

## Programme Specification

Programme Summary Information				
1	<b>Programme Title</b>		BA [HONS] SOCIAL WORK	
2	<b>University of Sunderland Course Code</b>	BMSOCWRK	<b>UCAS Code</b>	L500
3	<b>Awarding Institution</b>		University of Sunderland	
4	<b>Teaching Institution(s)</b> (if different from point 3)			
5	<b>Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB)</b> (if applicable)		SOCIAL WORK ENGLAND	

6	Programme Description
	<p><b>Overview</b></p> <p>The programme combines an academic degree qualification with eligibility to apply for registration as a qualified social worker with Social Work England, on successful completion of the full programme.</p> <p>We aim:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure that on successful completion of the programme, you will meet the Standards of Proficiency for Social Work and are eligible for registration as a Social Worker with Social Work England</li> <li>• To ensure that you reach the standards of practice at qualifying level, as outlined in the Professional Capabilities Framework.</li> <li>• To create opportunities for you to develop as a critically reflective, analytical and research minded practitioner.</li> <li>• To deliver a curriculum influenced throughout by current research and practice and the experiences of service users and carers.</li> <li>• To ensure that social work values of valuing diversity and commitment to anti-oppressive practice and social justice are integral to the programme</li> </ul> <p><b>What's covered in the course?</b></p> <p><b>Stage 1</b></p> <p>The programme will provide you with a broad foundation in law and relevant social sciences at Stage One with a focus on the application of these to social work practice. This means that you will be introduced to key ideas from sociology to support you to understand structures, processes and divisions within society. You will explore key schools of thought in psychology and examine how understandings of human growth and development inform social work practice. You will be then introduced to the political and ideological context for social policy and social work and you will begin to look in more detail at specific areas of relevant policy. The law</p>

module runs throughout the year covering key aspects of the law in relation to human rights, equality, adult care, mental health and child care. Alongside this, you will learn about the historical background of social work, explore its key values in relation to your own and examine what is meant by important concepts such as discrimination, oppression, social, justice and equality. You will be introduced to the basic social work processes and frameworks within which social workers practice and theories that underpin practice.

The Skills for Practice module begins with essential study skills teaching and development and you will be introduced to essential professional practice skills and approaches such as active listening and communication skills, as well as reflective practice in preparation for placement. You will be encouraged to develop your understanding of your professional identity as a social work student. Through opportunities to shadow practitioners in the work place, your understanding of professionalism and the social work role will be enhanced. A community study will enable you to draw together and reflect on your learning from this stage. This will be assessed within a professional discussion with a panel of practitioners, service user and carers and academic staff. Throughout this level we place a strong emphasis on students working with and learning from the experiences of service users and carers and practitioners.

### **Stage 2**

At Stage Two, you will look more closely at the policy and practice guidance frameworks in adult and child care services. Teaching and learning throughout is strongly underpinned by a whole family approach and this is consolidated in a joint activity involving a number of programmes towards the end of the first term, based on case material and supported by practitioners and service users and carers. You will explore theoretical frameworks for understanding the wide and diverse experiences of people who use services, as well as the organisational structures and social contexts for providing services. You will explore in particular models and methods of social work practice, with an emphasis on the importance of holistic assessment and seeing the individual within their family and community.

The module content will encourage you to consider the impact of issues such as discrimination, oppression and poverty, and you are given the opportunity to consider principles of human rights and social justice in social work practice. Alongside this, we will help you to understand the tensions around areas such as harm, capacity, risk assessment, professional judgement and working together with other professionals. Practitioners and service users contribute to teaching and you will be encouraged to use research about service users' experiences to help you understand and evaluate policy and practice. In the second semester, you will undertake a 70-day placement in a practice setting where you will apply your learning. In this setting you will begin to engage with professional supervision and further develop your reflective practice skills. Your practice will be assessed using the Professional Capabilities Framework at this level.

