

Nottingham Trent University Course Specification

Basic Course Information

1. Awarding Institution: **Nottingham Trent University**
2. School/Campus: **Social Sciences/City**
3. Final Award, Course Title and Modes of Study: **MA Social Work**
4. Normal Duration: **2 years Full time**
5. UCAS Code: **L508**

6. Overview and general educational aims of the course

Choosing to train as a social worker is a positive step towards a rewarding and challenging career. Social work can be both demanding and complex and requires skilled and knowledgeable professionals who have a strong belief in human rights and social justice. Social work is also rewarding because you are contributing to improving the lives of children, adults, families and communities. When you are training you need to feel that you are in safe hands where you will be supported to learn and to try out different ideas before you are given the responsibility of working alone.

Nottingham Trent University has a strong history and great expertise in educating social work students at qualifying and post-qualifying levels and we are proud to supply high calibre graduates for the jobs market. The MA Social Work is an intense and demanding course delivered over 2 years that provides you with a balanced academic and practice-based qualification that meets the professional standards of the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC). The course has been approved by the HCPC, which means that once you successfully complete the award you will be eligible to apply to register with the regulating body. The College of Social Work (TCSW) are the professional body who have produced guidelines for the curriculum and value base which informs the learning that students undertake and the way in which teaching is delivered.

You will spend a substantial period of time on placements where you will acquire the knowledge and skills for working with a variety of service users and other professionals. These are substantial periods of time (80 working days in year one and 90 working days in year two) in which you operate as a student under the guidance of a qualified practice educator. NTU has a close working relationship with local employers and service-user organisations, not

only in the provision of high quality placements, but with partnership in all aspects of planning and assessment. Our current agency partners include Framework Housing Association, Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County Councils. We also collaborate with Derbyshire County Council and a number of independent agencies.

You must be assessed as being ready for direct practice before you embark on the first placement. In the university, you will learn about why people need to use social work services, how to deliver a professional service, the underpinning knowledge about child and adult development and the legislative background that enables social workers to assess and intervene. You will learn about different assessment frameworks and models of intervention and begin to examine evidence for why it might be better practice to follow one approach rather than another. The two placements provide the opportunity to put your theoretical knowledge into practice and start seeing what a difference social work can make to people's lives. At the end of the course you will be able to produce a specialist dissertation that demonstrates your research skills and expertise in a field of interest that furthers understanding of social work practice.

You will receive personal learning support from a Learning Adviser who will meet with you throughout the course. This person then provides a link to future employers especially those offering the Assessed and Supported Year of Employment.

The aims of the course are to:

1. enable you to study at master's level (QAA - level 7) to become qualified social workers, eligible for registration with the regulating body.
2. produce highly skilled, intellectually agile social work students who are ready to enter the complex and demanding field of social work.
3. produce thoughtful, compassionate, caring individuals who have a thorough understanding of the value base of social work but who are still able to challenge others and make difficult decisions in complex situations.
4. develop your leadership and management qualities in preparation for leading teams and collaborating with inter-professional services.

5. enhance your research mindedness, ability to practice from an evidence informed standpoint and ability to conduct robust research
6. your ability to create and deliver new evidence-based knowledge through extensive exploration and research into the social care sector.

According to the England, Wales and Northern Ireland (EWNI) generic credit level descriptors:

Learning accredited at level 7 will reflect the ability to: - *"display mastery of a complex and specialised area of knowledge and skills, employing advanced skills to conduct research, or advanced technical or professional activity, accepting accountability for related decision making, including use of supervision"* (QAA, 2008)

7. **Course outcomes**

Course outcomes describe what you should know and be able to do by the end of your course if you take advantage of the opportunities for learning that we provide.

