Undergraduate Studies
Welcome

Studying Social Sciences at Royal Holloway means that you will learn from internationally renowned experts from within sociology, criminology, law, social policy and social work. Our diverse and vibrant community is dedicated to helping students reach their highest potential.

The unique strength of our community in the Department of Social Work within the School of Law and Social Sciences is that it brings together so many exceptionally talented people of different backgrounds working with diverse communities and researching real life issues. The department provides a stimulating, challenging and rewarding environment in which to learn. We are committed to breaking down traditional barriers between academics and communities to ensure you have the best learning experience.

We have an intellectually challenging approach to research and education and studying here will help you to take a broad view of current social issues and understand society and people in society.

Robert Jago
Head of Department of Social Work

Contact details

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Gain transferable skills and explore a wide range of critical social issues

Learn from international experts from within sociology, criminology, law, social policy and social work

Connect with us
@rhulsw
royalholloway.ac.uk/socialwork
The Department of Social Work, which is part of the School of Law and Social Sciences, coordinates this degree course across a range of departments to ensure that you will benefit from learning in a multi-disciplinary environment. We have strong links with community organisations and services across London and our research interests include issues associated with child welfare, multiculturalism and identity, health & social care and marginalised communities and law, regulation and practical ethics.

Supportive learning
We have a strong culture of support for students. All students are allocated a Personal Tutor before arrival, who will provide academic advice and pastoral support throughout your time here.

Facilities
We are based close to the beautiful and historic Founder’s Building, which houses our Picture Gallery and chapel as well as a dining hall and accommodation for 500 students.

Directly across from the Founder’s Building is the Emily Wilding Davison Building, completed in 2017 and home to our state-of-the-art library. It is situated a few seconds’ walk away from the Arts Building, home of the department.

Student societies
Royal Holloway offers a vibrant and active community with strong student involvement and 150 clubs and societies.

Extra-curricular activities
Engaging with communities and understanding the role of advocacy and action in social change are central to the nature of the programme. Throughout the programme you will be encouraged to take advantage of opportunities to meet people with diverse experience, engage with work in communities and understand different people’s experiences of modern Britain. These activities are designed to enable you to understand the contribution of different cultures and communities but also to understand the barriers and disadvantages others face across society.

Work experience
The four ‘Cs’ (critical thinking, communication, creativity and collaboration), central to success in the 21st century, underpin learning and skills development on this degree course. We offer a credited volunteer module, where you can gain practical experience of working with individuals and groups in society; and there are other ways of gaining insights such as from people with direct experience of working in social care and health. This degree also provides you with opportunities to undertake assessed work with individuals and communities, and an optional Placement Year.
Your future career

Studying here will provide you with critical thinking and research method skills, which are paramount in a number of careers. This degree has a strong vocational strand running throughout, preparing you for your future career, whether you are interested in working in human services and social enterprise, want to move into professional roles or wish to go on to further study.