

Programme Specification

BA (Hons) Community & Social Care: Policy and Practice

This Programme Specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

Sources of information on the programme can be found in Section 17

1. Awarding Institution / Body	University of Central Lancashire
2. Teaching Institution	University of Central Lancashire Runshaw College
3. University Department/Centre	School of Social Work
4. External Accreditation	University of Central Lancashire
5. Title of Final Award	BA (Hons) Community and Social Care: Policy and Practice
6. Modes of Attendance offered	Part time and full time
7. UCAS Code	L590
8. Relevant Subject Benchmarking Group(s)	Social Policy and Administration
9. Other external influences	Credit Qualifying Framework (QCF)
10. Date of production/revision of this form	June 2012
11. Aims of the Programme	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To enable students to critically analyse the contribution of a range of social, behavioural and political concepts and apply to community and social care policy and practice• To enable students to develop knowledge, personal skills and personal interests in areas relevant to community and social care policy and practice• To enable students to develop a critical understanding of policy and practice, through the provision of a range of challenging modules and learning experiences, relevant to the future needs of students considering employment or further study in the areas of community and social care practice• To develop skills of research analysis, reflection and evaluation and apply these skills in community practice and service development• To foster through teaching and learning opportunities and assessment, the ability to communicate effectively both orally and in written work	

- To encourage personal responsibility for the direction and management of learning, and career development, with the sharing of knowledge and skills in the learning process
- To provide students with the opportunity to study particular areas and themes in community practice in depth
- To develop students' capacity to undertake independent enquiry into aspects of community practice
- To enable students to develop in depth knowledge, skills and personal development for work in a range of careers in community development, social care and other cognate social welfare fields

12. Learning Outcomes, Teaching, Learning and Assessment Methods

A. Knowledge and Understanding

Students will be able to:

- A1. Identify, outline and recognise the interests and forces that have shaped and developed welfare provision and social policy in the UK
- A2. Identify and explain the contemporary structures, activities and organisations in the provision of welfare and community services, within a mixed economy of service delivery
- A3. Identify, interpret and compare welfare management and social policy in relation to community service delivery in the UK and internationally
- A4. Recognise and identify key concepts in understanding human and social needs in the UK and internationally
- A5. Recognise diversity and identify key concepts to understand issues of power, oppression and social justice
- A6. Identify and explain empowerment and other key concepts in community practice to address human and social need
- A7. Recognise and outline research methods and their application in the operation of welfare service provision

Teaching and Learning Methods

A range of teaching and learning methods are used to enable students to acquire and apply the knowledge, awareness and skills expressed in the course and module learning outcomes. Lectures, supported by paper-based, audio-visual and web-based materials, are used to provide essential information, analysis of theories, concepts and methods, guidance for further work and a framework and stimulus for learning. Lectures also involve students in learning through the provision of opportunities for questioning, participation and interaction.

Seminars enable students to evaluate, integrate and apply knowledge, theories and concepts to historical and current policies and practice, discuss issues and arguments and share ideas and experience in an atmosphere of constructive dialogue and mutual respect. Group activities, workshops, discussions and interactions facilitate the development of interpersonal skills and peer support and learning, and are used to stimulate discussion, application and sharing of information, ideas, values and experience.

Throughout the programme students will engage in structured work experience. These opportunities aim to 'embed' issues of social theory, welfare provision and policy into day to day practice, and enable students to gain valuable experience in a work based setting, extend their employability and gain access to potential employers.

A system of one-to-one tutorials operates to provide pastoral and academic support. Students will also have regular feedback and individual support for the dissertations and preparation for employment.

As part of their study of comparative social welfare, students are offered the opportunity to participate in the Erasmus International Student Exchange Programme.

Assessment methods

Throughout the programme there is a combination of formative and summative assessments. Summative assessment is through a combination of 'standard' essays, extended essays and short pieces of assessed coursework; individual and group presentations; group reports; dissertation. Exams – seen and unseen are also integrated into various modules.

