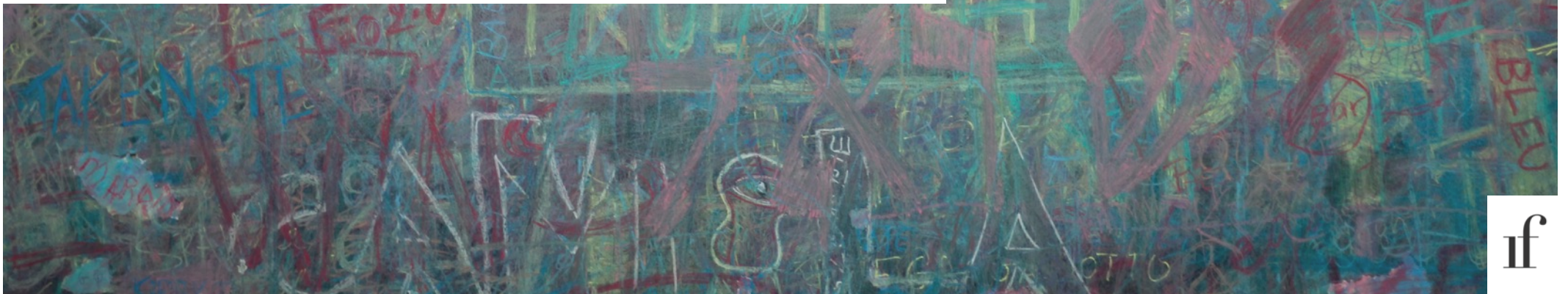




SOCIO-HUMANITES DEPT.



CONTENTS

ONGOING WORK AND CORE AIMS	3
AREAS OF CONTEMPORARY RESEARCH FOCUS	4
CRIME, MEDIA AND POPULAR CULTURE	5
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS	6
ADDITIONAL AREAS OF RESEARCH AREAS	8
MOVEMENT OF POPULATION	9
CONTACTS	10

ONGOING WORK AND CORE AIMS

Enormous challenges throughout today's society mean that the work of social scientists is needed more urgently than ever. Issues such as poverty, cybercrime, economic and political turmoil, inequality, the movement of people and social development require immediate response founded on research and knowledge.

Research Areas & Expertise

Interfusion's Socio-Humanities Dept. is dedicated in providing the rigorous knowledge base and inspiration for new policies to address these challenges within EU societies whilst promoting sustainability, social change and the preservation of human diversity and culture.

Our Socio-Humanities' Dept. innovative research has received local and EU recognition over the past few years across a number of related fields and topics, such as Social Movements, Immigration flows and European Integration, Gender and Sexuality, Transnational Memory and Identity, Radicalism and

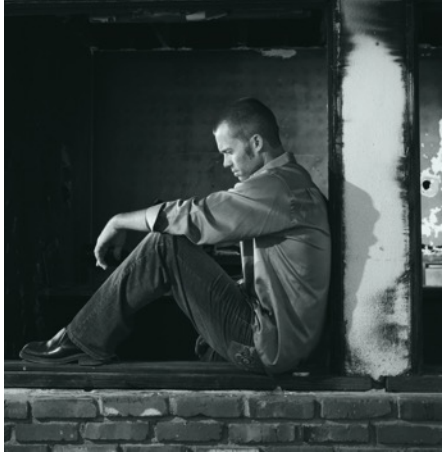
Violence in today's world, etc. All of our staff is active in research and our work has direct impact on related Government Departments, Local authorities, and several other organizations and groups.

Focusing on research in international relations, human rights, citizenship and migration while examining the factors which are shaping EU Societies today by considering issues such as politics, inequality, religion, the environment, human rights, family, identity, and the economy.

All these are being explored through the prism of 'race' and ethnicity, power and politics, crime and deviance, and culture and communication.



AREAS OF CONTEMPORARY RESEARCH FOCUS



Youth Crime

Providing an insight into the regulation, control and punishment of young people in society whilst focusing on the Contemporary Issues in Criminology by examining and evidently exploring issues of social control such as mass incarceration, juvenile delinquency, mediation, etc.



