

Module Title Risk, Fear And Social Life Keywords Risk Society, Culture of Fear, Governmentality, Fear of Crime, Moral Panics, Edgework.	Reference	SS4031
	SCQF	SCQF
	Level	10
	SCQF Points	15
	ECTS Points	7.5
	Created	March 2008
	Approved	June 2008
	Amended	May 2014
	Version No.	3

Prerequisites for Module

None, in addition to SCQF 10 entry requirements or equivalent.

Corequisite Modules

None.

Precluded Modules

None.

Aims of Module

This module reviews a range of different sociological concepts and perspectives applied to the problem of contingency in contemporary social life. It examines the growing significance of risk in everyday life and how the concept frames lines of personal and institutional accountability. It also addresses the ways in which public anxiety

Edgework and the voluntary pursuit of risk.

Case studies:

- Health
- Insurance
- Gambling

Indicative Student Workload

<i>Contact Hours</i>	Full Time
Lectures	12
Seminars	12

<i>Directed Study</i>	48
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<i>Private Study</i>	78
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Mode of Delivery

Participation in this module is based around lectures and seminars. It requires students to engage with lecture material, respond in class to

coalesces around key issues of public and political concerns.

Learning Outcomes for Module

On completion of this module, students are expected to be able to:

1. Demonstrate a critical awareness of the sociological significance of contingency and the anticipation of harm within contemporary social life.
2. Review sociological concepts and perspectives critically on the ways in which individuals, groups and institutions conceptualise contingent and harmful outcomes.
3. Apply sociological concepts and perspectives critically to questions of contingency and anticipated harm in applied social contexts.

Indicative Module Content

History of risk and calculation.
Risk society and reflexive modernisation.
Culture of fear and precaution.
Cultural bias and risk perception.
Fear of crime and criminal victimisation.
Moral panics and public anxiety.
Risk and governmentality.

discussion questions, follow up on recommended readings, engage with assigned articles or chapters for discussion in seminars and to prepare for, and undertake, seminar tasks. Throughout the module, students will work both individually and in small groups.

Assessment Plan

	Learning Outcomes Assessed
Component 1	1,2,3

Component 1 will be assessed by a coursework assignment.

Indicative Bibliography

1. Denney, D., 2005. *Risk and Society*. London: Sage.
2. Lupton, D., 2013. *Risk*. 2nd ed. Abington: Routledge.
3. Mythen, G., and Walklate, S., 2006. *Beyond the Risk Society: Critical Reflections on Risk and Human Security*. Maidenhead : Open University Press.
4. Taylor-Gooby, P., and Zinn, J., eds. 2006. *Risk in the Social Sciences*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
5. Zinn, J., 2008. *Social Theories of Risk and Uncertainty: An Introduction*. Oxford: WileyBlackwell.