Each outcome relates to the above QAA statement but also relates directly to The College of Social Work's (TCSW) *Professional Capabilities Framework (PCF)* and *Core Values*; as well as the Health Care Professions Council (HCPC) *Standards of Proficiency (SOP)*

Knowledge and understanding

By the end of the course you should be able to:

1. Apply and critically evaluate social work ethical principles and values and their implications for professional practice with a range of service user groups.
2. Apply and critically evaluate the knowledge base relating to the nature and causation of social problems that require a social work response
3. Apply and critique the application to social work of research, theory, and knowledge from its core disciplines
4. Critically analyse social and economic processes and their implications in a diverse society for people needing social work services and a professional social work response which challenges discrimination and oppression and leads to increased personal reflexive capacity
5. Demonstrate analytical knowledge of the range of theories and models for social work assessment and interventions, the methods derived

from them and their application with individuals and families who have complex needs.

6. Demonstrate analytical knowledge of the legal and policy contexts of social work practice and the ability to autonomously relate legislation and policy to practice situations.
7. Critically reflect upon the implications of being accountable to the professional body, the social work agency and service users, continually reflecting on your practice to enhance service delivery and your own professional standing
8. Construct a research dissertation demonstrating advanced research skills and the ability to synthesise, analyse and report on research findings which furthers knowledge in the field and promotes improved outcomes for service users.

Skills, qualities and attributes

By the end of the course you should be able to:

1. Demonstrate the ability to engage and communicate effectively (both orally and in writing) with professionals and service users responding to diverse needs and competing interests in a range of settings
2. Gather, synthesise, analyse and record relevant information to inform social work assessments and interventions
3. Demonstrate the ability to make complex evidence and value based decisions in order to intervene with individuals, families and communities to promote independence and prevent harm, neglect and abuse; and address discrimination and oppression
4. Present an evidence and value based professional opinion by communicating this clearly accurately and precisely to individuals and groups in a range of situations
5. Demonstrate an independent and reflective approach to the delivery and evaluation of social work services and the capacity to find creative and novel solutions to practice dilemmas
6. Demonstrate the ability to independently and collaboratively reflect on and learn from your social work practice resolving conflicts between personal and professional standards and values in order to establish and develop a professional evidence base
7. Demonstrate the ability to work to a consistently high-level within the changing contexts that shape social work practice including multi-

agency and inter-professional settings and incorporate new knowledge and practices.

8. Take responsibility for your own safety, wellbeing and continuous learning and development through independent study, supervision, mentoring and relevant training in order to contribute to the professional evidence base
9. Contribute to the development of the social work profession through leadership, supporting others' learning and generating new knowledge through research and evaluation.
10. To take an active lead with professional colleagues and service users in collective learning and practice situations as appropriate to social work tasks and your level of responsibility.

(NB. See Appendix 1 for Course Outcomes for exit awards in Social Welfare and Appendix 2 for Course Outcomes for PGDip in Social Work)

8. Teaching and Learning Methods

This is a demanding full time course run over two years. The course is modular which means subjects are studied and assessed separately. It is incremental so that over time the subjects fit together and your knowledge and skills build up as you progress.

You will be taught by academics with a background in social work or health, who are professionally qualified and maintain registration through continuous professional development. The course leader and module leaders are registered as professional social workers with the Health and Care Professions Council. We maintain our currency through the research needed for teaching; the involvement we have with placement agencies and with service users and carers; returning to practice; subscribing to professional journals and producing articles and books. Individual staff members may also sit on panels and boards, management committees and governing bodies as well as having involvement in other community activities.

Staff members also hold teaching qualifications because Nottingham Trent University recognises the value of lecturers being skilled in imparting knowledge and guiding your learning. Staff benefit from on-going peer observation and participate in regular learning and teaching events. All

academic staff hold or are working towards Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy.

