



Cabot, Social Science and Law

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Faculty of Social Sciences and Law

The Faculty embodies a vibrant global community of world-class expertise in education, economics, finance, international studies, law, management, politics, social policy, social work, sociology and human geography.



Social Sciences and Law

- The Faculty comprises five Schools: the Graduate School of Education (GSoE), School for Policy Studies (SPS), School of Economics, Finance and Management (EFiM), the University of Bristol Law School, and the School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies (SPAIS). The School of Geographical Sciences is an affiliated member.



The Priory Road Complex

A top social science faculty

UK	University	Global rank
1	Oxford	7
2	Cambridge	8
3	LSE	13
4	UCL	14
5	Kings College	31
6	Edinburgh	39
7	York	35
8	Durham	49
9	Bristol	50

The quality of our teaching and research places the Faculty among the top 50 social science faculties worldwide and in the top ten within the UK.

THE World Rankings (top 50) – Social Sciences



Producing Excellent Research

- The Faculty currently has 19 Academicians at the Academy of Social Sciences, 5 OBEs, 4 CBEs and 1 MBE, 6 Fellows of the British Academy (including the youngest-ever female fellow), 1 Member of the National Academy of Sciences in the US and 1 Honorary Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand.
- In comparison with the eighteen other Russell Group institutions, Social Sciences at Bristol ranks fifth in terms of research council funded studentships, sixth in terms of charity income and eighth in terms of research council income.



Research – Future Objectives

- Cultivate new interdisciplinary initiatives – respond to strategic research challenges via further engagement in the Cabot Institute.
- Foster regional collaboration – build on the research training initiatives in the SWDTC to develop regional (and international) research capacity.
- Support high impact public policy research – build the capacity of successful centres (eg. CMPO, Human Rights Implementation Centre)
- Encourage knowledge exchange – build links locally (eg. City Council and Festival of Ideas) and internationally (eg. WUN).



Environmental Social Science and Law

- Global Insecurities
- Sociology of Risk and Uncertainty
- Globalisation and Governance
- Law and Regulation
- Social Justice



Cabot-related Initiatives

- Low Carbon Communities (ESRC/EPSRC application, led by Law with Policy Studies, Geography, Systems Engineering)
- Evaluation of Bristol 'Green Doors' project (ESRC Capacity Building Cluster, Economics)
- Conference session on 'Powers of Habit' that explores behaviours, subjectivities and energy use (Geography)
- Participation in RCUK End User Energy Workshop, to be followed by Bristol workshop (Geography, Computer Science)
- ARCIO workshop on Organisational Discourses of Sustainability (Management)



Society in the Anthropocene

- The Anthropocene as a new geological era?
- An international conference exploring the new emphasis on resilience as a lingua franca of risk, preparedness and survivability
 - Carbon politics
 - Global environmental uncertainty
 - Urban resilience and global containment
 - Capitalism, biotechnology and the biosphere



Politics and Science

- Active research fields in which the University of Bristol has world class environmental expertise: climate change and the IPCC, radionuclides in the Severn Estuary, climate geo-engineering, and the EU Water Framework Directive.
- Aim is to embed social scientists in each case study to trace how cutting edge scientists negotiate knowledge-making within politically charged domains, and how difficult ‘scientific’ decisions are taken by diverse political actors negotiating multiple demands.



Neville Gabie – Artist in Residence

- Previous experience with the Olympics, Cabot Circus etc.
- Common Room – a Cabot Institute residency. What dialogues take place in the context of radical multi-disciplinarity? What is their form, language and content? Common Room as the physical shared space of informal dialogue. It also stands for the ‘common’ objectives and philosophical agenda of the Cabot Institute.
- Output will be an exhibition on multidisciplinary engagements in the context of environmental uncertainty hopefully housed in a new Cabot Institute building in 2012, with an accompanying online exhibition on the Cabot website.



Post Graduate Initiatives

- New ESRC DTC pathway in Environment, Energy and Resilience
 - ESRC International Partnerships Scheme
- One Year Postgraduate Taught Programmes
 - MSc in Environmental Policy and Management
 - MSc in Climate Change Science and Policy
- Proposed NERC Doctoral Training Centre



Concluding Questions

- Are there additional Bristol/DPRI relationships to build and explore with social sciences and law?
- If so, how best would we build these new relationships?