### **Stage 3**

At Stage Three, you will be able to explore your own interests in more depth and use your skills as an independent learner. We will examine the philosophical underpinnings of social work values in more depth and apply these to ethical practice dilemmas with individuals and families, across all age groups and within a range of contexts. There is a strong focus on developing your skills in critical analysis and decision-making, and assessing and managing risk. There is an opportunity to explore emerging contemporary issues using a human rights perspective. You will be introduced to social research methods and apply these to an area of individual interest

	<p>for your dissertation. In the final practice placement, you will consolidate your learning and further develop your practice skills in more complex situations. As you move towards the position of being a qualified practitioner you will be helped to build on and further strengthen your understanding of professionalism and leadership, focusing in particular on the use of professional supervision</p> <p><b>Where will I study?</b> On the St Peter's Campus , Sunderland</p>
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<b>7</b>	<b>Programme Awards</b>		
<b>7a</b>	<b>Name of Final Award</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Credits Awarded</b>
	Bachelor of Arts with Honours	6	360
<b>7b</b>	<b>Exit Awards and Credit Awarded</b>		
	Certificate in Applied Social Care Studies	4	120
	Diploma in Applied Social Care Studies	5	240
	Ordinary Degree in Applied Social Care Studies	6	300

<b>8</b>	<b>Programme Specific Regulations</b>
	Yes

<b>9a</b>			
	<b>Mode(s) of Study</b>	<b>Location/Campus</b>	<b>Duration of Study</b>
	Full time	Sunderland	3 years
	Part time	Sunderland	6 years

<b>9b</b>		
	Is this programme delivered at a <a href="#">Transnational (TNE) partner</a> ?	No
	Is this programme delivered at <a href="#">UK Further Education Colleges</a> ?	No

<b>10</b>	<b>Entry Requirements</b>
	<p>The admission requirements for this programme as stated on the course page of the University of Sunderland website at <a href="https://www.sunderland.ac.uk/">https://www.sunderland.ac.uk/</a>, or found by searching for the course entry profile located on the <a href="#">UCAS website</a> are correct. YES</p> <p>This programme is suitable for students to enter with advanced standing (eg APL) NO</p> <p>Where applicable use the space below to detail any specific arrangements – eg APL only permitted to a specific level <a href="#">Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL)</a></p>

<b>11</b>	<b>Programme Learning Outcomes</b>
	<b>Stage 1: By the end of this Stage of the programme successful students should know, understand or be able to do the following:</b>

1	The ability to find, organise and present information in a written form in a coherent and literate manner
2	The ability to discuss diverse or competing perspectives
3	The capacity to take responsibility for managing own learning and development using a range of approaches
4	The use of problem-solving skills.
5	The ability to use supporting evidence to substantiate opinions and conclusions
6	The ability to explore own values, behaviours and personal attributes and how they impact upon the professional task
7	Core communication skills and the capacity to engage effectively with others.
8	Basic skills in reflection and capacity to learn from feedback.
9	Understanding of the profession's ethical principles and their relevance to practice.
10	Understanding of the importance and contribution of service user and carer perspective
11	An appreciation of disadvantage, discrimination and ways of working with diversity
12	Understanding of the principles of rights justice, social inclusion and economic wellbeing
13	Understanding of key aspects of the roles, tasks, skills and values of social work
14	An awareness of theoretical frameworks that underpin social work processes
15	Understanding of a range of psychological perspectives on human growth, development and behaviour
16	An initial understanding of key aspects of the legal and policy frameworks and guidance that inform and mandate social work practice
17	Understanding of key aspects of a range of sociological theories and concepts
18	A recognition of organisational contexts and frameworks for social work practice
<b>Stage 2 :By the end of this Stage of the programme successful students should know, understand or be able to do the following:</b>	
19	Understand the role of the professional social worker and demonstrate professionalism in a range of contexts. (PCF1)
20	Apply social work ethical principles and values to guide professional practice. (PCF2)
21	Recognise diversity and apply anti-discriminatory and anti-oppressive principles in practice. (PCF3)
22	Understand and, with support, apply in practice the principles of human rights, social justice, inclusion and equality (PCF4)
23	Apply knowledge of social sciences, law and social work theory to practice. (PCF5)
24	Use skills of reflection and analysis to inform and provide a rationale for professional decision-making. (PCF6)
25	Use judgement and authority to intervene with individuals, families and communities to promote independence, provide support and prevent harm, neglect and abuse. (PCF7)
26	Understand their role within social work organisational frameworks and within multi-agency and inter-professional settings, and operate appropriately within these. (PCF8)
27	Identify how professional leadership in social work can enhance practice and recognise the value of sharing and supporting the learning and development of others. (PCF9)
28	Recognise and appraise diverse or competing perspectives, theories and values
29	Substantiate opinions and conclusions by use of reasoned argument and relevant evidence, both orally and in writing.
30	Analyse complex human situations using a range of knowledge and experience.
31	Understanding of how the profession's ethical principles inform the decision making process
32	Understanding of processes for ensuring service user and carer participation and influence
33	Understanding of the effects of oppression, discrimination and social exclusion.
34	Critical appraisal of social work theories, processes models and methods of working.
35	Understanding of the impact of diverse range of life experiences and chances on the identity, and needs of children, families and adults.
36	Understanding of forms of harm and the concept of risk.