The university-based teaching includes E-learning via the Nottingham Trent On-line Workspace (NOW). This web-based system is fully accessible and helps to organise your modules; gives easy access to reading resources from the library and stores all your regulatory handbooks and assessment tasks. Your personal timetable runs from the NOW webpage and there are fixed and plug-in computer points in every building, so you will always be able to find out where you should be! The University has invested heavily in the information communication equipment used for teaching. Students and staff have access to IT technicians who help when things go wrong. The School Of Social Sciences has recently turned two rooms into media facilities where one-to-one and group sessions can be recorded and digitally saved. There are also computers equipped with cameras to enable staff to create personalised video feedback on your assessments.

Classroom learning ranges from formal lectures to individual activities. You will work independently as well as in large and small groups. Service users and carers, colleagues from other disciplines and working practitioners provide guidance on the content of the course as well as specialised input to the teaching and assessment of learning.

The social work course includes 170 days of practice learning, which are in a practice agency setting (approximately half of your time on this course is on placement). While you are on placement you will be undertaking tasks to develop your social work skills. You will have regular supervision to ensure you are working to the level the agency requires. You will also be learning while on placement and will be guided and assessed by a Practice Educator. Practice Educators have to pass an assessment of their ability to enable others to learn before they can take a student, this is either at Stage 1 (for the Foundation) or Stage 2 (for the final). All Practice Educators for final placements will be qualified social workers by 2015 in line with TCSW requirements; until then transitional arrangements are in place.

9. Assessment Methods

The range of assignments is designed to reflect the type of work you will undertake in practice.

- ◆ **Essays** - these enable you to demonstrate, in your own time, your ability to focus on a particular problem and to explore its parameters in a balanced fashion. You are expected to cite and reference according to the Harvard system (guidance will be given). A variety of word lengths are included to enable you to demonstrate ability to provide shorter and longer justifications for your arguments.
- ◆ **Reports** - these reflect the professional requirement for you to produce concise, logical, structured reports
- ◆ **Interview Techniques** –you are expected to develop skills in conversing with and ascertaining information from service users, their family and networks and other professionals. These skills can be assessed in simulated and recorded interviews.
- ◆ **Case study analysis** - related to practice examples, this activity assesses your capacity to analyse extensive case study material, to apply theoretical frameworks to the material, and to summarise salient points
- ◆ **Professional Practice and Placement Reports** - you must demonstrate an understanding of the parameters of practice and adherence to the HCPC Codes of Conduct and Ethics. You will show incremental learning through both placements and be able to operate effectively with supervision by the time you finish your final placement. You will be able to apply your knowledge and skills in practice and make judgements based on evidence. Your Practice Educator will assess your practice and your Learning Adviser will assess your reflective written work.
- ◆ **Reflective log** – designed to ascertain the unfolding of your thoughts, experience and learning over a specific time period and develop critical thinking and appraisal.
- ◆ **Self-Assessment** - self-awareness is the key to self-development. Students will demonstrate they have the ability to critically reflect on their own performance and give others feedback on theirs.
- ◆ **Presentations (individual and group)** - these assess your ability (individually and collectively) to deliver arguments and information using a range of presentation skills.
- ◆ **Examinations (seen and unseen)** - these assess your ability to marshal clear and concise arguments, to operate effectively under pressure, and to recall significant information (such as Legal Knowledge)

- ◆ **Dissertation**- an exploration into a specialist social work topic related to social work practice. The research project assesses your capacity to conduct a detailed literature review and to undertake primary research. You will be expected to develop and carry out an appropriate methodology; critically analyse results and develop recommendations.

Assessment is governed by The Professional Capabilities Framework from The College of Social Work; the Quality Assurance Agency benchmark statement for social work

<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/Pages/Subject-benchmark-statement-Social-work.aspx> and NTU academic quality standards http://www.ntu.ac.uk/cadq/quality_assurance/standards_quality/index.html.

The qualification is designed to meet the Standards Of Proficiency from the Health & Care Professions Council so that you can register with them on completion <http://www.hpc-uk.org/publications/standards/index.asp?id=569>.

