

BA (Hons) Social Care Programme Specification

<https://www.bradford.ac.uk/social-sciences/social-work/>

Academic year:	2022/23
Degree awarding body:	The University of Bradford
Target degree award:	Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Social Care [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) level 6]
Interim awards:	Ordinary Degree of Bachelor of Arts [FHEQ Level 6]; Diploma of Higher Education [FHEQ Level 5]; Certificate of Higher Education [FHEQ Level 4]
Programme entry:	No direct admission
Programme duration:	3 years full-time

Please note: This programme specification has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Any change which impacts the terms and conditions of an applicant's offer will be communicated to them. Upon commencement of the programme, students will receive further detail about their course and any minor changes will be discussed and/or communicated at this point.

Minor Modification Schedule

1. December 2020: Specification made accessible
 2. April 2021: Specification reformatted and links updated
 3. June 2021: Annual changes for 2021 academic year
 4. May 2022: Annual changes for 2022 academic year
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Introduction

There is no direct entry to this programme. BA (Hons) Social Care is designed as an "exit route" for BA Social Work students who:

- a) have passed Stage 1 but have failed a Stage 2 placement, or
- b) have passed Stage 2 but have failed the Stage 3 placement, or
- c) at some point during Stage 2 or Stage 3 decide or are required to withdraw from the Social Work course.

Such students may transfer to the Social Care BA to complete a degree. The programme is therefore only open to students who have completed Stage 1 of BA (Hons) Social Work.

Programme Aims

The programme is intended to:

- A1. Provide students with an understanding of Social Care at a theoretical level.

- A2. Provide a supportive, structured environment in which students are encouraged to develop independent learning skills.
- A3. Develop subject knowledge and understanding and provide education in discipline skills to enable graduates to pursue further study or careers in areas where social sciences skills are required or desirable.
- A4. Develop personal transferable skills to enable graduates to pursue further study or graduate-level employment.

Programme Learning Outcomes

To be eligible for the FHEQ Level 4 Certificate of Higher Education award, students will be able to:

- 1. Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge and an understanding of factors that shape identity, are able to take into account and challenge discrimination and oppression on a personal and institutional level.
- 2. Identify and apply in practice the principles of social justice, inclusion and equality and how legislation and guidance serves to advance or constrain people's rights.
- 3. Apply critical reflection and analysis to inform and provide a rationale for professional decision-making by being able to identify, distinguish, evaluate and integrate multiple sources of knowledge and evidence.

Additionally, to be eligible for the FHEQ Level 5 Diploma of Higher Education award, students will be able to:

- 4. Demonstrate awareness of the need for professionals to have a commitment by taking responsibility for their own conduct, safe practice and learning as a qualified social care worker; be able to reflect on the importance of being able to manage their time and workload effectively with support through supervision and maintain professional integrity in their work.
- 5. Critically reflect on social care values and principles and with guidance recognise, reflect on and work with competing values and ethical dilemmas; work in partnership with service users taking into account their needs, views and rights within relevant legislation.

Additionally, to be eligible for the FHEQ Level 6 Ordinary Degree award of Bachelor, students will be able to:

- 6. Apply critical reflection of social care skills and methods in response to the diverse physical, psychological, social, cultural and spiritual needs of people using critical evaluation of the available evidence. This will facilitate a reflective and creative approach encompassing legal and policy frameworks, human growth and development, research and professional judgment.
- 7. Apply critical reflection of theory and approaches in the use of initiative, judgement and authority to communicate, assess, engage and intervene with individuals, families and communities to promote independence, provide support and prevent harm, neglect and abuse; reflect on the need to share and communicate verbal and written information appropriately and within relevant timescales.

8. Engage with, inform and adapt to changing economic, social, political and organisational contexts; critically reflect on multi-agency and inter-professional partnerships and settings within diverse organisations and the development of appropriate culturally sensitive services and organisations.

Additionally, to be eligible for the FHEQ Level 6 Honours Degree award of Bachelor, students will be able to:

9. Apply critical reflection of social care skills and methods in response to the diverse physical, psychological, social, cultural and spiritual needs of people using critical evaluation of the available evidence. This will facilitate a reflective and creative approach encompassing legal and policy frameworks, human growth and development, research and professional judgment.
10. Apply critical reflection of theory and approaches in the use of initiative, judgement and authority to communicate, assess, engage and intervene with individuals, families and communities to promote independence, provide support and prevent harm, neglect and abuse; reflect on the need to share and communicate verbal and written information appropriately and within relevant timescales.
11. Engage with, inform and adapt to changing economic, social, political and organisational contexts; critically reflect on multi-agency and inter-professional partnerships and settings within diverse organisations and the development of appropriate culturally sensitive services and organisations.
12. Critically reflect on continued professional learning and development of others through supervision, mentoring, assessing, research, teaching, leadership and management.
13. Demonstrate awareness of the need for professionals to have a commitment by taking responsibility for their own conduct, safe practice and learning as a qualified social care worker.

