

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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## What kind of topics can I study in my 2nd and 3rd year?

There is a diverse range of topics available, such as: Gender; Sexuality; The Body; Consumer Culture; Visual Culture and Images; Advertising; Technology and Society; Lifestyle and Popular Culture; the Environment; Friendship; Race Relations; Ethnicity; Capitalism; Health; Life and Bodies; Migration and Multiculturalism; Disasters; Employment and Work; The City; Media; Terror, Journalism; and Television and Morality are all subjects researched and taught within the department.

For a more concise list of the options available check out our Part II Handbooks for [Sociology](#) and [Media and Cultural Studies](#).

## Does the course allow me to study abroad?

We have exchange schemes in place with Universities in North America and Europe; in particular a popular exchange we have is with [Carleton University](#) in Canada. Spending a year abroad does not mean that you add an extra year to your degree programme - a year abroad at one of our partner institutions is considered equivalent to a year at Lancaster. We also have several visiting students from other countries that come to study with us for a term/year.

More information regarding either of these options is available through our [International Office](#) here at Lancaster.

## What kind of jobs can my degree lead to?

**Sociology and Media and Cultural Studies** degrees lead on to a wide variety of careers. Our students become: school teachers, arts administrators, charity administrators, lecturers, police officers, social workers, film makers, researchers, lawyers, journalists, public relations specialists, human resources officers, activists, entrepreneurs, environmental consultants, civil servants, probation officers, community and youth workers, bankers, homelessness workers, Information Technologists.

*(Sociology is particularly useful for jobs in which you will be working directly with a variety of people and, in our experience, for the **Media and Cultural Studies** degree we find employers prefer students with academic-led degrees to media students with practical media degrees.)*

**Life skills:** Apart from the knowledge you will acquire you will also gain **key transferable skills:** How to think critically, write well (essays, book and film reviews, reports, presentations, manifestos, letters, emails, websites, blogs), organise your time, solve problems, work in a group. You will also learn to pitch ideas and do presentations, design and carry out a research project and reflect on ethical, political and moral issues.

All Sociology and Media and Cultural Studies students will leave as trained researchers, as they are trained in real life research methods. In your final year you will carry an independent research project on a topic of your choice. This will take you out into the world as an independent researcher. You might, for instance, do research in a school, a prison, a supermarket, with care workers, with nightclub bouncers, with a newspaper office, in an internet forum, with a football club or even at a festival.

## Can I gain work experience whilst studying?

Our campus based volunteers unit ([Involve](#)) will enable you gain invaluable work experience during your degree.

Current students are working in schools, in environmental projects, with homeless groups, with the police, in youth groups, with technology and IT projects in the community. For Media and Cultural Studies Students we also recommend getting involved with the student led radio station [Bairrigg FM](#) and the student paper [SCAN](#).

## What else can I get involved with at University?

We like our students to get involved in lots of extra-curricular activities while they are at University. 50% of students at Lancaster University are members of a Society. There are between 60 and 70 [societies and clubs](#) (including our students very own SOCSOC) and you have the choice of all of them!

Learn to parachute jump, ballroom dance, be a human rights activist, an organic gardener, a photographer, a radio presenter on Bairrigg FM (the largest student run radio station in the UK) and write for the student newspaper.

You can also get involved with the [Student Union](#), representing you fellow students in your department or Campus wide!