

Welcome to Sports Studies (Joint Honours) BA/BSc (Hons)

Welcome Letter

Congratulations on receiving an offer to study with us! The information contained in this welcome letter is designed to give you a brief flavour of the content of the Sport Studies component of the joint degree you have chosen to study and the preparation that you can undertake to get you ready for your studies. Have a browse and if you have **any** questions about your studies with us, please get in touch.



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Course overview

The Sport Studies joint degree has been designed to introduce you to the study of sport from a social scientific perspective. The course focuses on 3 key study areas throughout each year – you will study modules related to sport coaching, sport management and sport in society. We place a particular emphasis on understanding the factors that contribute to people's participation (or non-participation) in sport, physical activity and PE. A big feature of our degree is the way we utilise our strong relationships with local sport organisations to help you to study sport and PE in a 'real world' context and not just in the classroom. You will be regularly asked to consider how you can shape your studies towards your preferred career pathway. We will work with you to help develop your employability skills and your voluntary experience, so you will be excellently placed to progress into a relevant career once you graduate.

Pre-arrival activity

A key strength of our course is the relationship we have with local sport and education providers. To help prepare for the course have a look at the organisations involved in sport in the Northamptonshire area (do a Google search). You could then consider the following:

- What types of organisations have you found? How are they funded? Do they need to make a profit? If not, where do they get funding from?
- Do any of the organisations have volunteering or part-time work opportunities that you would be interested in?

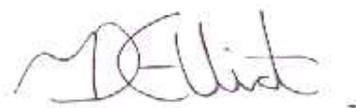
- Many of these organisations also offer coaching and other types of qualifications – have a browse of: <http://www.northamptonshiresport.org/coaching> to see the types of support offered to current and budding coaches.

Materials required – what you will need

To make the most of your studies, you'll find it much easier if you have a laptop/tablet to use in class. You may have elected to receive a free one of these as part of your induction package. You will increasingly be expected to use such devices as part of the learning process. For example, you may be asked to search for information online as part of class activities or you may be asked to complete work prior to a class and then discuss your findings with your tutor and fellow students. If you don't have access to a laptop/tablet, then don't worry. The University has a stock of laptops available for students to borrow.

A central part of our course involves practical sessions that help you develop your understanding of things discussed in class – particularly related to coaching practice. We offer Sport departmental kit that you are able to purchase soon after you arrive and although this is optional we would recommend you buy at least one piece of kit for practicals or external visits to places like local schools. All practicals require you to wear suitable sports kit.

Finally, we will be in touch again before September with further information and a couple of things for you to do before you arrive. In the meantime, enjoy the summer and please don't hesitate to get in touch with me if you have any questions.



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