10. **Course structure and curriculum**

Masters level students are expected to have acquired the capacity to study effectively. There will be an initial intensive period of university-based study with some assessment before being able to progress onto the first placement (70 days). You will be expected to continue your learning whilst on placement through recall days and on-line activities. You are expected to study during university holiday periods and will be working on your research topic over the vacation periods and throughout placements. The outcome (your dissertation) will enhance understanding of that field of work and contribute towards new knowledge or understanding to inform social work practice.

The modules you will undertake are:

- A - Preparing for Professional Social Work Practice (including Service User Perspectives) - 30 credits
- B - Human Growth & Development - Promoting and protecting individual development within social contexts - 30 credits
- C - Theories, Methods and Models of Social Work Practice - Assessing and intervening in order to achieve best outcomes for service users - 30 credits
- D - Social Work Law & Policy - Practicing ethically within legislated frameworks - 30 credits

E - Dissertation - Research skills for effective social work practice - 60 credits

A - Preparing for Professional Social Work Practice (30 M level credits)

The module's title reflects its purpose. You will learn about the social work environment, the expectations of employers, the professional requirements and service user perspectives. There is a focus on skills development so a lot of the work will be experiential either in the classroom or in observation and 15 days of the 30 days skills development days will supplement the teaching on this module. Skills of oral and written communication will be incorporated; such as how to present a case to a meeting; making telephone enquiries; how to complete application forms and record visits. Even at this level students will be learning how to handle hostility and challenging behaviour. Scenarios could include: 'what do you do if you turn up at someone's house and they refuse to let you in?' Role-play and reflexivity will help to develop effective skills. You will also be expected to show research skills, an enquiring mind and curiosity. To some extent social work itself can be like qualitative research; creating a whole story with the narratives of several different viewpoints and weighing up evidence is crucial. This module will also explore the history of social work and the value base that underpins it, the boundaries between different organisations and skills in inter-professional work. The interview with a panel including a service-user forms the readiness for direct practice assessment, which must be passed before going out into a placement.

B - Human Growth & Development - Promoting and protecting individual development within social contexts (30 M level credits)

This module analyses the principles of child and adult development, following a 'normal' spectrum of development but also considers alternatives as well as people's social, economic and political contexts. Are there common factors that cause individuals to want or need to enter the social work arena? To what extent is it true that service users live in poverty? What impact does relationship breakdown, mental health, domestic abuse, migration, disability and addiction have on individuals and what is the impact of these issues on societies? This module will use statistical analysis to investigate areas of inequality. It will raise awareness of discrimination and oppression and how to tackle personal and structural disadvantage. 5 days skills development will supplement the teaching on this module relating to observation and multi-disciplinary working.

C - Theories, Methods and Models of Social Work Practice - Assessing and intervening in order to achieve best outcomes for service users (30 M level credits)

To be a good social worker you must be able to gather information from a number of sources, scrutinise what is being said, weigh up the evidence and make some judgement about what might happen next. This is the fundamental principle of evidence informed practice. The purpose of this module is to develop a critical knowledge of assessment frameworks, principles, models and practice. One framework that will be analysed is Working Together to Safeguard Children (2013) and the Laming and Munro Reviews. Child deaths have led to enquiries and calls for changes in social work systems for decades. What difference has it made to outcomes? This module also addresses the question of "What intervention is most useful?" A variety of methods of intervention (for example systemic practice; crisis intervention; cognitive behavioural approaches) will be investigated with the intention of equipping you with a tool kit so that you can call upon the latest evidence and techniques to suggest the most effective ways in which to practice. Concepts such as advocacy and personalisation will be explored and all theories, methods and models will be taught as applied to social work practice within the spread of service settings. 5 days skills development will supplement the teaching on this module through workshops, role-plays and simulation of practice scenarios to give you the opportunity to apply the assessment and intervention strategies you have learned.

