

Welcome to the School of Social Sciences (SSS)

Stand for ambition.
kent.ac.uk



Postgraduate Welcome 2025-2026

Congratulations!

Head of School Dr Balihar Sanghera

Director of Education inc PGT Dr Simon Shaw

PG Research Director

Dr Ellie Jupp

PG Research Director – Centre for Health Services Studies Dr Ferhana Hashem

MA Directors:

Dr Trude Sundberg (MA Methods in Social Research; MA International Social Policy)

Dr Nagina Khan (CHSS PGT)

Dr Marian Duggan (MA Criminology)

Plans this morning!

PGT & PGR - Welcome Talk

10:00-11:00

CCLT1 (110)

Dr Balihar Sanghera, Dr Simon Shaw, Dr Eleanor Jupp, Dr Nagina Khan, Dr Ferhana Hashem & Other Directors of Studies TBC, PGR Rep(s)?

<p>PGT - MA Criminology Course Introduction 11:00 - 11:45 CNWSR5 (20) Dr Marian Duggan</p>	<p>PGT - MA International Public Policy Introduction & MA Methods of Social Research Introduction (Joint Session) 11:00 - 11:45 CNWSR6 (30) Dr Trude Sundberg TBC</p>	<p>PGT - CHSS - Introduction 11:00 - 11:45 CNWSR7 (25) Dr Nagina Khan</p>	<p>PGR - SSS & CHSS - PGR Induction: Life as a PGR in SSS & CHSS 11:00 - 12:00 CCLT1 (10) Ferhana Hashem & Eleanor Jupp</p>
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PGT & PGR (+CHSS) - Student and Staff Social Mixer

12:00 - 13:00

Grimond Foyer (110)

Simon Shaw, Balihar Sanghera, Marian Duggan, Trude Sunberg, Nagina Khan

SSS research culture and expertise

- Kent: Unique position - Local/global, border space
- SSPSSR have been ranked 3rd in the UK for its overall research quality with 100% of its environment classed as world-leading in the latest Research Excellence Framework (REF2021)
- Diverse group of experts in sociology, social policy, social research, criminology, social work, health services research



Research centres

Centre for Child Protection >

Research into child protection training that uses innovative ideas and the latest technology.

Centre for Global Science and Epistemic Justice >

Research dedicated to exploring the inter-relationships between epistemic justice and the sciences and their impact on individual life opportunities.

Centre for Philanthropy >

Exploring topics such as fundraising, major donors, corporate philanthropy, and how philanthropy relates to social justice.

Centre for Health Service Studies >

Research into health systems and services and work to improve links between research, policy and practice.

Centre for Parenting Culture Studies (CPCS) >

Interdisciplinary research from across the University that explores the changing role and meaning of 'parenthood'.

Centre for the Study of Social and Political Movements >

Work on contemporary forms of social and political movements and collective action, including environmental movements.

Personal Social Services Research Unit >

Conducting highly influential research on social and health care that informs policy, practice and theory.

Tizard Centre >

A leading academic group conducting influential research on learning disabilities and community care.

Research life in SSS

- Thursday Seminar Series - and wider PGR Inspire days
- CHSS Seminars

SSS Thursday seminar series

Date	Speaker(s)	Institution	Provisional title	Chair
9 October	Emma Cooke	University of Kent	Book launch: The Hidden World of the Legal Aid Lawyer: Upholding the Heart of Justice	Marian Duggan
16 October	Miri Song	University of Kent/LSE	Book launch: Mixed Heritage in the Family: Racial Identity, Spousal Choice, and Childrearing	TBC
23 October	<i>Vacant</i>			
30 October	Pauline Turnbull	University of Manchester	Research that saves lives: suicide prevention in action	Lindsay Forbes
6 November	<i>Vacant</i>			
13 November	Margaret Sleeboom-Faulkner	University of Sussex	Regulatory Violence: The Global Dynamics of Regulatory Experimentation in Biomedicine and Health	Joy Zhang
20 November	<i>Vacant</i>			
27 November	Amy Bonsall	Royal Holloway	Are networks useful for careers? How are they and who do they help? Or do they cause more problems and barriers than they solve.	Jennifer Leigh