37	Critical understanding of the legislative, policy and practice responses in relation to safeguarding, meeting needs, promoting choice and protecting human rights.
<b>Stage 3 :By the end of this Stage of the programme successful students should know, understand or be able to do the following:</b>	
38	Identify and behave as a professional social worker, committed to professional development and meeting the requirements of the professional regulator. (PCF1)
39	Critically apply social work ethical principles and values to guide professional practice. (PCF2)
40	Demonstrate a critical understanding of diversity and apply anti-discriminatory and anti-oppressive principles in practice. (PCF3)
41	Promote human rights; promote social justice and economic wellbeing. (PCF4)
42	Apply a critical understanding of social sciences, law and social work theory to practice. (PCF5)
43	Use skills of critical reflection and analysis to inform and provide a rationale for professional decision-making and develop imaginative, creative practice (PCF 6)
44	Use judgement and authority to intervene in complex situations with individuals, families and communities to promote independence, provide support and prevent harm, neglect and abuse. (PCF7)
45	Operate effectively within social work organisational frameworks and multi-agency and inter-professional settings and contribute to their development. (PCF8)
46	Recognise the importance of and begin to demonstrate professional leadership and contribute to supporting the learning and development of others. (PCF9)
47	The ability to synthesise theory, knowledge and research to create a coherent and well-argued discussion, both orally and in writing.
48	The ability to critically analyse diverse or competing perspectives theories or values.
49	Creative and resourceful problem solving skills when addressing complex issues.
50	The ability to contribute positively to team work in a range of settings
51	Critical understanding of ethical dilemmas and their impact on decision making
52	Critical understanding of key aspects of organisational theory as they apply to social work practice
53	Critical understanding of the processes for partnership working with service users and carers.
54	Critical understanding of the principles and frameworks for human rights and social justice and their influence on practice
55	Understanding of the complexities of personal and structural discrimination and oppression in social work practice.
56	Critical understanding of the ideological and political context for social work
57	Critical understanding of the application to social work of research, theory and knowledge from social science disciplines
58	Critical understanding of research methodologies and methods

## 12. Programme Requirements

***There are optional modules on this programme: No***

### Level 4:

***In order to complete this programme a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):***

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	PLO(s) assessed
SSC101	Introduction to Social Theory	20	17
SWK110	Law for Social Workers	20	12,13,16
SWK113	Psychology and Human Growth and Development	20	5,8,13,14,15