D - Social Work Law & Policy - Practicing ethically within legislated frameworks (30 M level credits)

Social work is one way that governments deliver services to those in need. Often the social work role is carried out in conjunction with colleagues from other professions for example health practitioners or the police. This module provides a thorough grounding of the legislation and policies that underpin social work across the spectrum. The critical evaluation of social welfare policy helps you to build your confidence in preparation for the dissertation. You will evaluate and question the reliability and validity of evidence. You will be able to apply legislation and policy to practice in your placement and to a range of scenarios across work with children and adults. 5 days skills development will supplement the teaching on this module heavily focusing upon court skills and use of the moot court.

E - Dissertation - Research skills for effective social work practice (60 M level credits)

As a Masters student you will be undertaking a specialist investigation into an area of practice that will help bring new knowledge to agencies or service users. Methodological teaching for this module will allow students to prepare a proposal for either a literature based or research based project. Both qualitative and quantitative methods of research will be explored, alongside a variety of evidence gathering techniques expected of students studying a masters level qualification. You will assess and evaluate evidence in your field of interest. Wherever possible your placement will enable you to carry out empirical data collection for which ethical approval must be gained. The research project will comprise a literature review as well as results and analysis of data. Where possible you will present feedback to your colleagues and service users as a formative exercise thus enabling others to learn from your investigation and showing key skills required in practice. You will share the outcomes and conclusions and if appropriate make initial recommendations to enhance practice. The dissertation will be a major piece of work providing an attractive asset to employers.

Placement 1

At Masters level the first placement period will include recall days that help you to reflect upon and enhance your professional practice. Before embarking on a placement, you will need to ensure you have an awareness of your own and other's health and safety; you will also need to be familiar with and commit to the HCPC Standards of Conduct, Performance and Ethics.

(<http://www.hcpc.org.uk/aboutregistration/standards/standardsofconductperformanceandethics/>)

Whilst on placement, theory provides a grounding for the work that is carried out. Being able to apply theory and adapt to changing situations is crucial to being able to provide a service. The University provides the placements in partnership with local authorities and independent sector agencies. Placements for this module are most likely to be with Framework (Housing Association) who are major providers of services in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. Their projects include hostels and supported housing for men and women; for people who use drugs and/or alcohol; for mothers and babies. NTU also have placements in residential establishments for children and young people, older people, disabled people and people with learning difficulties. Support on the

placement and assessment of knowledge and skills is provided by a qualified Practice Educator in conjunction with a University Learning Adviser.

Placement 2

This is the longer placement with complementary input to develop professional expertise and leadership skills. The placement will be arranged by the University and is likely to be within a setting that is undertaking statutory interventions with service users. Examples of settings are child protection and mental health teams. After an induction period you are expected to work as part of a team providing services to individuals, groups and communities. You will need to be confident in your abilities and act in accordance with the procedures of the organisation. You will be supervised and guided by your Practice Educator and colleagues and supported by your University Learning Adviser.

Three recall days will occur during the placement to develop leadership and management skills at a masters level.

All modules and placements are compulsory. There are no optional modules yet you will be able to follow your own interests within some of the learning and assessment opportunities. The Division of Social Work and Professional Practice will routinely be running research seminars, conferences and supplementary learning events with practitioners and partner agencies that you will be encouraged to attend to extend your learning beyond the curriculum.

The themes outlined by The College of Social Work: *Relationship stress and breakdown; Behavioural and/or parenting problems; Neglect, violence and abuse; Poverty; Mental distress and ill health; Substance misuse and addictions; Disability; Physical ill-health, dementia and dying/end of life and Immigration*, will be integrated into the teaching of the core academic modules, A,B,C & D above and will inform learning in the placements.

The two placements will normally be different to each other in their setting, service-user group, age range or practice ethos. The final placement will offer the opportunity to undertake formal assessment of risk and be a setting where statutory social work tasks take place. You will be expected to use legal frameworks to make decisions, work in a high-pressure environment and present outcomes of assessments in formal meetings.