Reflective coursework is an integral part of the structured work experience and the broader programme curriculum. This is used to assess the links students' make between social theory and the course programme, practice, enhanced professional development and employability

B. Subject-specific skills

Students will be able to:

- B1. Locate and apply values of community development, social justice and strengths based approaches to community practice
- B2. Synthesise and select from a range of theories relevant to social welfare, to support and develop social interventions and recommendations for policy and action
- B3. Locate and utilise material and information appropriate for the analysis of community practice
- B4. Evaluate community provision of services and interventions using research and data collection.
- B5. Analyse particular policy practice problems and issues, using appropriate social science theories and concepts
- B6 Plan, undertake and report on a piece of empirical research of their own choosing
- B7. Identify and apply communication, interpersonal interaction theory and skills, including conflict resolution.

Teaching and Learning Methods

Case studies, primary source analysis and problem solving exercises are used to facilitate the development and application of skills and knowledge. Individual independent inquiry and analysis, with tutorial support, voluntary/work experience, guided reading and supervision, including preparation for assignments, seminars, projects and dissertations enable students to develop and apply academic knowledge, skills and methodologies, and personal study, organisational and problem solving skills. Personal and skills development is integrated into the core modules supported by web-based materials and timetabled tutorials. Structured work experience further embeds the application of skills and knowledge with application and analysis in a practice setting.

Assessment methods

A range of assessment methods are used to extend and demonstrate students' learning, including essays, critiques, reports, exercises, research plans, case studies, portfolios, workbooks, projects, individual and group oral presentations.

C. Thinking Skills

Students will be able to:

- C1. Obtain, summarise and synthesise material from a range of sources to analyse issues in social policy and practice
- C2. Assess the merits of competing explanations and interpretations of social questions, issues and problems, using appropriate conceptual and theoretical perspectives and relevant evidence
- C3. Produce reasoned arguments, justify conclusions and recommendations by reference to appropriate analytical frameworks and supporting evidence
- C4. Plan, conduct and report on a programme of original social policy and/ or community practice research
- C5. Appreciate the distinction between 'social theory in the books' and 'social theory on the streets' in creative and critical ways, thus enhancing the relationship between 'academic' and 'practical' worlds of collaborative social provision research

Teaching and Learning Methods

Case studies, primary source analysis and problem solving exercises are used to facilitate the development and application of skills and knowledge. Individual independent inquiry and analysis, with tutorial support, guided reading and supervision, including preparation for assignments, seminars, projects and dissertations enable students to develop and apply academic knowledge, skills and methodologies, and personal study, organisational and problem solving skills. Personal and skills development is integrated into the core modules, supported by web-based materials and timetabled group tutorials. These modules offer students the opportunity of work or research

experience, which can be used for personal development.

Assessment methods

Throughout the programme there combination of formative feedback and summative assessment. Formative assessment takes the form of feedback on student presentations and group project work. Summative assessment is through a combination of 'standard' essays, extended essays and short pieces of assessed coursework; individual and group presentations; group reports; and a final year dissertation

D. Other skills relevant to employability and personal development

Students will be able to:

- D1. Develop the ability to communicate ideas in a variety of written formats
- D2. Develop the ability to communicate ideas and arguments orally in the context of formal presentations
- D3. Develop the ability to identify select and draw upon a range of printed, electronic and other source material as a means to the development and presentation of arguments and evidence
- D4. Develop the ability to work with others in the investigation of problems, and in the presentation of arguments and evidence
- D5. Develop the ability to set goals, plan a work programme and manage time effectively
- D6. Acquire some of the necessary personal and practical skills associated with successful work experience in a welfare agency setting (this applies to students who choose and are able to undertake the relevant work experience options)
- D7. Develop the initiative and abilities needed to study and produce academic work in an international environment
- D8. Carry out and appraise research

Teaching and Learning Methods

Case studies, primary source analysis and problem solving exercises are used to facilitate the development and application of skills and knowledge. Individual independent inquiry and analysis, with tutorial support, work/voluntary experience, participation in research projects, guided reading and supervision, including preparation for assignments, seminars, projects and dissertations enable students to develop and apply academic knowledge, skills and methodologies, and personal study, organisational and problem solving skills. Personal and skills development is integrated into the core modules supported by web-based materials and timetabled tutorials.