Study Space

- Hot desk study rooms in SSS PG Centre - first floor of Cornwallis Building
- Senate PG Study Hub
- Library carrel spaces
- Wi-Fi campus



The Graduate and Researcher College



Graduate and
Researcher College

- more info at GRC induction on Wednesday 8 October

The GRC plays a central role in the life of our community of PhD and MA(Res) researchers across all our Schools and campuses, by:

- Supporting the student lifecycle administrative processes through the Research Programmes Administration Team
- Providing an extensive programme of face-to-face and online training, development and community building opportunities
- Working with other departments, including KSU, to promote a positive wider experience for our postgraduate students
- Acting as an advocate for the needs and interests of postgraduate students across the University
- Operating as the administrative hub for the University UKRI-funded studentship programmes (DTPs) and some other scholarships

Engagement Support

Introductions to help you feel prepared and get
the most from your time this year.

A place for belonging.
A path for ambition.

student.kent.ac.uk

Ask NEXUS when you have questions

Engagement Support and Programme Admin teams sit alongside each Nexus Information Desk in three central locations.

Visit any Nexus desk when you have questions or need to speak to someone.

You can contact online, call, drop-in or visit by appointment as needed.



Templeman Library, Canterbury



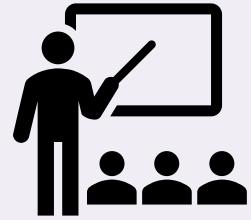
Sibson Building, Canterbury



Medway Building, Medway



<https://student.kent.ac.uk/support>



Attendance and Engagement

It is important that you fully engage with your studies and attend all teaching activity from the start. We check your in-person attendance every couple of weeks across each teaching term. If we see a pattern of low attendance or other engagement, we will check-in to see how we can help.

If you are contacted about your attendance, please:

1. Start attending (and continue to engage on Moodle, etc).
2. Log your attendance on **Presto** or self-report if you need to be absent.
3. Speak to your Academic Adviser or the Engagement Support team.



Unfortunately, if you are not attending in-person teaching then it may get to the point where you will not be able to continue your studies (but we want to help before it gets to that point).

<https://student.kent.ac.uk/studies/engagement-with-study>



Late Submission Policy

If you miss a deadline and need a bit more time ...

**up to 24 hours late
max mark is 60**

Where the assignment is submitted **within 24 hours** of the published deadline, the mark recorded for the piece of work may not exceed the mark of 60;

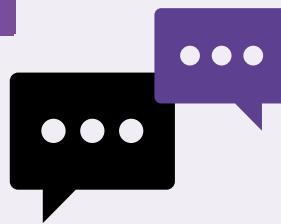
**up to 48 hours late
max mark is pass**

Where the work is submitted **within 48 hours** of the published deadline, the mark to be recorded for the piece of work will be capped at the pass mark for the module;

**more than 48 hours
mark is zero**

Where work is **more than 48 hours** after the published deadline a mark of zero will be recorded.

OR you can request an extension to the deadline without any mark penalty if they have extenuating circumstances that are eligible for mitigation.



Support for Extenuating Circumstances

If you are struggling to attend teaching or if you are struggling to submit your work in time, then please contact the Engagement Support team.

Lots of things can make it difficult to do your best and fully engage with your studies. Whatever the situation, contact the team when things first happen, so that we can help. You can email, call, drop-in or visit by appointment as needed.

Email: EngagementSupport@kent.ac.uk

Visit: Ask for the team at any of the three Nexus desks if you need to speak to someone about personal circumstances or if you need advice about your options.

<https://student.kent.ac.uk/support/engagement>



Your Uni / Your Say

Your feedback matters! The University works with students and with the Kent Students' Union to ensure that you have what you need to learn, progress and get the most from your experience at Kent.



