COURSE SPECIFICATION

BSc (Hons) Social Work

Academic Standards, Quality and Partnerships
Department of Student and Academic Administration

March 2018

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COURSE SPECIFICATION

Please refer to the [Course Specification Guidance Notes](#) for guidance on completing this document.

Course Title	BSc (Hons) Social Work
Final Award	BSc (Hons)
Exit Awards	CertHE Social Studies, DipHE Social Studies Cannot have Social Work in title of exit awrd due to PSRBs
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	C1656F
Mode of study	full time
Mode of delivery	Campus
Normal length of course	3 years
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	September 2019
Awarding Body	University of Portsmouth
Teaching Institution	University of Portsmouth
Faculty	Science Faculty
School/Department/Subject Group	School of Health Science & Social Work
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	[http://www2.port.ac.uk/school-of-health-sciences-and-social-work/?_ga=2.101989444.459526196.1534141628-1919534275.1531394818](http://www2.port.ac.uk/school-of-health-sciences-and-social-work/)
Course webpage including entry criteria	https://www.port.ac.uk/study/courses/bsc-hons-social-work
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	Health & Care Professions Council [HCPC]
[Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level](#)	6

This course specification provides a summary of the main features of the course, identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the course, the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff, and the reference points used to inform the curriculum.

This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right course of study, to current students on the course and to staff teaching and administering the course.

Further detailed information on the individual modules within the course may be found in the relevant module descriptors and the Course Handbook provided to students on enrolment.

Please refer to the [Module Web Search](#) for further information on the course structure and modules.

Educational aims of the course

- Ensure students have adequate opportunities to develop practice skills and to demonstrate the requirements of the Professional Capability Framework (PCF) (BASW 2018) and Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) Standards of Proficiency (SOP) (2017), grounded within the theories and subject indicators identified in the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Subject Benchmarking Standards (SBS).
- Provide a framework allowing students to follow a coherent programme of study and placement learning
- Provide an opportunity for students to achieve a professional qualification in Social Work
- Enable students to develop knowledge of social work practice and of the diversity of user groups
- Provide a challenging and stimulating study environment on campus and placement for the development of the professional value base of Social Work
- Provide an opportunity for students to apply and transfer knowledge and skills to all service user groups
- Provide students with opportunities for multi-disciplinary learning on campus and in placement learning
- Provide an environment that challenges discrimination on all levels to all users and groups, which includes a multi-cultural society, who come into contact with social workers and social work agencies, engendering respect, compassion and dignity
- Enable students to link theory to practice and develop analytical and critical perspectives to social work practice, drawing on global perspectives
- Enable students to develop reflective practice knowledge and skills through placement learning
- To become competent in making social work judgements
- Prepare students to be eligible to apply for registration with the HCPC at the point of qualification
- Provide students with the skills and knowledge required to maximise career and employability prospects in a changing and challenging employment landscape
- Provide students with an awareness of the continued professional development requirements for lifelong learning

Course Learning Outcomes and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) sets out a national framework of qualification levels, and the associated standards of achievement are found in their Framework for Higher Education Qualifications document.

The Course Learning Outcomes for this course are outlined in the tables below.

A. Knowledge and understanding of:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A1	Social processes including poverty, unemployment, poor health, disablement, lack of education, refugee and asylum and other sources of disadvantage that lead to marginalisation, isolation and exclusion and their impact on the demand for social work services, in a UK	lectures, seminars and workshops	written assignments, group presentations, Research Report

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
	and international context		
A2	The nature of social work services in a diverse society exploring links between processes contributing to social differences (e.g. social class, gender & ethnic differences), to the problems of inequality and differential needs faced by service users	lectures, seminars and workshops	written assignments, group presentations, Research Report
A3	An understanding of different definitions, explanations, characteristics and circumstances of service users and the services required by them incorporating lifespan development	lectures, seminars, workshops, creativity and co-production methods	written assignments, group presentations, Research Report
A4	The relationship between agency policies, legal requirements and professional boundaries in shaping the nature of services provided in multi-disciplinary contexts and the issues associated with working across professional boundaries and within different professional groups	lectures, seminars, workshops creativity and co-production methods	written assignments, group presentations, Research Report, placement portfolio
A5	The core social work principles and practice, exploring professional ethics including concepts of rights, responsibility, justice, freedom, authority and power inherent in the practice of social workers as moral and statutory agents	lectures, seminars, workshops creativity and co-production methods	written assignments, group presentations, Research Report, placement portfolio

B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
B1	Identify the roles and responsibilities of social work within the multi professional context of private, voluntary, independent and statutory social work placement settings	lectures, group work, tutorial support, practice learning placements, and simulated practice	written assignments, group presentations, placement portfolio, OSPA's in simulated environments
B2	Apply a critical comparative analysis between UK and international models of social work	lectures, group work, tutorial support, practice learning placements, and simulated practice	written assignments, group presentations, OSPA's in simulated environments
B3	Analyse and critically examine a range of problems and situations encountered within practice	lectures, group work, tutorial support, practice learning placements, and simulated practice	written assignments, group presentations, Research Report
B4	Demonstrate research and information retrieval skills,	lectures, group	written

