

BA (Hons) Social Work

Programme Specification

Awarding Institution:

University of London (Interim Exit Awards made by Goldsmiths' College)

Teaching Institution: Goldsmiths, University of London

Final Award: BA

Programme Name: BA (Hons) Social Work

Total credit value for programme: 360

Name of Interim Exit Award(s):

Diploma of Higher Education in Applied Social Studies

Certificate of Higher Education in Applied Social Studies

Duration of Programme: 3 years full-time

UCAS Code(s): L500

HECoS Code(s): (100503) Social Work

QAA Benchmark Group Social Work

FHEQ Level of Award: Level 6

Programme accredited by: Approved by Social Work England (SWE)

Date Programme Specification last updated/approved: May 2024

Home Department: Department for Social, Therapeutic and Community Studies

Department(s) which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme:

Not applicable

Programme overview

The BA Social Work programme prepares you to become a social worker according to the professional and academic standards frameworks as set out in the Professional Standards for Social Work by Social Work England, the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) subject benchmark for social work and the BASW Professional Capabilities Framework.

The BA (Hons) Social Work draws on current research and knowledge across the social sciences, government guidance, and legislative frameworks to focus upon key knowledge, core values and skills that are applicable for equipping students to be eligible to apply to register as a social worker with Social Work England. It prepares you for social work

practice and in line with the Knowledge and Skills Statements for social workers, both in adult services and in children and family services.

The current format and design of the programme enables you to have an understanding of the organisational, policy and legislative frameworks of social work, while it emphasises on practical skills, increasing the likelihood of employability. The programme is co-designed with employers and placement providers ensuring the latter. Further, the programme enables you to develop key interpersonal and communication skills, as well as exercise those in practice in order to improve their overall capacities in social work. Another strength of this programme is that it enables you to exercise skills of theory integration into practice, as well as highlights evidence-based practice, giving you the space to explore research and evaluation skills and their applicability.

The programme is underpinned by the core values of social work, including social justice, human rights and professional integrity. That said, the programme in its delivery and content maintains those values and prepares you to both recognise diversity, social injustices and challenge discrimination. This is coupled with the focus on anti-oppressive and anti-discriminatory practice, which is highlighted across the modules, but also with the teaching consultants' input – i.e., social work practitioners contributing to the delivery and assessment of the programme. The latter has a significant impact on the quality of the programme, ensuring that practical skills are taught, while you enjoy the chance to appreciate real-life circumstances and scenarios vicariously and through the social work practitioners.

Another key aspect of the programme is that of receiving input from people with lived experience. This group of associates to the programme contribute at all stages, from selection to final assessment as they support your understanding regarding the perspectives of users of services in social work, the power dynamics in those relationships, and act as an evaluative measure for your capacities and knowledge in relation to your effectiveness with people with lived experience.

Through placement opportunities (the programme is offering two; a total of 170 days) you will benefit from working in an interdisciplinary environment and through multi-agency work.

The programme is 3 years full time.

Programme entry requirements

Applicants will have 96 UCAS tariff points which equates to grades CCC at A level and MMM at BTEC Extended Diploma or equivalent. In addition applicants will:

1. Have achieved Grade C GCSE English or equivalent.

2. Non-native speaker applicants must provide evidence that they meet communication and comprehension skills to IELTS at level 6.
3. Show that they can make use of written material and are able to communicate clearly and accurately in spoken and written English.
4. Have current relevant work experience (paid or voluntary). A minimum of three months full-time/ part-time equivalent social work/ care experience at the point of entry to the programme.

The admissions process consists of:

- a written test exploring social work values,
- a group discussion based on a case example.

To be accepted for the degree, applicants will need to demonstrate that they have the personal qualities necessary to undertake the complex and demanding role that will be required of them as a social worker. Applicants will also be expected to demonstrate an understanding of the experiences of service users and to show a commitment to, or to have pursued opportunities to gain some experience in a social care situation either as a paid worker and/ or a volunteer.

Additional Entry Requirements:

1. A satisfactory Enhanced Check with the Disclosure and Barring Service or equivalent for international students.
2. Satisfactory completion of a health questionnaire to assess their fitness to undertake the programme.

Selection Process:

Applicants who meet the entry requirements described above be invited to an assessment panel comprised of a written test and a group discussion. This panel will be facilitated and assessed by members of the academic staff, an Expert by Experience, and a practicing social worker from the community.

The assessments explore some aspect of social work and assesses your ability: to interpret and understand written information, your commitment to the core social work values, your capacity for critical reflection, your ability to express your own views and to respond appropriately to the expressed views of others, and your awareness of your own values.

The selection process not only allows us to assess students' readiness for social work education, but also to gauge their potential and capacity for working with service users in complex situations. You are required to demonstrate that you have a good level of self-awareness, sound interpersonal skills and the capacity to reflect critically on the place of

personal and social work values as they shape professional interventions. The assessment criteria are based on the [Social Work England Professional Standards](#).

Programme aims

This programme will prepare you to qualify as a social worker under the [Professional Standards – Social workers in England, \(SWE, 2020\)](#) the Professional Capabilities Framework (BASW, 2018), and the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) subject Benchmark for social work. In addition, the degree aims to prepare you in line with the Knowledge and Skills Statement for Social Workers in Adult Services (DH 2015) and the Knowledge and Skills for Child and Family Social Work (DfE 2014).

<https://www.socialworkengland.org.uk/standards/professional-standards/>
www.basw.co.uk/professional-development/professional-capabilities-framework-pcf
<https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/subject-benchmark-statement-social-work.pdf>
www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/411957/KSS.pdf
www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/338718/140730_Knowledge_and_skills_statement_final_version_AS_RH_Checked.pdf

In so doing, the programme draws on current research and knowledge across the social sciences, government guidance, and legislative frameworks to focus upon key knowledge, core values and skills that are applicable for equipping students to be eligible to register as a social worker with Social Work England. The programme addresses each of Social Work England’s Professional Standards through its coursework and field placement, as shown below:

1. Promote the rights, strengths and wellbeing of people, families and communities	
1.1	<p>Value each person as an individual, recognising their strengths and abilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CU51045B Group Work ● SW51023C Professional Development for Practice ● SW51020A Foundation to Social Work ● SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I ● CU51037C Theories of Individual Development ● SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II ● SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration ● SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration

1.2	<p>Respect and promote the human rights, views, wishes and feelings of the people I work with, balancing rights and risks and enabling access to advice, advocacy, support and services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW51023C Professional Development for Practice • SW51020A Foundation to Social Work • CU51047A Race, Racism, and Professional Practice • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I • SW(new code) Introduction to Law and Social Work • CU52045A Theory, Policy, and Practice • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
1.3	<p>Work in partnership with people to promote their well-being and achieve best outcomes, recognising them as experts in their own lives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CU51045B Group Work • SW51023C Professional Development for Practice • SW51020A Foundation to Social Work • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
1.4	<p>Value the importance of family and community systems and work in partnership with people to identify and harness the assets of those systems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CU51050A Introduction to Social Work, Community Development, and Youth Work • SW51020A Foundation to Social Work • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II
1.5	<p>Recognise differences across diverse communities and challenge the impact of disadvantage and discrimination on people and their families and communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CU51050A Introduction to Social Work, Community Development, and Youth Work • CU51047A Race, Racism, and Professional Practice • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I • CU51037C Theories of Individual Development • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II
1.6	<p>Promote social justice, helping to confront and resolve issues of inequality and inclusion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CU51050A Introduction to Social Work, Community Development, and Youth Work • SW51020A Foundation to Social Work • CU51047A Race, Racism, and Professional Practice • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II • SW(new code) Social Justice and Social Work
1.7	<p>Recognise and use responsibly, the power and authority I have when working with people, ensuring that my interventions are always necessary, the least intrusive, proportionate, and in people's best interests.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW51023C Professional Development for Practice • CU51047A Race, Racism, and Professional Practice • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I • SW(new code) Introduction to Law and Social Work • CU52045A Theory, Policy, and Practice • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
2. Establish and maintain the trust and confidence of people	
2.1	<p>Be open, honest, reliable and fair.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW51023C Professional Development for Practice • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
2.2	<p>Respect and maintain people's dignity and privacy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW51023C Professional Development for Practice • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
2.3	<p>Maintain professional relationships with people and ensure that they understand the role of a social worker in their lives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW51023C Professional Development for Practice • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
2.4	<p>Practise in ways that demonstrate empathy, perseverance, authority, professional confidence and capability, working with people to enable full participation in discussions and decision making.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CU51045B Group Work • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
2.5	<p>Actively listen to understand people, using a range of appropriate communication methods to build relationships.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CU51045B Group Work • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
2.6	<p>Treat information about people with sensitivity and handle confidential information in line with the law.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW(new code) Introduction to Law and Social Work • CU52045A Theory, Policy, and Practice • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
2.7	<p>Consider where conflicts of interest may arise, declare conflicts as early as possible and agree a course of action.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW51023C Professional Development for Practice • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
<p>3. Be accountable for the quality of my practice and the decisions I make</p>	
3.1	<p>Work within legal and ethical frameworks, using my professional authority and judgement appropriately.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW51023C Professional Development for Practice • SW(new code) Introduction to Law and Social Work • CU52045A Theory, Policy, and Practice • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
3.2	<p>Use information from a range of appropriate sources, including supervision, to inform assessments, to analyse risk, and to make a professional decision.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW51023C Professional Development for Practice • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
3.3	<p>Apply my knowledge and skills to address the social care needs of individuals and their families commonly arising from physical and mental ill health, disability, substance misuse, abuse or neglect, to enhance quality of life and wellbeing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW51023C Professional Development for Practice • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I • SW(new code) Introduction to Law and Social Work • CU51037C Theories of Individual Development • CU52045A Theory, Policy, and Practice • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
3.4	<p>Recognise the risk indicators of different forms of abuse and neglect and their impact on people, their families and their support networks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I • CU51037C Theories of Individual Development

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
3.5	<p>Hold different explanations in mind and use evidence to inform my decisions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CU51049B Introduction to Applied Social Science Research • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I • CU52049A Applied Social Research Methods • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
3.6	<p>Draw on the knowledge and skills of workers from my own and other professions and work in collaboration, particularly in integrated teams, holding onto and promoting my social work identity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CU51050A Introduction to Social Work, Community Development, and Youth Work • SW51023C Professional Development for Practice • SW51020A Foundation to Social Work • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
3.7	<p>Recognise where there may be bias in decision making and address issues that arise from ethical dilemmas, conflicting information, or differing professional decisions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW51023C Professional Development for Practice • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
3.8	<p>Clarify where the accountability lies for delegated work and fulfil that responsibility when it lies with me.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW51023C Professional Development for Practice • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
3.9	<p>Make sure that relevant colleagues and agencies are informed about identified risks and the outcomes and implications of assessments and decisions I make.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
3.10	<p>Establish and maintain skills in information and communication technology and adapt my practice to new ways of working, as appropriate.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
3.11	<p>Maintain clear, accurate, legible and up to date records, documenting how I arrive at my decisions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW51023C Professional Development for Practice • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
3.12	<p>Use my assessment skills to respond quickly to dangerous situations and take any necessary protective action.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
3.13	<p>Provide, or support people to access advice and services tailored to meet their needs, based on evidence, negotiating and challenging other professionals and organisations, as required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
3.14	<p>Assess the influence of cultural and social factors over people and the effect of loss, change and uncertainty in the development of resilience.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CU51047A Race, Racism, and Professional Practice • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I • CU51037C Theories of Individual Development • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II
3.15	<p>Recognise and respond to behaviour that may indicate resistance to change, ambivalent or selective cooperation with services, and recognise when there is a need for immediate action.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CU51045B Group Work • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
<p>4. Maintain my continuing professional development</p>	
4.1	<p>4.1 Incorporate feedback from a range of sources, including from people with lived experience of my social work practice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW51023C Professional Development for Practice • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
4.2	<p>Use supervision and feedback to critically reflect on, and identify my learning needs, including how I use research and evidence to inform my practice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CU51045B Group Work • CU52049A Applied Social Research Methods • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
4.3	<p>Keep my practice up to date and record how I use research, theories and frameworks to inform my practice and my professional judgement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CU51049B Introduction to Applied Social Science Research • CU51048A Introduction to Social Science • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I • SW(new code) Introduction to Law and Social Work • CU52049A Applied Social Research Methods • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
4.4	<p>Demonstrate good subject knowledge on key aspects of social work practice and develop knowledge of current issues in society and social policies impacting on social work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CU51050A Introduction to Social Work, Community Development, and Youth Work • CU51049B Introduction to Applied Social Science Research • SW51020A Foundation to Social Work • CU51047A Race, Racism, and Professional Practice • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I • SW(new code) Introduction to Law and Social Work • CU52049A Applied Social Research Methods • CU51037C Theories of Individual Development • CU52045A Theory, Policy, and Practice • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II
4.5	<p>Contribute to an open and creative learning culture in the workplace to discuss, reflect on and share best practice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CU51045B Group Work • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
4.6	<p>Reflect on my learning activities and evidence what impact continuing professional development has on the quality of my practice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW51023C Professional Development for Practice • SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods I • SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods II • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
4.7	<p>Record my learning and reflection on a regular basis and in accordance with Social Work England's guidance on continuing professional development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
4.8	<p>Reflect on my own values and challenge the impact they have on my practice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CU51045B Group Work • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
5. Act safely, respectfully and with professional integrity	
5.1	<p>Abuse, neglect, discriminate, exploit or harm anyone, or condone this by others.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CU51037C Theories of Individual Development • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
5.2	<p>Behave in a way that would bring into question my suitability to work as a social worker while at work, or outside of work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
5.3	<p>Falsify records or condone this by others.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
5.4	<p>Ask for, or accept any money, gifts or hospitality which may affect or appear to affect my professional judgement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
5.5	<p>Treat someone differently because they've raised a complaint.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
5.6	<p>Use technology, social media or other forms of electronic communication unlawfully, unethically, or in a way that brings the profession into disrepute.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
6. Promote ethical practice and report concerns	
6.1	<p>Report allegations of harm and challenge and report exploitation and any dangerous, abusive or discriminatory behaviour or practice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW(new code) Introduction to Law and Social Work • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
6.2	<p>Reflect on my working environment and where necessary challenge practices, systems and processes to uphold Social Work England's professional standards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
6.3	<p>Inform people of the right to complain and provide them with the support to do it, and record and act on concerns raised to me.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
6.4	<p>Take appropriate action when a professional's practice may be impaired.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
6.5	<p>Raise concerns about organisational wrongdoing and cultures of inappropriate and unsafe practice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW(new code) Introduction to Law and Social Work • CU52045A Theory, Policy, and Practice • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
6.6	<p>Declare to the appropriate authority and Social Work England anything that might affect my ability to do my job competently or may affect my fitness to practise, or if I am subject to criminal proceedings or a regulatory finding is made against me, anywhere in the world.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
6.7	<p>Cooperate with any investigations by my employer, Social Work England, or another agency, into my fitness to practise or the fitness to practise of others.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW52023A Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration • SW53011B Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration

- To explore methods of working with adults or children and families within a multi-agency and interdisciplinary framework (PS1, PS3);
- To provide you with a critical understanding of the application of research in the field of social work (PS3);
- To promote your use of information and communication technology skills (PS4).

Programme learning outcomes

Diploma of Higher Education in Applied Social Studies

Knowledge: Demonstrate some understanding of the 9 key domains of the Professional Capabilities Framework:

1. Professionalism

2. Values and Ethics
3. Diversity
4. Rights, Justice and Economic Well-being
5. Knowledge
6. Critical Reflection and Analysis
7. Intervention and Skills
8. Contexts and Organisations
9. Professional Leadership

Certificate of Higher Education in Applied Social Studies

Knowledge: Demonstrate some understanding of the 9 key domains of the Professional Capabilities Framework:

1. Professionalism
2. Values and Ethics
3. Diversity
4. Rights, Justice and Economic Well-being
5. Knowledge
6. Critical Reflection and Analysis
7. Intervention and Skills
8. Contexts and Organisations
9. Professional Leadership

Students who successfully complete the Certificate of Higher Education in Applied Social Studies will be able to:

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A1	Evaluate key social work theories and practice modalities	Introduction to Social Work, Community Development, and Youth Work Foundation to Social Work Professional Development for Practice
A2	Communicate social work professional roles and responsibilities	Introduction to Social Work, Community Development, and Youth Work Foundation to Social Work Professional Development for Practice

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A3	Understand the knowledge, skills and values at the basis of social work practice	Introduction to Social Work, Community Development, and Youth Work Foundation to Social Work Professional Development for Practice
A4	Analyse areas of law that are key to social work practice	Introduction to Social Work, Community Development, and Youth Work Foundation to Social Work Professional Development for Practice
A5	Examine the relationship between information gathering (including research), analysis and decision-making	Introduction to Applied Social Science Research
A6	Understand basic aspects of the social work policy context of social work practice with different service user groups, including the social justice implications of policy	Introduction to Social Work, Community Development, and Youth Work Foundation to Social Work Professional Development for Practice Introduction to Social Science
A7	Investigate individual and societal values and beliefs about race, faith, culture, class, gender, disability, sexual orientation, age, and other identities and their implications for practice	Introduction to Social Work, Community Development, and Youth Work Foundation to Social Work Professional Development for Practice Race, Racism, and Professional Practice Group Work

Cognitive and thinking skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B1	Assess the impact of personal values on intellectual and emotional responses in the context of social work practice	Professional Development for Practice Group Work
B2	Investigate issues of power as it relates to anti-oppressive and anti-discriminatory practice	Professional Development for Practice Race, Racism, and Professional Practice
B3	Examine individual and societal values and beliefs about race, faith, culture, class, gender, disability, sexual orientation, age, and other identities and their implications for practice	Professional Development for Practice Race, Racism, and Professional Practice
B4	Assess social work values related to risk assessment, particularly the relationships between rights and risk and care and control, within an anti-oppressive framework	Introduction to Social Work, Community Development, and Youth Work Foundation to Social Work Professional Development for Practice Introduction to Social Science
B5	Develop the cognitive skills of critical reflection.	Professional Development for Practice Group Work

Subject specific skills and professional behaviours and attitudes

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C1	Develop tasks and plan and set objectives	Professional Development for Practice
C2	Assess their practice interventions in relation to research evidence	Professional Development for Practice Introduction to Applied Social Science Research

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C3	Develop the skills to work with individuals, families, and groups who are diverse in terms of race, faith, culture, class, gender, disability, sexual orientation, age, and other identities.	Race, Racism, and Professional Practice Group Work
C4	Develop the professional behaviors and attitudes to collaborate with other professionals whose work relates to social work practice	Professional Development for Practice Group Work
C5	Develop the professional skills of information sharing and collaborative social work	Professional Development for Practice Group Work

Transferable skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
D1	Communicate effectively in writing and verbally in a wide range of professional settings	All level 4 modules
D2	Create a personal development plan	Professional Development for Practice
D3	Understand a range of information technologies.	All level 4 modules

Students who successfully complete the Diploma of Higher Education in Applied Social Studies will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A1	Critically evaluate key social work theories and practice modalities	Social Work Skills and Methods I Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration
A2	Comprehend the breadth of social work roles and responsibilities	Social Work Skills and Methods I Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A3	Critically assess social policies, their relationship to social justice and their effects on defining social need	Theory, Policy, and Politics Introduction to Law and Social Work
A4	Communicate the knowledge, skills and values at the basis of social work practice	Social Work Skills and Methods I Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration
A5	Critically assess key theoretical perspectives on social welfare and the implications for social work practice	Theories of Individual Development Social Work Skills and Methods I Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration
A6	Identify and summarise specific areas of law that are key to social work practice and to relate their work to a legal framework	Theory, Policy, and Politics Introduction to Law and Social Work
A7	Understand inter-professional and multi-disciplinary work across organisational boundaries	Social Work Skills and Methods I Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration
A8	Critically evaluate research and apply research to diverse practice contexts	Applied Social Research Methods
A9	Identify and summarise key aspects of the social work policy context of practice with different service user groups	Theory, Policy, and Politics Introduction to Law and Social Work
A10	Identify individual and societal values and beliefs about race, faith, culture, class, gender, disability, sexual orientation, age, and other identities and their implications for practice	Theory, Policy, and Politics Theories of Individual Development