SWK114	Skills for Practice	20	1-4,6-8, 11,12,13,18
SWK115	Social Work Theory and Practice 1	20	1,5,8, 9-14
SWK116	Introduction to Social Policy	20	11,12,16,18

**Level 5:**

***In order to complete this programme a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):***

<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Name</b>	<b>Credit Value</b>	<b>PLO(s) assessed</b>
SWK207	Working with Children, Young People and Families	20	20,21,23,24, 28,30,31-37
SWK213	Working with Adults	20	20-23,28-30, 31-34,36,37,
SWK220	Social Work Theory and Practice 2	30	20,21,23,24, 28,30,31- 35,51
SWK221	First Placement	30	19-30,31-37,
SWK222	Mental Health Social Work	20	20-23,28-30, 33-37

**Level 6:**

***In order to complete this programme a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):***

<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Name</b>	<b>Credit Value</b>	<b>PLO(s) assessed</b>
SWK 319	Critical Social Work Theory and Practice	20	39-43,47,48 52,54,55,57
SWK 320	Contemporary Issues in Social Welfare	20	41,42,47,48, 54-57
SWK 322	Social Work Dissertation	30	42,47,48, 54-57
SWK 321	Social Work Research Methods	10	39,47,48, 52,57,58
SWK323	Final Placement	40	38-50, 52,53,57

**13. Employability**

The programme contributes to the development of the following graduate attributes. Please refer to [Integrated Curriculum Design Framework](#) when completing this section.

<b>Professional</b>	Able to display a professional attitude and the behaviours, skills and knowledge to make a positive contribution to society through work, research and community engagement
<b>Adaptable</b>	Are adaptable to change, have resilience , and are personally capable of problem solving and innovation
<b>Engaged</b>	Are united by a desire to give something back to society and to develop communities locally, regionally and globally

#### 14. Additional Costs: Are there any additional costs on top of the fees?

List any additional costs the students will have to meet and whether this is optional (eg an optional field trip) or essential (eg buying a lab coat). Give an estimation of the approximate cost which may be a range. This information should be replicated in the Module Guide and will be published on the course page. Please note for Apprenticeships, there should be no additional costs to students.

No, but all students buy some study materials such as books and provide their own basic study materials	
Yes (optional). All students buy some study materials such as books and provide their own basic study materials. In addition there are some additional costs for optional activities associated with the programme (see above)	
Yes (essential). All students buy some study materials such as books and provide their own basic study materials. In addition there are some essential additional costs associated with the programme (see above)	Yes: There will be travel costs associated with placement. Currently students receive a bursary travel allowance payment to contribute towards these, however this is reviewed annually by the Department of Health

#### 15. Version Control

Programme Specifications are checked annually and updated when changes are made to the programme.

Version	Date	Details of change	Author
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<b>Number</b>				
<b>V1</b>	<b>Document created</b>	<b>11.5.20</b>	<b>Transferred to new template</b>	<b>Jane Scutt</b>
<b>V2</b>	<b>Document changed</b>			

## **PART B - PROGRAMME REGULATION/S**

**Name of programme:** Social Work  
**Title of final award:** BA with Honours  
**Interim awards<sup>1</sup>:** Certificate in Applied Social Care Studies  
Diploma in Applied Social Care Studies  
Ordinary Degree in Applied Social Care Studies

**Accreditation:** BA with Honours is approved by the Health and Care Professions Council (now Social Work England) from 02/07/2014. This an open-ended approval subject to satisfactory annual monitoring.

**University Regulation:** 1.1, 2.3.2, 4.2.1, 4.3.1, 6.1.3

### **1. Admissions**

Applicants whose first language is not English must achieve a minimum IELTS score of 7 in all four areas. For admission to the programme there must be:

- A satisfactory health check
- A satisfactory Disclosure and Barring Service check at enhanced level
- A satisfactory outcome of any declaration of involvement with Local Authority Adults or Children's Services
- A satisfactory outcome of any declaration of disciplinary issues.