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
	including the ability to gather, integrate and synthesise complex material critically and evaluate its significance within appropriate intellectual frameworks	work, tutorial support, practice learning placements, and simulated practice	assignments, group presentations, Research Report, placement portfolio, asynchronous online test
B5	Demonstrate an ability to critically reflect in, and on, practice to ensure best outcomes are achieved for users of social work services and carers in practice placements	lectures, group work, tutorial support, practice learning placements, and simulated practice	written assignments, group presentations, Research Report, placement portfolio, asynchronous online test

C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
C1	Apply risk analysis methodology in a variety of practice placements and virtual practice contexts in relation to service users, practitioners, family or communities	lectures, skill-based simulation methods, practice learning placements, multi-disciplinary group work and action learning sets	practice learning placement assessment artefacts
C2	Be cognisant in the nature of analysis and professional judgement and the processes of risk assessment and decision making, including the theory of risk informed decisions and the balance of choice and control, rights and protection in decision making approaches	lectures, skill-based simulation methods, practice learning placements, multi-disciplinary group work and action learning sets	practice learning placement assessment artefacts
C3	Demonstrate evidenced based practice by linking choice of intervention strategy to relevant knowledge and research sources	lectures, skill-based simulation methods, practice learning placements, multi-disciplinary group work and action learning sets	practice learning placement assessment artefacts
C4	Demonstrate readiness for practice prior to undertaking practice placement learning in L5 and L6	readiness for practice teaching, observation of a Social Worker and	readiness for practice interview, practice learning placement

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
		tutor support	assessment artefacts
C5	Practice within professional boundaries and effectively contribute to multi-disciplinary teams in practice placements, demonstrating the ability to meet the criteria to apply to be an HCPC social work registrant	lectures, skill-based simulation methods, practice learning placements, multi-disciplinary group work and action learning sets	practice learning placement assessment artefacts

D. Transferrable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	Take responsibility for the planning and execution of their own learning	lectures, skill-based simulation methods, practice learning placements,	practice learning placement assessment artefacts, PDP
D2	Develop competent professional communication skills; verbal, electronic and written	lectures, skill-based simulation methods, practice learning placements,	written assignments, group presentations, Research Report, placement portfolio
D3	Demonstrate digital literacy skills including the capacity to carry out research using a wide range of research tools, search strategies and methodologies	lectures, skill-based simulation methods, practice learning placements,	Research Report
D4	Practice and problem solve effectively both autonomously and as a team member	lectures, skill-based simulation methods, practice learning placements,	practice learning placement assessment artefacts
D5	Engage in reflective practice and operate within a framework of professional accountability	lectures, skill-based simulation methods, practice learning placements,	Written assignments, practice learning placement assessment artefacts

Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth Academic Regulations will apply to this course.

Support for Student Learning

The University of Portsmouth provides a comprehensive range of support services for students throughout their course, details of which are available at the MyPort student portal.

In addition to these University support services this course also provides:

Personal Development Planning (PDP)

Practice Educators, Work Based Supervisors, academic staff and the Faculty Placement Team support students in practice placements

Evaluation and Enhancement of Standards and Quality in Learning and Teaching

The University of Portsmouth undertakes comprehensive monitoring, review and evaluation of courses within clearly assigned staff responsibilities. Student feedback is a key feature in these evaluations, as represented in our Policy for Listening to and Responding to the Student Voice where you can also find further information.

Reference Points

The course and outcomes have been developed taking account of:

Insert additional reference points or delete as required

- University of Portsmouth Curriculum Framework Specification
- University of Portsmouth Education Strategy 2016 - 2020
- University of Portsmouth Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning
- Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements
- Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement for ***enter the relevant statement for this course***
- Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
- Requirements of Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Bodies: **Health & Care Professions Council**
- Evaluation of practice placements against QAA, HCPC and BASW criteria
- Transforming the Experience of Students Through Assessment (TESTA) 2018
- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of Portsmouth's academic members of staff
- National Occupational Standards

Disclaimer

The University of Portsmouth has checked the information provided in this Course Specification and will endeavour to deliver this course in keeping with this Course Specification. However, changes to the course may sometimes be required arising from annual monitoring, student feedback, and the review and update of modules and courses.

Where this activity leads to significant changes to modules and courses there will be prior consultation with students and others, wherever possible, and the University of Portsmouth will take all reasonable steps to minimise disruption to students.

It is also possible that the University of Portsmouth may not be able to offer a module or course for reasons outside of its control, for example, due to the absence of a member of staff or low student registration numbers. Where this is the case, the University of Portsmouth will endeavour to inform applicants and students as soon as possible, and where appropriate, will facilitate the transfer of affected students to another suitable course.

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