All students are required to complete all elements of the programme including submission of the dissertation in order to be considered for the awards however, the exam board may consider exit awards where candidates have failed elements as below:

PGCert in Social Welfare = any 60 credits from A,B,C or D (*candidate is NOT eligible for registration as a social worker with the HCPC*)

PGDip in Social Welfare = 120 credits from A,B,C & D but fail either placement (*candidate is NOT eligible for registration as a social worker with the HCPC*)

MA in Social Welfare = 180 credits – A,B,C,D & E but fail either placement (*candidate is NOT eligible for registration as a social worker with the HCPC*)

PGDip in Social Work = 120 credits from A,B,C & D and pass both placements, (*candidate is eligible for registration as a social worker with the HCPC*)

MA in Social Work = 180 credits - A,B,C,D & E and pass both placements, *candidate is eligible for registration as a social worker with the HCPC*

11. Admission to the course

For current information regarding all entry requirements for this course, please see the 'Applying' tab on the course information web page.

12. Support for Learning

You will have access to module leaders and the programme team. You will be allocated your personal learning adviser for the whole time you are on the course (and they provide a reference for you when you leave). NTU has extensive student support services. For example there are services for mature students; people who need some writing support; those with dyslexia and other impairments; people who need counselling or mental health support. We also have financial advisers who will help with claims, bursaries and offer debt management advice. The course welcomes student diversity and encourages participation from all communities.

[Student Support Services](#)

http://ntu.ac.uk/student_services/need_help/ssc/index.html

[Study Support from the Learning Development team based in the library](#)

http://www.ntu.ac.uk/llr/help_support/academic_support/academic_workshops/index.html

[Library support](#)

http://www.ntu.ac.uk/llr/news_events/events_for_students/index.cfm

13. **Graduate destinations / employability**

NTU social work courses have consistently led the field in terms of employability. The MA in Social Work course is vocational and after graduation you will be able to work as a beginning social worker. The MA in Social Work is a generic qualification so you will be able to work with children and families or with vulnerable adults and older people. Many employers now offer an *Assessed and Supported Year in Employment* scheme where you will have a protected caseload and additional supervision and learning opportunities. We aim to produce the capable, confident social workers that employers want to recruit. The options will be rich and varied within the statutory sector as well as within independent, voluntary and private agencies.

14. **Course standards and quality**

The MA in Social Work has been validated by the NTU academic standards and quality assurance process informed by the *Quality Assurance Agency's* benchmark statements for social work and the Masters level degree characteristics. It has been approved by the *Health and Care Professions Council* as a course leading to professional social work. It has been submitted for endorsement by *The College of Social Work* who oversee the Professional Capabilities Framework and provide curriculum guidance.

All students and staff will be actively contributing to the evaluation of the course. The Course Leader and the Stakeholder Board with the Quality Manager on behalf of the School of Social Sciences, will oversee and be accountable for this monitoring process. There are regular meetings for students to attend and input is sought on decisions and redevelopments. You will be expected and encouraged to evaluate modules through the 'Evasys' process and placements through the 'QAPL' process.

15. **Assessment regulations**

This course is subject to the University's Common Assessment Regulations (located in its [Academic Standards and Quality Handbook](#)). Any course specific assessment features are described below:

In line with the HCPC Standards of Education and Training, at least one of the external examiners appointed to the programme will be HCPC registered.

As a professional course it is vital that students pass all the modules and placements. The MA in Social Work and PGDip in Social Work are exempt from the Common Assessment Regulations provision for Postgraduate Taught Courses 8.8, 8.10, 10.5a and 10.6a that allow an exam board to compensate for failed assessments. All elements of assessment must therefore achieve a pass mark of 50% within each module and every module must be passed to achieve the awards of MA or PGDip in Social Work.