Cognitive and thinking skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B1	Understand how personal values impact intellectual and emotional responses in the context of social work practice	Social Work Skills and Methods I Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B2	Identify and summarize several viewpoints on how power relates to anti-oppressive and anti-discriminatory practice	Theory, Policy, and Politics
B3	Initiate a social work practice that is ethical and informed while navigating external pressures and personal emotions.	Social Work Skills and Methods I Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration
B4	Understand and apply knowledge about the social work policy context of social work practice with different service user groups	Theory, Policy, and Politics Introduction to Law and Social Work
B5	Identify and compare key individual and societal values and beliefs about race, faith, culture, class, gender, disability, sexual orientation, age, and other identities as they pertain to social work practice	Theory, Policy, and Politics Theories of Individual Development
B6	Critically evaluate values related to risk assessment, particularly the relationships between rights and risk and care and control, within an anti-oppressive framework	Theory, Policy, and Politics Introduction to Law and Social Work Theories of Individual Development

Subject specific skills and professional behaviours and attitudes

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C1	Identify tasks, and plan and set objectives	All level 5 modules
C2	Critically evaluate practice interventions in relation to research evidence.	Applied Social Research Methods
C3	Deploy social work practice skills with individuals, families, and groups who are diverse in terms of race, faith, culture, class, gender, disability, sexual orientation, age, and other identities.	All level 5 modules
C4	Communicate clearly, with effective grammar, spelling and punctuation in a range of forms.	All level 5 modules
C5	Understand and use different social work methods of intervention	Social Work Skills and Methods I

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
		Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration
C6	Learn the behaviours and attitudes to collaborate with other professionals whose work relates to social work practice	Social Work Skills and Methods I Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration
C7	Understand and effectively apply care plans	Social Work Skills and Methods I Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration
C8	Apply a range of information technology skills,	All level 5 modules
C9	Apply information sharing methods and skills needed for collaborative social work	Social Work Skills and Methods I Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration

Transferable skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
D1	Communicate effectively in writing and verbally for a wide range of professional settings	All level 5 modules
D2	Develop a personal development plan	Social Work Skills and Methods I Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration
D3	Apply research literacy skills	Applied Social Research Methods
D4	Attain the skills to work in teams.	Social Work Skills and Methods I Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration
D5	Apply a range of information technology	All level 5 modules

Students who successfully complete the BA (Hons) Social Work will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A1	Systematically understand key social work theories and practice modalities	All level 6 modules
A2	Systematically understand the breadth of social work roles and responsibilities and how these relate to their own professional trajectory	Social Work Skills and Methods II Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
A3	Critically evaluate social policies, their relationship to social justice and their effects on defining social need	Social Justice and Social Work
A4	Critically evaluate the core knowledge, skills and values of social work practice	All level 6 modules
A5	Critically evaluate prominent theoretical perspectives on social welfare and the implications for social work practice	Social Justice and Social Work
A6	Critically apply social work knowledge and values to inter-professional and multi-disciplinary work across organisational boundaries	Social Work Skills and Methods II Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
A7	Critically evaluate evidence-based approaches to social work	Social Work Skills and Methods II Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
A8	Establish the relationship between information gathering, analysis and decision-making	All level 6 modules
A9	Critically review and evaluate applied research and apply research to practice	Social Work Skills and Methods II Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
A11	Critically evaluate key aspects of the social work policy context of practice with different service user groups	All level 6 modules
A12	Expand knowledge of diverse communication needs.	Social Work Skills and Methods II Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
A13	Systematically identify and critically analyse individual and societal values and beliefs about race, faith, culture, class, gender, disability, sexual	All level 6 modules

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
	orientation, age, and other identities and their implications for practice	

Cognitive and thinking skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B1	Demonstrate the cognitive skills of the professional and ethical responsibilities of social workers	All level 6 modules
B2	Critically reflect, evaluate and develop strategies to adapt how their personal values impact their intellectual and emotional responses in the context of social work practice	All level 6 modules
B3	Compare, and contrast a range of viewpoints on how power relates to anti-oppressive and anti-discriminatory practice	Social Justice and Social Work
B4	Develop and refine communication and relationship skills, such as active listening, empathy, questioning styles and respect for client self-determination	Social Work Skills and Methods II Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
B5	Apply cognitive and analytical skills necessary for managing complex situations	All level 6 modules
B6	Demonstrate professional judgements in complex situations	All level 6 modules
B7	Critically reflect on the use of self as an agent of change	All level 6 modules
B8	Implement social work practice in an ethical, informed manner while navigating external pressures and personal emotions.	Social Work Skills and Methods II Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
B9	Critically evaluate and apply knowledge of the social policy context of social work practice with different service user groups	Social Work Skills and Methods II Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
B10	Critically evaluate and apply key individual and societal values and beliefs about race, faith, culture, class, gender,	All level 6 modules

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
	disability, sexual orientation, age, and other identities as they pertain to social work practice	
B11	Systematically understand social work values related to risk assessment, particularly the relationships between rights and risk and care and control, within an anti-oppressive framework	All level 6 modules
B12	Demonstrate the capacity for reflexivity.	Social Work Skills and Methods II Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration

Subject specific skills and professional behaviours and attitudes

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C1	Define tasks and plan and set objectives	All level 6 modules
C2	Critically evaluate their practice interventions in relation to research evidence	Social Work Skills and Methods II Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
C3	Demonstrate informed and ethical social work practice skills with individuals, families, and groups who are diverse in terms of race, faith, culture, class, gender, disability, sexual orientation, age, and other identities.	
C4	Undertake a range of assessments, including complex assessments	All level 6 modules
C5	Critically apply relevant policy and Government guidance documents to inform practice interventions and decision-making	All level 6 modules
C6	Communicate clearly and accurately in written English, adhering strictly to conventions of grammar, spelling and punctuation. Students should be able to write clear and accurate reports, letters and assessments for a range of legal and interprofessional contexts.	All level 6 modules

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C7	Present assessment and evaluation reports in a range of legal and procedural contexts	All level 6 modules
C8	Understand, critically compare, and draw on different social work methods of intervention	All level 6 modules
C9	Demonstrate the ability to collaborate with other professionals whose work relates to social work practice	All level 6 modules
C10	Understand the effective use of care plans	Social Work Skills and Methods II Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
C11	Demonstrate a range of information technology skills	All level 6 modules
C12	Demonstrate a firm understanding of information sharing methods and skills needed for collaborative social work	Social Work Skills and Methods II Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
C13	Demonstrate the ability to gather information from a range of sources	All level 6 modules