Become a Student Shaper



Become a Student Rep



Join a student Advisory Board

See all the ways to get involved and contribute to Student Voice
#YourUniYourSay



Library and IT Services

What we do:

- Provide millions of books and e-resources for you to use, for free!
- IT support to connect you to your account, WiFi and lots of useful apps
- Help you develop skills to find the best information for your studies



Templeman Library



- Access a wide variety of study spaces
- Borrow laptops to use across the campus
- Use self-service kiosks to borrow, renew and return items
- Find the Nexus desk for help about accommodation, course queries, KentOne card, finance, wellbeing, IT support and lots more



Your Academic librarian

You have your own librarian to support your studies, **Emma Mires-Richards**.

Emma can help you to:

- Find and access the most relevant resources for your studies
- Use library tools to find articles and reference them
- Develop your library and research seeking skills
- Get better grades and degree results



Contact: academiclibrary@kent.ac.uk
Bookmark your library resources guide for subject-specific advice!



Library and Language Training

- Training Session for Library & Turnitin
- SSS PG Students during welcome week
- If English is your second language – additional support offered



Student Reps

We need reps for PG:

- Student Reps are not elected, you now apply and the majority of applicants become Reps.
- To learn more about what student reps are and how to become one, please see this link:
<https://kentunion.co.uk/student-voice/student-reps>



SSS WhatsApp Group invite link:



Katrine Callander
kac45@kent.ac.uk

**Postgraduate Research Student
representative**

Openings for additional Student Reps

***Feel free to contact me with any
questions or comments***

Student Experience

Who are we?



**Lily
Webber**
Student Experience
Officer



**Noah
Charles**
Student Experience
Coordinator

Contact us:

LSSJStudentExperience@kent.ac.uk

What do we do?

- **Student Voice:**
 - Act as a contact point for student reps and academic societies in the school
 - Organise & minute student voice forums
- **Communications:**
 - Produce and distribute monthly newsletters
 - Manage digital information screens in school buildings
- **Events:**
 - Coordinate welcome week and graduation receptions
 - Support with planning and organisation of school events
- **Early Informal Resolutions:**
 - Manage early informal resolutions (complaints) and liaise with relevant teams to find solutions

Wellbeing support

Graduate and Researcher College

- “Managing the self” online self-paced Moodle module
- Yoga writing retreats
- The Healthy Researcher recording
- 1:1 Coaching appointments

University of Kent

- [Student Support and Wellbeing](#)

External Online Resources

- [The Wellbeing Thesis](#) – information on PG mental health

Student support and wellbeing

[Student Support and Wellbeing](#)

[Mental Health](#) (Counselling, Mental Health, Specialist support, Addiction)

[Disability and Neurodiversity Support](#) (Autism support, Disability support, Specific Learning Difference)

[Accessing Learning and Support](#) (Disabled Students' Allowance, Student Carers, Accessibility and more..)

[Self-help resources](#)

[Counselling](#)

[Togetherall](#) – 24/7 online support

[Spectrum life](#) – Online, text and telephone support from qualified mental health professionals

Offers free, impartial and confidential advice and guidance on a range of issues you may confront while at university (housing, international & visa, employment, postgraduate finance)

[Canterbury Nightline](#)

Nightline is a non-judgmental listening service for students throughout the night, run by trained student volunteers.

Careers and Employability Service

Meet an Adviser

- It's never too soon to think about your future!
- Book an appointment: <https://careers.kent.ac.uk/>
 - Quick Advice (and try [CareerSet](#) CV checking tool)
 - Placement Support
 - Practice interviews (and try [Shortlist.Me](#))
 - Careers Guidance
 - My Skills Coach
- Practice psychometric/selection tests with [Graduates First](#)
- Tips and guidance via the [Career Mentoring Scheme](#)
- Skills workshops, employer talks, Employability Festival
- Careers Hub jobs portal: graduate roles, part-time roles, volunteering, internships, placements and more.



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University of Kent
Careers and
Employability
Service

Thank
you.