconstructionism and the modelling of social forms and, at a more specific level, the main concepts for describing the institutional features of the full variety of human societies. | | | | |
| Programme module type: | Optional for Social Anthropology Postgraduate Programme. | | | |
| Learning and teaching methods and delivery: | Weekly contact: 2 hours (seminar, lectures or tutorials). | | | |
| Assessment pattern: | Coursework = 100% | | | |

Social Anthropology - Social Anthropology MRes & MPhil - 2015/16 - August 2015

| SS5101 Being a Social Scientist | | | | |
|---|---|---------------|------------------|---|
| SCOTCAT Credits: | 15 | SCQF Level 11 | Semester: | 1 |
| Planned timetable: | 3.00 - 5.00 pm Fri | | | |
| <p>Through a series of interactive seminars this two-part module explores the fundamental skills required by all social scientists. In part one, the module will focus on how to design and produce a research dissertation. Assessment will be in the form of a critical essay that analyses the research design of papers from your disciplinary field. In part two, issues of professional development (e.g. ethics, careers, grant writing) will be addressed. Assessment will be in the form of a class test in which you will review and comment on two research proposals.</p> | | | | |
| Programme module type: | Compulsory for MSc in Sustainable Development and MSc in Sustainable Energy. Compulsory for various MRes Programmes. Optional for MRes in Psychology. | | | |
| Learning and teaching methods and delivery: | Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar. | | | |
| Assessment pattern: | Coursework = 100% | | | |
| Module Co-ordinator: | Dr S Leahy | | | |
| Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s): | Dr M Kesby and Prof R Gray | | | |

| SS5102 Philosophy and Methodology of the Social Sciences | | | | |
|---|--|---------------|------------------|---|
| SCOTCAT Credits: | 15 | SCQF Level 11 | Semester: | 2 |
| Planned timetable: | 2.00 - 4.00 pm Wed | | | |
| <p>This seminar based module will introduce you to the basic theoretical approaches in the social sciences, encourage you to make connections between the methodological and epistemological issues involved in conducting social scientific research, and inspire you to reflect critically your own experience. The module will cover modern philosophy's historical evolution, positivism, feminism, critical theory and post-structuralism among other topics. Assessment will involve a one short review and one longer essay.</p> | | | | |
| Programme module type: | Compulsory for various MRes Programmes | | | |
| Learning and teaching methods and delivery: | Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar | | | |
| Assessment pattern: | Coursework = 100% | | | |
| Module Co-ordinator: | Dr S Leahy | | | |
| Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s): | Dr V Paipais and various others | | | |

Social Anthropology - Social Anthropology MRes & MPhil - 2015/6 - August 2015

| SS5103 Qualitative Methods in Social Research | | | | |
|---|---|---------------|------------------|---|
| SCOTCAT Credits: | 15 | SCQF Level 11 | Semester: | 2 |
| Planned timetable: | 9.00 am - 11.00 am Fri (provisional) | | | |
| <p>This seminar-based module offers both a theoretical and practical introduction to the collection, analysis and writing of qualitative social science research. Among other things, the module will cover positionality/ethics, archives, participant observation, participatory approaches, semi-structured interviewing and the use of NVIVO/computer aided qualitative data analysis. Assessment will involve a short reflection on field experience and a longer critical essay on a chosen aspect of qualitative research.</p> | | | | |
| Programme module type: | Compulsory for various MRes Programmes Compulsory for MRes in Human Geography Compulsory for Sustainable Development and Sustainable Energy Taught Postgraduate Programmes. | | | |
| Learning and teaching methods and delivery: | Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar. | | | |
| Assessment pattern: | Coursework = 100% | | | |
| Module Co-ordinator: | Dr S Leahy | | | |
| Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s): | Dr M Kesby and various others | | | |

| SS5104 Quantitative Research in Social Science | | | | |
|---|---|---------------|------------------|---|
| SCOTCAT Credits: | 15 | SCQF Level 11 | Semester: | 1 |
| Planned timetable: | 1.00 - 4.00 pm Mon | | | |
| <p>This module provides a user-friendly introduction to the fundamental concepts of quantitative analysis. It will cover underlying principles, terminology, research design, sampling strategies, uncertainty and missing data, computerised data management and analysis and univariate and multivariate approaches to data analysis. The assessment will be in the form of weekly practical tasks completed in class and/or independently.</p> | | | | |
| Programme module type: | Compulsory for MSc Psychology (Conversion). Optional for the MRes in Psychology. Compulsory for various MRes Programmes. Either GG5020 or SS5104 is compulsory for Human Geography Postgraduate Programme. | | | |
| Learning and teaching methods and delivery: | Weekly contact: 3-hour combined lecture and practical session. | | | |
| Assessment pattern: | Coursework = 100% | | | |
| Module Co-ordinator: | Dr S Leahy | | | |
| Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s): | Mr P L Gardner | | | |