Transferable skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
D1	Communicate effectively in writing and verbally in a wide range of professional settings	All level 6 modules
D2	Problem solve at advanced level	Social Work Skills and Methods II Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
D3	Apply research skills to underpin their practice interventions	All level 6 modules
D4	Apply different social work models of intervention in practice at an advanced level	All level 6 modules
D5	Conduct presentations to different professional groups	Social Work Skills and Methods II Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
D6	Work in inter-agency and inter-professional settings and use professional supervision	Social Work Skills and Methods II Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
D7	Facilitate meetings with a variety of stakeholders, including service users	Social Work Skills and Methods II Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
D8	Develop a personal development plan	Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
		All level 6 modules
D10	Engage in effective teamwork	Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration
D11	Use a range of information technology	All level 6 modules

How you will learn

The programme will be delivered using a combination of teaching and learning methods including, lectures, seminars, workshops and problem based learning approaches. The teaching will be practice-led which will be particularly important for students engaged in learning about complex professional issues where they need to reflect on complex dilemmas and ethical problems in social work. Lectures and seminars will enable you to engage with research and theoretical frameworks and ideas. Whilst, study groups, workshops, skills laboratory work, independent study, and practice placements will enable you to apply theoretical ideas to practice situations to enhance your knowledge and skill development. You are encouraged to link research to case material, particularly drawn from your own practice learning to assist the development of research mindedness and critical reflection. The teaching and learning is underpinned by tutorial support provided in individual and group sessions. A range of information technology and library resources provided by information services will support independent study.

How you will be assessed

The programme employs a wide range of assessment methods including: essays, assessed-role play, practice placement portfolios, observations, take-home examination papers, case studies, critical self-evaluations, written reflections, seminar and workshop presentations, self-directed projects and work experience.

The Professional Capabilities Framework requirement is that all students will undergo assessed preparation for direct practice to ensure their safety to undertake practice learning in a service delivery setting. Students will be expected to demonstrate that they are functioning at the Readiness for Direct Practice Level at the end of the Professional Development for Practice in year 1.

The assessment outcomes have been designed to integrate the practice, knowledge and values requirements. This reflects the programme's philosophy of an integrated and holistic

approach to learning. The intention is to have assignments that arise from students' project based work and practice.

The general criteria for assessment apply to all assignments and represent the range of abilities that students are expected to demonstrate by the end of the module. The grading criteria clearly set out the positive and negative factors. Work submitted for assessment must display clarity, understanding and critical thinking to receive high marks.

Assessment of Practice Learning

You will undertake practice-learning placements in years two and three of the degree. Students' performance in practice learning is assessed against the *Professional Standards – Social workers in England*, (SWE, 2020), and the *Professional Capabilities Framework* (PCF) (as well as the QAA benchmark statement for social work) in the form of a portfolio of evidence, including an evaluative account reflecting on the learning process. The decision as to whether or not a student has reached a satisfactory standard of practice performance is taken by a qualified and experienced social worker who makes a recommendation to the Practice Assessment Panel, which is subject to the Programme Assessments Board. The practice-based modules are professional body requirements (Social Work England) and the practice learning portfolio accrues academic credits. Students must pass all practice learning components in order to gain the BA in Social Work.

At the end of Year 2 you will have:

- At an intermediate stage prepared for and worked with individuals, families, carers and groups and communities to assess their needs and circumstances.
- At an intermediate stage planned, carried out, reviewed and evaluated their social work practice with individuals, families, carers, groups and communities and other professionals.
- At an intermediate stage supported individuals to represent their needs, views and circumstances.
- At an intermediate stage managed risk to individuals, families, carers, groups, communities, self and colleagues.
- At an intermediate stage managed and been accountable, with supervision and support, for their own social work practice within the practice learning organisation and within a multi-professional network.
- At an intermediate stage demonstrated professional competence in social work practice, including managing ethical issues.

At the end of Year 3 you will have:

- Prepared for and worked with individuals, families, carers and groups and communities to assess their needs and circumstances.
- Planned, carried out, reviewed and evaluated their social work practice with

individuals, families, carers, groups and communities and other professionals.

- Supported individuals to represent their needs, views and circumstances.
- Managed risk to individuals, families, carers, groups, communities, self and colleagues.
- Managed and been accountable, with supervision and support, for their own social work practice within the practice learning organisation and within a multi-professional network.
- Demonstrated professional competence in social work practice, including managing ethical issues.

Marking criteria

Mark	Descriptor	Specific Marking Criteria
80-100%	1st: First (Exceptional)	Students meet all the criteria for an “excellent”. In addition there is an element of originality in the assignment. This would typically involve insights in relation to theories, research or the student’s own practice that demonstrates that the student has engaged with the required work at an unusually excellent level. This might involve students demonstrating an ability to synthesise different aspects of the social work module to an outstanding degree. For instance, they may draw links between theory and practice, or personal experience and research findings in ways that are not only balanced and well informed but also interesting, unusual or insightful to a degree beyond that normally found at BA level.
70-79%	1st: First (Excellent)	An appropriate range of literature is used and also integrated critically into the assignment. The student is able to develop the Assignment/Portfolio in relation to the issues identified. There is clarity of focus, which remains throughout the argument despite its complexity. The discussion is balanced and recognises the competing claims of different frameworks and perspectives. The discussion is firmly rooted in available evidence and there is a critical evaluation of facts and opinions used to support the argument. The conclusions are presented with clarity and properly arise out of the preceding discussion. There is evidence throughout of the student’s learning including that identified from earlier module material. The assignment demonstrates a critical understanding and reflection upon the implications of discrimination and oppression to the topic or case being discussed. Where appropriate, the discussion shows evidence of the

Mark	Descriptor	Specific Marking Criteria
		connections between different oppressions and the student shows critical understanding of their own personal experiences of discrimination/oppression or positions of power and relates these elements to theoretical perspectives. For instance, the student is able to identify and critically analyse using theories and/or research the impact of their own gender, race, class, sexuality, age etc. (as relevant) on their work and relationships.
60-69%	2.1: Upper Second (Very good)	This mark is awarded when students demonstrate they have understood and can apply the relevant literature to practice concerns and issues. The discussion is well organised and draws on appropriate evidence. The Assignment/Portfolio properly balances the breadth of the issues covered with depth of analysis. Where appropriate, there is an appropriate combination of theoretical issues with exploration of practice implications. The student is able to recognise the impact of values on the issues discussed. The assignment shows good understanding and reflection upon the implications of discrimination and oppression to social work practice. The student appropriately and positively uses issues and learning identified in module material or from other sources.
50-59%	2.2: Lower Second (Good)	This mark is awarded when there is clear evidence of social work knowledge and understanding but where there is limited critical reflection of the theoretical material drawn upon and the issues arising. The discussion is adequately organised and makes use of some supporting evidence. The work demonstrates a satisfactory level of understanding of the knowledge, skills and values and there will be reference to relevant theoretical literature. The assignment shows some reflection on the implications of discrimination and oppression to social work practice. The student appropriately and positively uses issues and learning identified in earlier module material
40-49%	3rd: Third (Pass)	This mark is awarded when there is some evidence of social work knowledge and understanding but where there is little or no reflection on the material drawn upon and the issues arising. The discussion may be poorly organised and/or make use of little supporting evidence. The work demonstrates some understanding of social work knowledge, skills and values, but does not demonstrate the ability to