Curriculum

Students on BA Social Work or BA Social Care study 120 credits in each Stage of the programme, made up of taught modular units that are timetabled during the Academic Year of September-May and placements. Modules are typically scheduled during the first half of the Academic Year, Semester 1, or the second half, Semester 2, with some linked over both Semesters. Students expect to study around 60 credits during each Semester.

A typical Social Care curriculum is shown in the following tables. Please note: The modules shown on a graduate's transcript will vary depending on the individual point at which they transferred to the BA (Hons) Social Care programme. The curriculum may also vary due to availability and the University's programme approval, monitoring and review process.

Stage 1 provides students with beginning knowledge and understanding of the context of social care. Their academic work dovetails with this and provides: an understanding of historical perspectives and contemporary issues within social work; social policy underpinning social work practice; values and ethics; communication skills; the perspectives of service users in assessment, planning, intervention and evaluation. Students also learn about communication and interviewing skills.

Stage 1 Modules (FHEQ Level 4) same as BA Social Work

Study Period	Code	Title	Credit	Level
Academic Year	SOW4009-B	Readiness for Social Work Practice	20	FHEQ 4
Semester 1	SOW4001-B	Introduction to Social Work	20	FHEQ 4
Semester 1	SOW4006-B	Academic Personal and Professional Development	20	FHEQ 4
Semester 1	SOW4005-B	Communication Skills: Children and Adults	20	FHEQ 4
Semester 2	SOW4019-B	Co-production and Inclusive Practice	20	FHEQ 4
Semester 2	SOW4002-B	Social Work Values and Ethics	20	FHEQ 4

Stage 2 builds upon Stage 1 and focuses upon the development of specialist skills with particular groups of users of services. Students will learn about the law and implications for practice; mental distress, childcare, disability and work with older people, and level two social work theories, models and methods of working with individuals, families and carers.

Stage 2 Modules (FHEQ Level 5) if transferred after Stage 1

Study Period	Code	Title	Credit	Level
1 Core	SOW5001-B	Child and Family Social Work	20	FHEQ 5
1 Core	SOW5002-B	Law	20	FHEQ 5
1 Core	SOW5004-B	Working with Adults	20	FHEQ 5
2 Core	SOW5010-B	Mental distress across the Life Course	20	FHEQ 5
2 Option	SOW5009-B	Learning from Practice	20	FHEQ 5
2 Option	SOW5015-B	Sociology of the family	20	FHEQ 5
2 Option	SOW5016-B	Working with Children in Educational Contexts	20	FHEQ 5

Stage 3 work emphasises the importance of autonomous learning, the acquisition of evidence-based practice skills and final preparation for paid employment. Student study focuses on: reflective practice; research and evaluation; theories of organisation; intergroup relations; specialist project work following from this, for example childcare, domestic violence, housing, mental health, disability, drug and substance abuse, poverty.

Stage 3 Modules (FHEQ Level 6) if transferred after Stage 2 or if placement failed

Study Period	Code	Title	Credit	Level
Year Core	SOW6003-D	Research methods for Social Workers	40	FHEQ 6
Year Option	SOW6012-B	Final Year Project	20	FHEQ 6
1 Core	SOW6008-B	Cultural and International Perspectives in Social Work	20	FHEQ 6
1 Core	SOW6014-B	Leadership and Management in Social Work	20	FHEQ 6
2 Option	SOW6010-B	Children, Disability and Inclusive Practice	20	FHEQ 6
2 Option	SAC6010-B	The Sociology of Education: Social Transitions and Inequalities	20	FHEQ 6

Achievable Awards

Social Care titled awards do not confer eligibility to register as a social worker with Social Work England or other UK professional bodies for social work.

Students who complete Stage 1 will be eligible to exit with the award of Certificate of Higher Education in Social Care if they have passed at least 120 credits and achieved the award learning outcomes.

Students who complete Stage 2 will be eligible to exit with the award of Diploma of Higher Education in Social Care if they have passed at least 240 credits and achieved the award learning outcomes.

Students will be eligible to exit with the award of Ordinary Degree of Bachelor in Social Care if they have passed at 120 credits in both Level 4 and 5 and 60 credits at level 6 and achieved the award learning outcomes.

Students who complete the programme will be eligible for the award of Honours Degree of Bachelor in Social Care if they have successfully completed at least 360 credits and achieved the award learning outcomes.

Students who complete Stage 3 of the Social Work programme will also be eligible for the award of Honours Degree of Bachelor in Social Care if, while not passing the Stage 3 Social Work placement elements, they have passed at least 360 credits and achieved the Social Care award learning outcomes.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

Our proven skills in teaching rest upon a commitment to clear learning outcomes, a structured system of progression, imaginative assessments and the provision of safe, stimulating learning environments. Our lecturers have a variety of specialist practice, academic and research skills as well as a commitment to providing high quality teaching and learning.

All assessments test skills in critical analysis and reflective practice in the integration of the practice and theory of social work. Assessment methods include essays; individual and group presentations and exercises; video and taped practice submissions; participation in 'virtual learning' exercises.

Assessment Regulations

This Programme conforms to the standard University Undergraduate Assessment Regulations which are available online: <https://www.bradford.ac.uk/regulations>

Admission Requirements

There is no direct entry to this programme.