As placements are a precious resource, students will NOT be automatically allowed to retake a placement if the placement has been failed. All failures will be put to the Practice Assurance Committee who will make a recommendation as to whether the student will or will not be offered another placement.

Grading for Masters Courses are:

70% plus *Distinction*;
60% to 69% *Commendation* and:
50% to 59% *Pass*.
45% to 49% *Marginal Fail*
0% to 44% *Fail*

Apart from the above exceptions (which will be updated as required by the professional body and regulator), assessment will be carried out according to the NTU common assessment regulations for taught post graduate courses: http://www.ntu.ac.uk/cadq/quality_assurance/standards_quality/129232.pdf

16. **Additional Information**

Collaborative partner(s):

Framework, Nottingham City Council, Nottinghamshire County Council

Course referenced to national QAA Benchmark Statements: Course approved by:	Social Work Health and Care Professions Council The College of Social Work
Date implemented:	1 September 2013
Any additional information: The normal intake for this course will be January of each year and the award will normally take 24 months from start to finish	
<p>The BA (Hons) Social Work may be more appropriate for students who do not already possess a degree or who do not meet the academic requirements for the Masters level programme.</p> <p>Qualified Social Workers may be interested in pursuing NTU's <i>MA in Advanced Social Work Practice</i>, which aims to meet the continuous professional development needs of practicing social workers in line with The College of Social Work's Professional Capabilities Framework.</p>	

Appendix 1

Course Learning Outcomes for Exit Awards PGCert, PGDip, MA in Social Welfare

Course Learning Outcomes Post Graduate Certificate in Social Welfare

Achievement of this award **DOES NOT** make you eligible to register as a social worker with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)

Knowledge and understanding

By the end of the course you should be able to:

- Apply and critically evaluate ethical principles and values and their implications for professional practice with a range of service user groups.
- Apply and critically evaluate the knowledge base relating to the nature and causation of social problems
- Apply and critique the application of research, theory, and knowledge from its core disciplines
- Critically analyse social and economic processes and their implications in a diverse society for people needing services
- Demonstrate analytical knowledge of the range of theories and models for social work assessment and interventions and the methods derived from them.

Skills, qualities and attributes

By the end of the course you should be able to:

- Gather, synthesise, analyse and record relevant information
- Demonstrate an independent and reflective approach to the evaluation of services
- Demonstrate understanding of the changing contexts that shape social welfare including multi-agency and inter-professional settings and incorporate new knowledge and practices.

Course Learning Outcomes Post Graduate Diploma in Social Welfare

Achievement of this award **DOES NOT** make you eligible to register as a social worker with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)

Knowledge and understanding

By the end of the course you should be able to:

- Apply and critically evaluate ethical principles and values and their implications for professional practice with a range of service user groups.
- Apply and critically evaluate the knowledge base relating to the nature and causation of social problems

- Apply and critique the application of research, theory, and knowledge from its core disciplines
- Critically analyse social and economic processes and their implications in a diverse society for people needing services
- Demonstrate analytical knowledge of the range of theories and models for social work assessment and interventions and the methods derived from them.
- Demonstrate analytical knowledge of the legal and policy contexts of social welfare.

Skills, qualities and attributes

By the end of the course you should be able to:

- Gather, synthesise, analyse and record relevant information
- Demonstrate an independent and reflective approach to the evaluation of services
- Demonstrate a consistently high-level understanding of the changing contexts that shape social welfare including multi-agency and inter-professional settings and incorporate new knowledge and practices.
- Take responsibility for your own continuous learning and development through independent study, supervision, mentoring and relevant training in order to contribute to the social welfare knowledge base
- Contribute to the development of social welfare through leadership, supporting others' learning and generating new knowledge through research and evaluation.
- To take an active lead with colleagues and service users in collective learning and practice situations as appropriate to your role and level of responsibility.

