

Department of Sociology

Dear XXX,

We hope this newsletter meets you well. The summer months are fast approaching, the current academic year is almost ending, and we are looking forward to welcoming you, our new students to the Department in September!

Because we understand that transitioning into postgraduate study can be daunting, we want you to have the option of preparing yourself prior to your arrival so that you can hit the ground running when term starts.

We thought it would be timely for us to provide you with the recommended readings for your programme and more general study and pastoral support that is on offer at LSE once you join in September. If you have questions relating to the Department of Sociology or your programme, you can always [contact us](#) and we'll be happy to help you.



Recommended Readings

There are no specific readings that must be read before your arrival in September, however, if you would like to begin to think and read about issues that will be covered on your programme, please see below, programme specific readings for the MSc Human Rights and Politics Programme:

1. Samuel Moyn, 2012. *The Last Utopia: Human Rights in History*. Harvard University Press.
2. Sumi Madhok. 2021. *Vernacular Rights Cultures: The Politics of Origins, Human Rights, and Gendered Rights Struggles*. Cambridge University Press.
3. Adom Getachow. 2020. *Worldmaking after Empire: The Rise and Fall of Self-Determination*. Princeton University Press.
4. Julia Suárez-Krabbe. 2015. *Race Rights Rebels: Alternative to Human Rights and Development from the Global South*. Rowman & Littlefield International.
5. Oumar Ba. 2020. *States of Justice The Politics of the International Criminal Court*. Cambridge University Press.
6. Bhabra, Gurinder and Robbie Shilliam (eds.). 2008. *Silencing human rights : critical engagements with a contested project*. Palgrave MacMillan.
7. Meera Sabaratnam, *Decolonising Intervention: International State-Building in Mozambique*. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.
8. Ashish Kothari, Ariel Salleh, Arturo Escobar, Federico Demaria, and Alberto Acosta (eds). 2019. *Pluriverse: A Post-Development Dictionary*. Columbia University Press.

9. Alberto Toscano. 2023. Late Fascism: Race, Capitalism, and the Politics of Crisis. Verso Books.
10. Vandana Shiva. 2016. Earth Democracy: Justice, Sustainability, and Peace. Bloomsbury Academic.
11. The first chapter of Peter Singer's "Animal Liberation"

LSE offers many resources to develop your skills and to support your wellbeing. Please see below a selection of the resources available once you commence your study with us.

LSE LIFE

LSE Life can help you navigate your learning journey with resources, events, skills sessions and one to one advice. LSE Life encourages the discovery and learning of new skills that you can use during and beyond your time at LSE.

[More information here](#)



Student Wellbeing Service

The LSE Student Wellbeing team offers a host of wellbeing tools and activities including workshops and group meetings that you can join throughout the term. These include reflective journaling, goal setting, a stress management group, and more. Students can also make appointments with wellbeing advisers. [Browse the student wellbeing pages here](#)

LSE Peer Support Scheme

Peer Supporters are trained student volunteers who support their peers by offering a non-judgmental, confidential listening space to any LSE student. You can register your interest in speaking to a peer supporter - this allows you to specify what you want to speak about or would like support with, and you can also choose who you wish to speak to if you wish. **Any student can speak to any peer supporter – it is a fully inclusive scheme available to all students.** We believe that asking for help is a sign of strength not of weakness and reaching out is a chance to build connections and speak to students you might not otherwise meet. [Read on for more information](#)

LSE Student Counselling

The LSE Student Counselling Service aims to enable students to cope more effectively with any personal or study difficulties that may be affecting you during your time at LSE. This service is free of charge, and sessions can be booked in advance with our professionally qualified and experienced counsellors, and there is also a daily drop-in service. [Find out more here](#)

LSE Sociology Department offer holder pages

There is a wealth of information you can find on our department offer holder pages which you may find useful. [Browse the information here](#)

Welcome 2025- Save the date!

We announced our Welcome dates in our previous email. As a reminder, starting from Monday 22 September 2025 and running through to Friday 26 September 2025, all new students will join us at

LSE for a week of department and School-wide events, activities and an induction which will take place in person on campus. Please save the date as you'll also need to attend enrolment on campus during this week! The first day of teaching will take place Monday 29 September 2025, and you can [find term dates here](#).

We hope you find the recommended readings and wider LSE support for your learning journey and wellbeing useful.

With warm wishes,
MSc Programmes Team

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