



Dear

We can't wait to welcome you to the Department of Social Policy! We know that preparing for undergraduate study and embarking on your first steps at university can feel exciting, but also daunting. Don't worry — to help you feel prepared ahead of starting at LSE, we have a few tips and pointers for you!

As your BSc Programmes Support Team, we'd like to provide you with some useful information about preparing for your degree programme and how you'll study.

Remember we're here to support you throughout your time at LSE, so if you have any questions before or whilst you're on the programme we're always happy to help!

In this edition

In this newsletter you'll find:

- Preparatory reading suggestions and accessing your reading list
- Your Programme structure and courses
- Receiving your timetable
- Understanding the Academic year
- LSE LIFE and the Learning Lab
- Next steps and reminders



Preparatory reading suggestions and accessing your reading list

Preliminary reading over the summer isn't essential. In September, once you arrive, you'll start to access reading lists for your courses.

When you become a registered LSE student, you'll have full access not only to the [LSE Library](#) but also to numerous electronic texts and publications. For this reason, we **don't** recommend purchasing texts before you arrive which should later be available to you via the School's library.

We'll also gift you one of the books on your reading list for one of your compulsory courses when you arrive!

However, we appreciate that some of you may wish to begin exploring the types of topics you'll be engaging with. Here are some examples of podcasts and articles you may wish to listen to or read, to start immersing yourself in topics relevant to Social Policy.

Podcasts, articles and blog posts to explore

- [Catch 22 minutes \(a UK-based social enterprise\)](#)
- [Radio 4 Analysis programme \(UK based\)](#)
- [Policy Forum Pod \(Asia and Pacific Region, run by ANU\)](#)
- [Brookings Institution \(US\)](#)
- [Social Europe podcast](#)
- ["What does it really mean to be a citizen?"](#), a podcast featuring Dr Robtel Neajai Pailey, Department of Social Policy
- ["Top-income adjustments and official statistics on income distribution: the case of the UK"](#), an article written by Professor Stephen Jenkins, Department of Social Policy

If you wish to explore more, you can find the department's recent publications, articles, podcasts, and more [here!](#)



Your Programme structure and courses

The [programme regulations](#) list all the courses which are compulsory and optional for any degree programme offered at LSE. Please take time to familiarise yourself with the relevant regulations for your degree programme before you arrive.

Receiving your timetable

The timetable for all courses in the School can be found [here](#). Your personal timetable should be updated in [LSE for You](#) and in your [Student Hub app](#) calendar from 10am on Friday 26 September.

Your scheduled lectures are at a set time each week, and you're expected to attend these. You'll attend the same lecture as all other students taking the course. You'll also be allocated to a class group (15 – 17 students) for each course you take.

It's expected that you should remain in the class group you are allocated to by the School, and any extra-curricular activities you engage with or part time employment you undertake should be planned around your timetable. Changes to class groups are granted on exceptional grounds only.

Understanding the Academic year

Please make a note of the [2025/26 term dates](#). LSE's academic year is divided into Autumn Term (from September to December); Winter Term (from January to March); and Spring Term (from April to June).

Teaching takes place in the Autumn and Winter Terms. Assessments for any courses which are assessed by exam will take place in the Spring Term (some courses from other departments may have exams during the January exam period). Throughout the Spring Term you will have some revision sessions ahead of your end of year assessments.

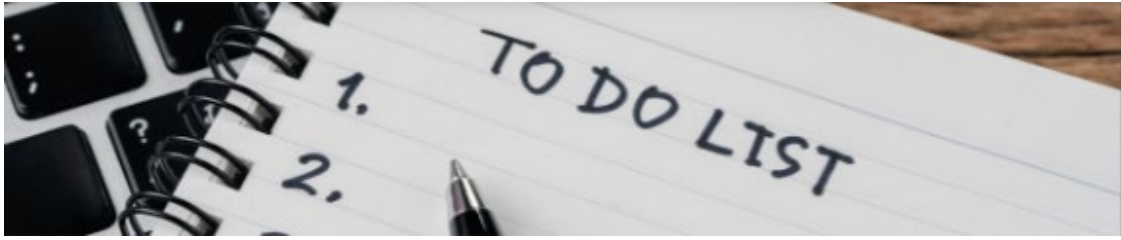


LSE LIFE and the Learning Lab

It's very normal to have questions or concerns about the academic side of your degree ahead of joining. That's why [LSE LIFE](#) set up the [Learning Lab](#), and we encourage you to look into the service before your arrival.

From essay writing to conducting research and critical thinking, the [Learning Lab](#) is your place to develop the skills you'll need to get the most from your studies and reach your academic goals. You can join practical workshops, get personalised one-to-one advice, and develop your skills anytime, anywhere with our online resources.

As part of the wider [LSE LIFE](#) family, the Learning Lab focuses specifically on your growth as a learner. LSE LIFE supports your broader experience at the School - helping you explore opportunities, connect with others, and discover what matters most to you.



Next steps and reminders

Here are some reminders for your most important tasks and to-dos ahead of September.

Please take time to review these and complete any you've yet to tick off!

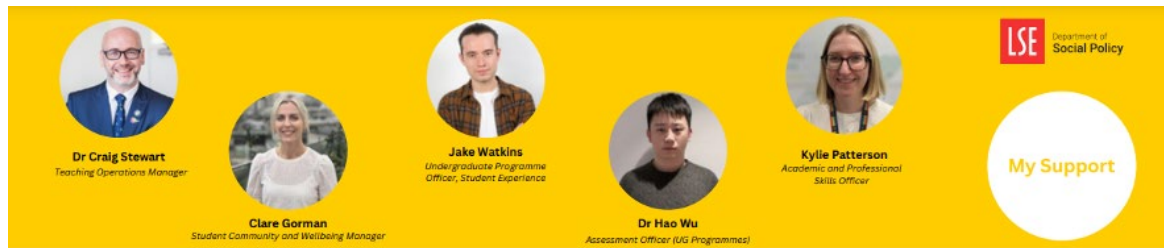
- Check out our exciting [events programme for Welcome 2025!](#)
- Read the [Undergraduate Offer Guide](#) for information on visas, fees, accommodation, what to do before you arrive at LSE, and general information about student life and London.
- Visit the [LSE Student Accommodation](#) pages for more information on accommodation.
- Complete your Level 1 mandatory Consent.Ed training before you arrive on campus: [take the online training](#).
- Complete your mandatory [Prepare to learn at LSE course](#) from LSE LIFE.
- If you require a visa to study at LSE, read the [visa guidance for prospective students](#).
- If you have a medical, physical or mental health condition and/or a specific learning difference (SpLD) such as dyslexia or dyspraxia, the [LSE Disability and Wellbeing Service](#) is here to offer advice, assistance and support to you throughout your time at LSE. Do get in touch with them if you have any queries before you start in September.

You'll next hear from us on the topic of 'My Support' - giving you information about the key sources of support you can access whilst studying with us.

We look forward to welcoming you in September. In the meantime, if you have any queries about your programme, please don't hesitate to email us on socialpolicy.ug@lse.ac.uk. You can also keep in touch by following us on [Bluesky](#) & [Instagram](#).

Best Wishes,

The Department of Social Policy



Information for
offer holders

Frequently Asked
Questions

Department of
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