Justice

Past and ongoing research has resulted in the deep understanding of the operation of the local and EU criminal justice system and the relationship between punishments and crime prevention. Some of our Dept.'s most notable activities in this area focus on the challenging problems relating to harmful behaviours in society whilst assessing a range of constructive solutions.



Media in Contemporary Society

The role of contemporary media in either our shaping perceptions of the social world, or acting as a mirror reflecting the world back to us, is a question that has been hotly debated in our days. Furthermore, new media is often a focus of anxiety associated with declining moral standards, and dangerous for young minds in particular.



Cultural Heritage and Tourism

One of the dominant features of the global economy is the enormous growth in international travel and the increasing dependency of many national economies on the tourist and heritage industry. Using the insights of our related expertise we are able to provide valuable insights within the social, cultural, economic and environmental impacts of these developments in various Public Authorities in the island.



Crime, Media and Popular Culture

Popular culture today engages in accessible ways with issues intimately associated with criminology a sit represents powerful resources of meaning, narrative and imagination in society and express a myriad of assumptions, political perspectives and

imaginings of 'reality'. Subsequently, media representations of crime have tended to be examined in three distinctive ways. Firstly, whether violent depictions of crime causes criminal conduct in real life. Secondly, whether the news media create moral panics and fosters public fear.

Finally, more recent development relate to a broader consideration of how crime and punishment have been consumed, imagined and represented in popular culture.

Our team's focuses specifically on contemporary theories, analyses and debates to explore the intertextual loop

between crime, media and popular culture and the blurring of boundaries between fact, fiction and entertainment.

International Relations and Human Rights





Exploring the importance of law, norms and values in the existing international order and their relevance to, and the role of, legitimation in international relations. Further to this end deeper inquiry is often made into the developing role of international legal and judicial frameworks.

The role of a variety of actors – including individuals, transnational and other corporations, non-governmental organisations, social movements, international and regional organisations and states – concerned with human rights issues at national, regional and global levels are being constantly examined and contextualised through investigation of the relevant frameworks and structures within which they function.

Moreover, work in this area has also been dedicated in exploring the ways in which digital media present these

socially evolving issues within the transforming mediums in which we communicate in contemporary society.

Such research moves away from common-sense views about human rights, and considers an in depth social science analysis that can provide a nuanced understanding of questions of impact and audience response.

“Examining the nature of the international order, the relationship between human rights and state sovereignty, and the key problematic of intervention in case of violations of rights.”

ADDITIONAL AREAS OF RESEARCH

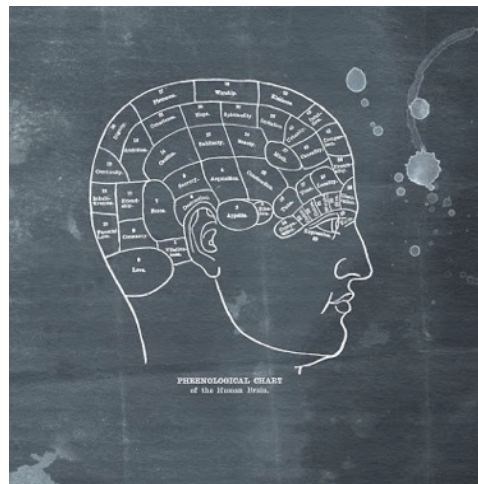
Stratification and Organizations:

Sociology of education, sociology of Media with a strong focus on Social Network analysis of social relationships in terms of contemporary network theory, work and industry, medical sociology, gender, race, class, and ethnicity, criminology.



Security in the Modern Globalising World:

Development of terrorism utilising new technology; terrorism, the media and public opinion; origins of terrorism; public policy remedies and international cooperation; security policy and global public health.



Social Psychology:

Interpersonal and group processes, developmental psychology, social structure and personality, status and power, justice, racial attitudes, legitimacy, identity formation and negotiation, criminology, health and well being.



MOVEMENT OF POPULATION



Project based research in this area focuses on the pressing matters of globalisation threats and opportunities, social movements beyond the nation-state, irredentism in the post modern world, European identity and citizenship.

Whilst the pressing phenomenon of large Population Movement poses a number of challenges for EU Member States, research and ground work is being described as critical.

Areas of research interest include but are not limited to: managing immigration inflows, refugee and asylum policy, social integration in host countries, etc.

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