Mark	Descriptor	Specific Marking Criteria
		reflect on them in any depth. The assignment shows an inadequate understanding of and/or limited reflection upon the implications of discrimination and oppression to social work practice. There may be discussion of the ways discrimination and oppression are relevant to the situation or case being discussed, though at a superficial level.
25-39%	Fail	This mark is awarded when the Assignment/Portfolio content is obscured by poor spelling, grammar, punctuation, sentence and paragraph construction. The assignment is poorly structured. There is little evidence of properly referenced and cited texts and basic standards of academic rigor are not met. The development of the issues is poor and the student loses focus on them as the discussion progresses. Different factors are poorly balanced against each other and the student shows little ability to integrate and evaluate the competing claims of different points of view or theoretical frameworks and perspectives. The discussion is poorly rooted in evidence and is presented with little awareness of the distinction between fact and opinion. The conclusions do not relate to the evidence presented or the issues discussed. The student's learning is poorly demonstrated and shows little evidence of using earlier module material.
10-24%	Bad fail	This mark is awarded when the Assignment/Portfolio is incomplete and/or shows minimal attempt to address the specified learning outcomes and the Assignment/ Portfolio brief. The assignment is poorly structured, with minimal or no reference to relevant literature and basic standards of academic rigour are not met. Little knowledge is shown and there is little or no attempt to analyse, interpret or discuss any literature that is referred to. The Assignment/Portfolio is obscured by poor spelling, grammar, punctuation, sentence and paragraph construction.
1-9%	Very bad fail	A submission that does not even attempt to address the specified learning outcomes (shall be deemed a non valid attempt and module must be re-sat).
0%	Non submission or plagiarised	A categorical mark representing either the failure to submit an assessment or a mark assigned for a plagiarised assessment.

Mode of study

Programme structure

Year 1 of the degree provides foundation knowledge, skills and values to practice. The curriculum will consist of lectures, seminars, workshops, groupwork and skills laboratories. The content of the curriculum will include: Introduction to Social Work covering the nature of social work as a professional activity and academic discipline, anti-discriminatory and anti-oppressive practice, and service user perspectives, plus academic writing for social work. An Introduction to the Social Sciences sequence will introduce students to some key areas, and concepts of the social science disciplines as it applies to social work. Research mindedness including research methods in social work will also be taught in year 1 in the Community Needs and Services module.

The Professional Development for Practice component of the curriculum in year one will provide relevant learning opportunities to be able to assess students' attitudes to service users and carers, motivation for, and understanding of, social work, as well as students' future learning needs. Practice learning is viewed as a complex and intellectually skillful task and learning opportunities available in practice and college settings should be fully integrated. The Practice Curriculum will consist of a number of College-based workshops, seminars, skills laboratories and agency-based practice learning over the three years of the programme.

Revised Practice Learning Requirements

Thirty days development of practice skills teaching have been built in year one, two and three of the programme. The 30-days development of practice skills teaching will be covered in the following modules

Year 1

SW51023B Professional Development for Practice

Year 2

SW52021A Assessment in Social Work

SW52022B Social Work Skills and Methods

Year 3

SW53009B Social Work Skills and Methods including Specialist Area of Practice

Readiness for Direct Practice

Prior to going on their first placement you must demonstrate readiness for direct practice: basic communication skills, ability to engage with users, capacity to work as a member of an organisation, demonstrate basic social work values, knowledge and skills. The assessment of Readiness for Direct Practice forms part of the assessment of the first year course, SW51023B Professional Development for Practice.

You will not be permitted to progress to the first placement, unless you demonstrated level 3 of the Professional Capabilities Framework (PCF) domain, for readiness for direct practice.

Year 2 of the degree enables the development and application of knowledge, skills and values in practice. The curriculum will consist of lectures, seminars, workshops, skills laboratories and study units on Human Growth and Development, and Life Span Development including infant/child observations; Assessment in Social Work, Social Work Skills and Methods, and Law and the Organisational Context of Social Work. You will also undertake 70 days practice-based learning in a statutory, voluntary sector or independent setting.

The third year of the degree allows for the consolidation of knowledge, skills and values for practice. The curriculum will consist of lectures, workshops, groupwork and study units. You will cover the following topics: Law and the Organisational Context of Social Work, including statutory duties, powers and legal principles; and Social Work Skills and Methods 2 including specialist area of practice either working with adults or children and families in need. Students on the adult pathway will have study units on Introduction to Adults Social Care and Risk Assessment and Mental Health. Students on the children and families pathway will have study units on Investigation and Assessment in Child Protection and Introduction to Care Planning. The content of the study units is subject to revision in line with the changing needs of social work.

In year 3 of the you will undertake 100 days of practice learning involving direct practice in an agency-based placement involving legal or statutory interventions. Practice learning in the third year allows you to build on the skills acquired in the first placement to transfer to another setting or with another user group and to demonstrate the requirements of the Professional Capabilities Framework at the end of the final placement.

ICT competency

The programme is fully committed to ensuring that students are able to satisfy the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Social Work Subject Benchmark Statement (2019) relating to ICT (5.18 and 6.5). Students will therefore be required to demonstrate their ability to use ICT effectively for presentations, professional communications, data storage and retrieval and

information searching. Students are also required to submit all documents for assessment using the e-learning platform.

Guidance will be given to students on use of ICT with service users (e.g. confidentiality issues, use of mobile telephones and social networking) as part of the 'preparation for practice' teaching, prior to the first placement. Students will demonstrate skills in information collection, recording and data management whilst in their assessed practice placement.

Academic year of study 1

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Introduction to Social Work, Community Development, and Youth Work	CU51050B	15	4	Compulsory (Non-compensatable)	1
Group Work	CU51045B	15	4	Compulsory (Non-compensatable)	1
Introduction to Applied Social Science Research	CU51049B	15	4	Compulsory (Non-compensatable)	1
Professional Development for Practice	SW51023C	30	4	Compulsory (Non-compensatable)	1 - 2
Foundation to Social Work	SW51020B	15	4	Compulsory (Non-compensatable)	2
Introduction to Social Science	CU51048C	15	4	Compulsory (Non-compensatable)	2
Race, Racism, and Professional Practice	CU51047A	15	4	Compulsory (Non-compensatable)	2

Academic year of study 2

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Social Work Skills and Methods I	SW52022B	30	5	Compulsory (Non-compensatable)	1
Introduction to Law and Social Work	SW52029A	15	5	Compulsory (Non-compensatable)	1
Applied Social Research Methods	CU52049B	15	5	Compulsory (Non-compensatable)	1
Theories of Individual Development	SW52030A	15	5	Compulsory (Non-compensatable)	1
Theory, Policy, and Practice	CU52045A	15	5	Compulsory (Non-compensatable)	1

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Social Work 70-day Placement and Practice Integration	SW52023A	30	5	Compulsory (Non-compensatable)	2-3

Academic year of study 3

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Social Work Skills and Methods II	SW53009B	30	6	Compulsory (Non-compensatable)	1
Social Justice and Social Work	SW53034A	30	6	Compulsory (Non-compensatable)	1
Social Work 100-day Placement and Practice Integration	SW53011B	60	6	Compulsory (Non-compensatable)	1-3

Academic support

Support for learning and wellbeing is provided in a number of ways by departments and College support services who work collaboratively to ensure students get the right help to reach their best potential both academically and personally.

