

**Department of Sociology**  
**MSc Sociology**

**Communities and Social Justice**

How is 'community' understood and used in policy, practice and research?

What is the role of community-based approaches to promoting social justice locally and globally?

How do people with diverse identities belonging to different groups, interact, work together and conflict when working for their visions of social justice?

What new theoretical and practical approaches to community development/organising are needed to address these global challenges?



Taught using participatory approaches by researchers with a range of experience with community organisations, we explore different understandings of terms such as community, social justice and civil society and how these multiple meanings are contested and deployed by different people in support of different aims. We draw on recent department research on forms of social action engaged in by particular groups within civil society and how identities and networks relate to these.

**How do communities respond to crisis?** We explore how community based organisations and civil society groups respond to crises/social injustices and how this interacts with wider state and international policies.

**How can diverse communities work together for socially-just change?** We will examine the potential for diverse communities to work together on issues that affect them and others.