Assessment methods

Throughout the programme there is a combination of formative and summative assessment. Formative feedback takes the form of feedback on student presentations, group project work and assignments. Summative assessment is through a combination of 'standard' essays, extended essays and short pieces of assessed coursework; individual and group presentations; group reports; dissertation

13. Programme Structures				14. Awards and Credits
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit rating	
Level 6		Compulsory Modules		Bachelor Honours Degree Requires 360 credits including a minimum of 240 at levels 4 and 5 and a minimum of 100 at level 6, HE Diploma requires 240 credits including a minimum of 100 at Level 5.
	SW3803	Dissertation or	20	
	SW3813	Dissertation (Double Module) or	40	
	SW3811	Community Research Project	40	
	SW3800	Applied Community Practice: Research and Development	20	
	SW3802	Critical Social Policy <i>Students are also required to take two or three of the following</i>		

		<i>optional modules:</i>		
	SW3105	Disability Studies	20	
	SW3017	Crime and Society	20	
	SW3720	Social Enterprise and Community Management	20	
	SW3721	Poverty, Homelessness and Supported Housing	20	
	SW3722	Working with Adults with Learning Disabilities	20	
	SW3726	Youth Matters	20	
	SW3728	Gender Issues	20	
	SW3100	Mental Health and Social Care	20	
	SW3012	Racism and Social Welfare	20	
	SW3723	Social Theory: textual Analysis	20	
	SW3739	Student Initiated Module	20	
Level 5		Compulsory Modules		HE Diploma Requires 240 credits including a minimum of 6 at Level 5
	SW2800	Working in Community Practice: Research and Development	20	
	SW2801	Social Care: Theory and Practice	20	
	SW2803	Power, Oppression and Society	20	
	SW2802	Management, Markets and Delivering Welfare	20	
	SW2041	Comparative Social Welfare	20	
		<i>Students are also required to take one of the following optional modules:</i>		
	SW2720	Health, Ageing and Social Care	20	
	SW2721	Introduction to Social Pedagogy	20	
	SW2005	Drugs and Society	20	
	SW2601	Safeguarding Children and Young People	20	
	SW2018	'Race', Racism and Ethnicity	20	
	SW2729	Student Initiated Module	20	
	SW2728	International Social Policy: Studying Abroad	20	
Level 4		Compulsory Modules		HE Certificate Requires 120 credits
	SW1800	Introduction to Community Practice: Research and Development	20	
	SW1801	Society in Focus: A Sociological Understanding	20	
	SW1802	Communication and Social Media Skills in Social Care	20	
	SW1804	Contextualising Welfare 1: The Development of British Social Policy	20	
	SW1805	Contextualising Welfare 2:	20	

		Theories, Concepts and Issues <i>Students are also required to take one of the following optional modules or an elective:</i>		
	SW1601	Development Across the Life Span	20	
	SW1725	Asset Based Ingrated Learning	20	
	SW1729	Student Initiated Module	20	

15. Personal Development Planning

Personal Development Planning (PDP) is intended to provide a process by which students can reflect on their learning and plan for their personal and career development. The primary objective of PDP is to improve each student's capacity to understand what and how they are learning, and to review, plan and take responsibility for their own learning with links to employability. The programme supports this initiative and PDP is embedded within the structured work experience modules. The programme has identified multiple learning outcomes and assessment strategies which meets the requirements Uclan's employability essential framework.

16. Admissions criteria

ADMISSION CRITERIA

The University's minimum standard entry requirements for degree level study is a 12 unit profile, made up from one of the following:

At least two A2 level subjects including:

One A2 level subject plus one single award Advanced VCE

One double or two single award(s) Advanced VCE

Other acceptable qualifications include:

Scottish Certificate of Education Higher Grade

Irish Leaving Certificate Higher Grade

International Baccalaureate

BTEC National/ Higher National

Kite marked Access Course

Applications from individuals with non-standard qualifications, relevant work or life experience and who can demonstrate the ability to cope with and benefit from degree level studies are welcome. If you have not studied recently you may need to undertake an Access programme first. For details of those offered by the University please contact Enquiry Management, tel. 01772 892400.

Top up entry is encouraged into Year 3 of the degree from a variety of qualifications. We have direct progression onto the degree in Community and Social Care: Policy and Practice from Foundation Degree routes including: Health and Social Care, at Burnley, Carlise, Hugh Baird, St Mary's Blackburn, Wigan and Leigh colleges and Uclan

17. Key sources of information about the programme

- School of Social Work's Web Pages