### **2. Time Limits**

The maximum time allowed for a student to complete will be six years from the date of first registration. In exceptional extenuating circumstances, as adjudicated by the Social Work Programme Assessment Board, a maximum of one year additional registration may be granted.

### **3. Interim Award Titles**

A variation from the university regulations has been given to allow the interim award titles to be different from the main title award.

### **Stage 1**

#### **Core modules:**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
SWK110	Law for Social Workers	20
SWK116	Introduction to Social Policy	20
SWK113	Psychology and Human Growth and Development	20
SWK114	Skills for Practice	20
SWK115	Social Work Theory and Practice 1	20
SSC101	Introduction to Social Theory	20

### **4. Progression Regulations**

To meet the recommendations of the Health and Care Professions Council (now Social Work England), the following restrictions have been approved by Academic Board as a variation from the University regulations.

You must achieve a pass of 40% in each of the elements of assessment in all modules. In addition, no modules can be compensated so you must achieve an overall pass of 40% in each module.

The pre-requisites for modules at Stage 2 are such that no module may be trailed as a failed module to Stage 2.

### **Stage 2**

#### **Core modules**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
SWK207	Working with Children, Young People and Families	20
SWK213	Working with Adults	20

<sup>1</sup> Same as main award unless agreed otherwise at validation – eg to meet PSRB requirements

SWK222	Mental Health Social Work	20
SWK220	Social Work Theory and Practice 2	30
SWK221	First Placement	30

### **Progression Regulations**

To meet the recommendations of the Health and Care Professions Council (now Social Work England), the following restrictions have been approved by Academic Board on the provisions of the University regulations.

You must achieve a pass of 40% in each of the elements of assessment in all modules in order to pass the module. In addition, no modules can be compensated so you must achieve an overall pass of 40% in each module.

The pre-requisites for modules at Stage 3 are such that no module may be trailed as a failed module to Stage 3.

### **Stage 3**

#### **Core modules**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
SWK 320	Contemporary Issues in Social Welfare	20
SWK 319	Critical Social Work Theory and Practice	20
SWK 322	Social Work Dissertation	30
SWK 321	Social Work Research Methods	10
SWK 323	Final Placement	40

### **Progression Regulations**

To meet the recommendations of the Health and Care Professions Council (now Social Work England) the following restrictions have been approved by Academic Board on the provisions of the University regulations:

You must achieve a pass of 40% in each of the elements of assessment in all modules in order to pass the module. In addition, no modules can be compensated so you must achieve an overall pass of 40% in each module.

### **5. Attendance**

The BA (Hons) Social Work programme leads to a professional qualification; therefore 100% attendance is expected. Any student whose attendance falls below 80% in any module without extenuating circumstances during one semester will not normally be permitted to undertake assessment and will be referred in the relevant module/s and/or may be required to withdraw from the programme. Students with extenuating circumstances will be deferred in the relevant module/s. The programme academic team will make a recommendation on how the minimum attendance requirement can be met.

### **6. Placement Referral and Resubmission**

A student who fails a placement module at the first attempt may be allowed by the Assessment Board, as appropriate to:

- re-submit relevant written work as a referral; and / or
- repeat the placement (as a repeat with attendance) at the end of which one further referral of the written element will be permitted if needed, but the student may not repeat the placement for a third time.

### **7. Withdrawal from Placement**

A student who has failed to submit for and / or has failed the assessments in all the modules of the given Stage to date, without extenuating circumstances, will be required by the MAB (Module Assessment Board) to withdraw from the placement until satisfactory performance has been achieved. This may result in the student having to take an extra year in which to complete the placement.

### **8. Extensions to Placements**

Under exceptional circumstances, the placement can be extended for up to two weeks.

### **9. New cohorts from 2019/20**

The BA (Hons) Social Work will be calculated on 210 graded credits.

A Distinction award for the Diploma in Higher Education will be based on the 90 graded credits available at Stage 2.