All students are allocated a Personal Tutor (one in each department for joint programmes) who has overall responsibility for their individual progress and welfare. Personal Tutors meet with their student at least twice a year either face-to-face, as part of a group and/or electronically. The first meeting normally takes place within the first few weeks of the autumn term. Personal Tutors are also available to students throughout the year of study. These meetings aim to discuss progress on modules, discussion of the academic discipline and reports from previous years if available (for continuing students). This provides an opportunity for progress, attendance and assessment marks to be reviewed and an informed discussion to take place about how to strengthen individual learning and success.

All students are also allocated a Senior Tutor to enable them to speak to an experienced academic member of staff about any issues which are negatively impacting their academic study and which are beyond the normal scope of issues handled by Programme Convenors and Personal Tutors.

Students are provided with information about learning resources, the Library and information available on Learn.gold (VLE) so that they have access to department/programme handbooks, programme information and support related information and guidance.

Taught sessions and lectures provide overviews of themes, which students are encouraged to complement with intensive reading for presentation and discussion with peers at seminars. Assessments build on lectures and seminars so students are expected to attend all taught sessions to build knowledge and their own understanding of their chosen discipline.

All assessed work is accompanied by some form of feedback to ensure that students' work is on the right track. It may come in a variety of forms ranging from written comments on a marked essay to oral and written feedback on developing projects and practice as they attend workshops.

Students may be referred to specialist student services by department staff or they may access support services independently. Information about support services is provided on the Goldsmiths website and for new students through new starter information and induction/Welcome Week. Any support recommendations that are made are agreed with the student and communicated to the department so that adjustments to learning and teaching are able to be implemented at a department level and students can be reassured that arrangements are in place. Opportunities are provided for students to review their support arrangements should their circumstances change. The Disability and Wellbeing Services maintain caseloads of students and provide on-going support.

The Careers Service provides central support for skills enhancement, running The Gold Award scheme and other co-curricular activities that are accredited via the Higher Education Achievement Report (HEAR).

The Academic Skills Centre works with academic departments offering bespoke academic literacy sessions. It also provides a programme of academic skills workshops and one-to-one provision for students throughout the year.

Links with employers, placement opportunities and career prospects

The degree is a professional entry qualification to be a social worker. The degree has been mapped against the BASW *Professional Capabilities Framework* (PCF) and the [Professional Standards – Social workers in England, \(SWE, 2021\)](#). By the end of the programme, providing students have met the programme outcomes listed, students who successfully pass the programme will have met the standards set out by Social Work England and in the *Professional Capabilities Framework*, and will be eligible to apply to Social Work England for registration as a social worker. To date, all graduates who successfully complete the degree, and who wish to, go on to find employment in the statutory, voluntary, and independent sectors of social work and social care.

Placement opportunities

The programme offers two placement opportunities (a total of 170 days).

Within practice placements you will learn to work creatively and effectively with complex individual and family situations. You will also learn to collect relevant information and ensure that analysis and decision-making in relation to service users is evidence based. You will benefit from working in an interdisciplinary environment and through multi-agency work.

The three years of the programme are split into three main phases of practice progression, including Readiness for Direct Practice, First Placement, Second Placement. During the first part of the first year of studies, you are invited to evidence your preparedness for practice while engaging with different learning material from first year modules, group exercises, an assessed role play exercise with people with lived experience, as well as evidence of developing understanding of the role of a social worker. If these criteria are met, you will progress to the first placement, where you will meet the respective requirements set out by the Professional Capabilities Framework (PCF) domains facilitated by the British Association of Social Workers (BASW) and the professional standards stipulated by Social Work England, the current social work regulator in England. Similarly, and if you meet practice criteria in the first placement, you progress to the second and final placement, where you need to meet standards suggesting your preparedness for registration as a Newly Qualified Social Worker (NQSW).

During the second year of studies, you will be matched with an agency providing social work services, either in the public, private or third sector. This opportunity is for 70 days and invites you to receive support from a small team dedicated to your learning and progress. The team includes an academic tutor, a practice educator, and at times a practice supervisor.

Similarly, during the third year of studies, you are matched with a different agency and service for an opportunity of a 100-day placement, with similar support systems in place. During those periods, you will be provided with interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary learning opportunities which meet the learning outcomes of the programme (see programme specifications).

Furthermore, before each placement, you will be required to complete a placement profile which details your experience, strengths and learning needs. The personal tutor plays a key role in this process. The placement profile gives you the opportunity to express your interests and preferences. They also discuss any additional needs that should be taken into account during the placement. The document helps to match students with relevant placement opportunities that can meet the student's identified learning needs. The first

placement aims to complement your experience and strengths. The final placement reflects the pathway chosen by you and the areas of social work you wish to practice in.

Your learning journey on placement is supported through a specific learning agreement. It is the responsibility of the Practice Educator to ensure that a Practice Learning Agreement is in place within four weeks of the placement starting. All students must have a practice learning agreement in place. You will have responsibility for identifying your learning needs and Practice Educators have responsibility for identifying the learning opportunities by which those needs will be met.

One of the key aims of the programme is to help you develop your information and communication technology skills. As such, you will learn to use a range of information technology and transfer this skill to practice. While on placement you are also required to use different social work platforms for information recording and sharing.

It should be noted that many of the placement providers have adopted a hybrid model of working. Virtual three-way placement meetings have also been used and are increasingly a preferred option for placement agencies and students.

Employability and potential career opportunities

As a vocational programme which prepares you for social work, the BA in Social Work provides you with the range of skills, particularly within practice placements where they learn to work creatively and effectively with complex individual and family situations. You will also learn to collect relevant information and ensure that analysis and decision-making in relation to service users is evidence based.

The programme has a strong element of employability in its structure. This is demonstrated through the teaching of social work approaches that is embedded in evidence-based practice, the emphasis on experiential learning and inclusion of practical skills. In addition, students have the opportunity to receive support and supervision from a qualified social worker through the practice placement modules.

The programme is professionally qualifying and you will graduate ready for employment in professional practice. Our students have been successful in a range of areas, from postgraduate research to employment in local authority children's services departments, adult services departments, independent sector and voluntary sector agencies. Many of our students are offered a job while completing their final placement.