Course Learning Outcomes MA in Social Welfare

Achievement of this award **DOES NOT** make you eligible to register as a social worker with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)

Knowledge and understanding

By the end of the course you should be able to:

- Apply and critically evaluate ethical principles and values and their implications for professional practice with a range of service user groups.
- Apply and critically evaluate the knowledge base relating to the nature and causation of social problems
- Apply and critique the application of research, theory, and knowledge from its core disciplines

- Critically analyse social and economic processes and their implications in a diverse society for people needing services
- Demonstrate analytical knowledge of the range of theories and models for social work assessment and interventions and the methods derived from them.
- Demonstrate analytical knowledge of the legal and policy contexts of social welfare.
- Construct a research dissertation demonstrating advanced research skills and the ability to synthesise, analyse and report on research findings which furthers knowledge in the field and promotes improved outcomes for service users.

Skills, qualities and attributes

By the end of the course you should be able to:

- Gather, synthesise, analyse and record relevant information
- Demonstrate an independent and reflective approach to the evaluation of services
- Demonstrate a consistently high-level understanding of the changing contexts that shape social welfare including multi-agency and inter-professional settings and incorporate new knowledge and practices.
- Take responsibility for your own continuous learning and development through independent study, supervision, mentoring and relevant training in order to contribute to the social welfare knowledge base
- Contribute to the development of social welfare through leadership, supporting others' learning and generating new knowledge through research and evaluation.
- To take an active lead with colleagues and service users in collective learning and practice situations as appropriate to your role and level of responsibility.

Appendix 2

Course Learning Outcomes Post Graduate Diploma in Social Work

Achievement of this award leads to eligibility to register as a Social Worker with the Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC)

Knowledge and understanding

By the end of the course you should be able to:

1. Apply and critically evaluate social work ethical principles and values and their implications for professional practice with a range of service user groups.
2. Apply and critically evaluate the knowledge base relating to the nature and causation of social problems that require a social work response
3. Apply and critique the application to social work of research, theory, and knowledge from its core disciplines
4. Critically analyse social and economic processes and their implications in a diverse society for people needing social work services and a professional social work response which challenges discrimination and oppression and leads to increased personal reflexive capacity
5. Demonstrate analytical knowledge of the range of theories and models for social work assessment and interventions, the methods derived from them and their application with individuals and families who have complex needs.
6. Demonstrate analytical knowledge of the legal and policy contexts of social work practice and the ability to autonomously relate legislation and policy to practice situations.
7. Critically reflect upon the implications of being accountable to the professional body, the social work agency and service users, continually reflecting on your practice to enhance service delivery and your own professional standing

Skills, qualities and attributes

By the end of the course you should be able to:

8. Demonstrate the ability to engage and communicate effectively (both orally and in writing) with professionals and service users responding to diverse needs and competing interests in a range of settings
9. Gather, synthesise, analyse and record relevant information to inform social work assessments and interventions
10. Demonstrate the ability to make complex evidence and value based decisions in order to intervene with individuals, families and communities to promote

independence and prevent harm, neglect and abuse; and address discrimination and oppression

11. Present an evidence and value based professional opinion by communicating this clearly accurately and precisely to individuals and groups in a range of situations
12. Demonstrate an independent and reflective approach to the delivery and evaluation of social work services and the capacity to find creative and novel solutions to practice dilemmas
13. Demonstrate the ability to independently and collaboratively reflect on and learn from your social work practice resolving conflicts between personal and professional standards and values in order to establish and develop a professional evidence base
14. Demonstrate the ability to work to a consistently high-level within the changing contexts that shape social work practice including multi-agency and inter-professional settings and incorporate new knowledge and practices.
15. Take responsibility for your own safety, wellbeing and continuous learning and development through independent study, supervision, mentoring and relevant training in order to contribute to the professional evidence base
16. Contribute to the development of the social work profession through leadership and supporting others' learning.
17. To take an active lead with professional colleagues and service users in collective learning and practice situations as appropriate to social work tasks and your level of responsibility.