This Version is No Longer Current
The latest version of this module is available here

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title

Social Work Theory, Professional Ethics and Research Methods

Reference	SSM101	Version	5
Created	August 2017	SCQF Level	SCQF 11
Approved	September 2004	SCQF Points	30
Amended	August 2019	ECTS Points	15

Aims of Module

Students will be expected to demonstrate practice skills and knowledge of social work theory and methods of intervention and apply these appropriately in an ethical and research evidence based way to the context of social work practice

Learning Outcomes for Module

On completion of this module, students are expected to be able to:

1	Recognising the diverse nature of placement settings, demonstrate knowledge and practice skills in interviewing, assessment, methods of intervention, and action plans across a range of user groups underpinned by an awareness of actual and/or potential risk to children.
2	Apply ethical concepts in critically analysing specific issues relating to professional practice.
3	Critically analyse research methodology and its relevance to social work methods within evidence based practice principles.

Indicative Module Content

Communication skills including oral, non-verbal and in writing. The ability to gather, collate and analyse information from various sources. Assessments and risk assessments, action plans. Methods of intervention, psycho-social, crisis intervention, opportunity led and life space approaches and behavioural social work. An awareness at all times of the potential for risk to children. The nature and relevance of research. Sources of research and advanced literature searching. A review of the major methods relevant to social science and social work research. Interpreting statistics and data analysis. Application of research in social work practice. Evaluation skills and research. Ethical theories, issues and dilemmas. Traditional and modern values in social work. Professional codes of ethics and other sources of social work values. Ethical principles and their application in professional practice. Ethical issues relating to: respect; privacy and confidentiality; informed consent; self determination and empowerment. Anti-oppressive practice, the promotion of social justice and the moral rights of service users. The content also reflects, where appropriate, the knowledge, skills and professional confidence and competence requirements of the Key Capabilities in Child Care and Protection (Scottish Executive 2006).

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Module Delivery

The module is delivered in taught mode, by lectures, interactive group activities, case studies and directed and private study.

Indicative Student Workload	Full Time	Part Time
Contact Hours	100	N/A
Non-Contact Hours	200	N/A
Placement/Work-Based Learning Experience [Notional] Hours	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	300	N/A
Actual Placement hours for professional, statutory or regulatory body		

ASSESSMENT PLAN

If a major/minor model is used and box is ticked, % weightings below are indicative only.

Component 1

Type:	Coursework	Weighting:	100%	Outcomes Assessed:	1, 2, 3
Description:	The coursework will take the form of an essay linked to a common case study.				

MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR

Explanatory Text

Coursework

Module Grade	Minimum Requirements to achieve Module Grade:
A	A
B	B
C	C
D	D
E	E
F	F
NS	Non-submission of work by published deadline or non-attendance for examination

Module Requirements

Prerequisites for Module	None, in addition to course entry requirements.
Corequisites for module	None.
Precluded Modules	None.

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INDICATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY

1	Adams, R., Dominelli, L. & Payne, M., 2009. Social Work Themes, Issues and Critical Debates. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan
2	Banks, S., 2012. Ethics and Values in Social Work, 4th ed. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan
3	Coulshed, V. & Orme, J., 2012. Social Work Practice, 5th ed. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan
4	Gray, D.E., 2018. Doing Research in the Real World, 4th ed. Los Angeles: Sage
5	Kara, H., 2017. Research and Evaluation for Busy Students and Practitioners, 2nd ed. Bristol: Policy Press
6	Lishman, J., 2015. Handbook for Practice Learning in Social Work and Social Care: Knowledge and Theory, 3rd ed. London: Jessica Kingsley
7	Thomas, G., 2017. How to do your Research Project: A Guide for Students, 3rd ed. Los Angeles: Sage