In relation to showcasing talents, there are various elements across the programme which provide students with the opportunity to present and share their knowledge, skills and

values. The most prominent opportunity to showcase talent is during the two practice placements, where you will work with a wide range of professionals, including social workers, police officers, teachers, health professionals etc. In order to meet one of the Professional Capabilities you have to contribute to the development of others. This often means that you are asked to present your learning to others. Throughout the programme you will be required to deliver presentations to Teaching Consultants, Practice Educators, managers. Other experiential modules, such as the skills labs will provide you with an opportunity to share your ongoing experience in class as well as your intervention and reflective skills.

In relation to collaborative practice, teaching on the BA in Social Work is interactive and cooperative. In most modules you will take part in small group discussion or projects, looking at various issues. You will work together with your colleagues to undertake research, answer questions, role play and deliver a presentation. You will work in collaboration with a Teaching Consultant and an academic. During practice placement modules, you will work within a multi-agency and interdisciplinary context. You will be part of a team of practitioners, undertake duty work, attend meetings, present to multi-agency audiences.

The programme incorporates extensive workplace learning and prepares students fully for professional employment.

Strengthening our employability potential even further, we have established specifically tailored career events. We work closely with Careers Service to organise two careering ahead event. These are well attended by employers who are very interested in coming to speak to our students and share information on the job opportunities they offer. The second event aims to help students prepare for job applications and interview. Previous students are invited to share their experiences and advice on how to manage the first year in employment. The most recent available data show the programme benefits from an excellent employment rate (close to 100%).

Programme-specific requirements

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all sessions prescribed for their programme. Registers are maintained and checked for prescribed sessions delivered by Goldsmiths (e.g. seminars, tutorials etc), and reviewed in line with SWE requirements. It is the responsibility of students to attend and to notify any unavoidable absences. The social work programme is a professional training programme and students are required to attend punctually for all parts

and satisfactorily complete all elements of it. No parts of the University based or placement based curriculum are optional.

Students are responsible for reporting any absences, and the reasons for this to the College in accordance with the [Student Attendance Policy](#). Students whose attendance falls below 80% in any part of the programme, including each module, may result in the matter being referred to the Academic Progress Committee, the College's Fitness to Study process or Fitness to Practice process. The College reserves the authority to take action in relation to unsatisfactory attendance, up to and including, withdrawal from Goldsmiths.

The University is under an obligation to inform sponsors including the NHS Business Authority if you are absent for more than 28 days. Students who absent themselves totally for more than four weeks from their programme and have not supplied a medical certificate or other evidence acceptable to Goldsmiths to cover such an absence shall be deemed to have withdrawn from the University.

Any days missed while on placement, even due to unavoidable reasons, have to be made up. While on placement, students will be treated as student social workers and are subject to the agency's usual procedures and standards of conduct.

Progression

A student will not be permitted to proceed to the second year of the degree unless he/she has passed all four modules, one of which is the Professional Development for Practice (SW51023B) sequence incorporating the assessment of Readiness for Direct Practice.

In order to pass Social Work Practice Learning 1 (SW52023B), a student must pass the 70-day Social Work Practice Learning Placement including passing the Critical Self Evaluation assignment (as an academic assignment and for the Practice Assessment Panel). The assessment for Social Work Practice Learning 1 comprises two elements: the practice placement and a Practice Portfolio (which includes the Critical Self Evaluation). A student must pass both the practice element (the practice placement) and the academic element (the Practice Portfolio) in order to pass Social Work Practice Learning 1

A student will not be permitted to proceed to the third year of the degree unless he/she has passed a minimum of three assignments, one of which must be Social Work Practice Learning 1 (SW52023B).

In order to pass Social Work Practice Learning 2 (SW53011B), a student must pass the 100-day Social Work Practice Learning Placement including passing the Critical Self Evaluation assignment (as an academic assignment and for the Practice Assessment Panel). The assessment for Social Work Practice Learning 2 comprises 2 elements: the

practice placement and a Practice Portfolio (which includes the Critical Self Evaluation). A student must pass both the practice element (the practice placement) and the academic element (the Practice Portfolio) in order to pass Social Work Practice Learning 2.

In order to be eligible for the award of the degree, students must successfully complete all elements of the programme, including both the 70-day and the 100-day Social Work Practice Learning (SW52023B and SW53011B).

A Practice Assessment Panel carries out the initial assessment of the Assessed Practice and makes recommendations to the Sub- Board of Examiners. Students failing a placement will only be permitted to retake at the discretion of the Programme Assessment Board.

Students failing a placement will only be permitted to retake at the discretion of the Programme Assessment Board.

To be awarded the BA Social Work a student is expected to

- a) have attended 80% of timetabled classes (including timetabled group work classes) for each college-based module (please see section below on Attendance).
- b) attend all placement days
- c) passed all assessment at 40% or above

In exceptional circumstances it may be necessary to dismiss students from the BA in Social Work on the grounds of their unsuitability for social work, following the Goldsmiths Suitability for Social Work Policy. The grounds for this are as follows:

The student's behaviour:

- Is confirmed to be damaging or dangerous to other people who use services, other students or programme providers;
- Creates an unacceptable risk to themselves or others;
- contravenes the professional standards or the policies and procedures of the course or placement provider.

If this behaviour occurs while on placement the following applies:

- In the case of a student enrolled on a programme of study which leads to an entitlement to practice as a member of a profession, conduct which might call into question his / her suitability to practice that profession.

Students who have successfully completed all elements of the first year of the programme (120 credits) may elect to exit the programme at this point with the award of a Certificate of Higher Education in Applied Social Studies.

Students who have successfully completed all elements of the first and second year of the programme (240 credits) may elect to exit the programme at this point with the award of a Diploma of Higher Education in Applied Social Studies.

Where a student is considered for an aegrotat award under the University Regulations, students should note that aegrotat awards do not confer eligibility to apply to the Register maintained by the regulatory body for social work.

Interim exit awards

Some programmes incorporate interim exit points of Certificate of Higher Education and/or Diploma of Higher Education, which may be awarded on the successful completion of modules to the value of 120 credits at level 4 or 240 credits (120 of which at level 5) respectively. The awards are made without classification.

When these awards are incorporated within the programme, the relevant learning outcomes and module requirements will be set out within the “What you will be expected to achieve” section above.

The above information is intended as a guide, with more detailed information available in the [Goldsmiths Academic Manual](#).

Tuition fee costs

Information on tuition fee costs is available at: <https://www.gold.ac.uk/students/fee-support/>

Specific programme costs

You will be expected to pay travel costs getting to/from Goldsmiths and your practice placements. If you are nominated to receive an [NHS Social Work Bursary](#) award, the social work bursary includes a contribution towards your placement travel costs. If your placement provider also contributes towards your travel costs, this will not affect your bursary entitlement. During your academic programme at Goldsmiths, there may be social work field visits in the London area, for which you would be expected to pay travel costs.