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**Notes on SW**

**Admissions criteria**

**Qualifications**

- MA- BA (Hons)2.2
- GCSE @ C+ in English and Maths (*or equivalent*)
- Relevant Social Care Experience
- 2 C's @ A level or AVCE Double Award – any but related may benefit applicant in interview
- Access to Social Work; Health & Social Care; Social Science (2 B and 3 A Units)
- BTec National Diploma (MPP); in Early Years (MMP)
- Foundation/Yr 0 pass at 50%+
- NVQ level 3 plus B unit pass @ 60%+

**Plus**

- Enhanced Criminal Records check
- Declaration of Suitability (health and character)
- At least one satisfactory reference
- Experience
- Successful interview

**Social Work Education**

- 'Social worker' now a legally protected title
- Brings it in line with other public service professions
- Care Standards Act 2000
- Undertake checks that of good character, physically and mentally fit to perform the work

**The professional SW Training**

- MA 2 years Full Time
- BA 3 Years Full Time
- 200 days or 1200 hours 'structured learning under the direction of an educator' (DoH,2002)
- 200 days experience and learning in practice settings on placement (DoH,2002)
- University 'hours' 9-4pm five days per week
- Placement 'hours' usually 9-5pm five days per week

## **The course at UCLAN**

The Government ministry Department of Health (2002) identified some areas that must be included in all social work courses:

- Human growth and development
- Assessment, planning, intervention and review
- Communication skills (adults, children and those with particular communication needs)
- Law
- Partnership working and information sharing (across professions and agencies)

### **BA Structure**

- Year 1 – Block year of teaching; 1 day shadowing experience; 20 day practice placement
- Year 2 – 80 day placement in semester 1; teaching all semester 2
- Year 3 – Teaching all semester 1; 100 day block placement in semester 2

### **Y1**

Semester 1

- Social Policy;
- Basis of Social Work Interventions (theories, methods, skills);
- Law for social workers;
- Interpersonal skills

Semester 2

- Human growth and development;
- Social work values and anti-oppressive practice;
- Sociology for social workers

### **Y2**

- Social Work Processes and intervention (theories, methods, skills)
- Psychosocial studies
- Health issues for social work
- Organisations
- Comparative social care

### **Y3**

- Working with adults
- Working with children, young people and families
- Research methods
- Specialist practice module – students select a pathway
- Dissertation

## **MA Structure**

### Year 1

- Inter-professional collaboration
- Care Contexts
- People Skills
- Social Work Practice 1
- 100 days practice learning
- 2 days a week placement (3 days taught) for 6 weeks in Semester 2 then 5 days a week.

### Year 2

- Researching social work practice
- Understanding human beings
- Comparative Social Care in Europe
- Social Work practice 2
- 100 days practice learning

## **Placements**

- One day shadowing a registered social worker observing roles and responsibilities
- BA - 20 days; 80 days and 100 days.
- MA – 100 and 100days
- Working with at least two different service user groups in two different settings.
- Statutory social work tasks involving legal interventions (GSCC requirement)
- Involve a wide range of agencies –private, voluntary and statutory services such as health, education and the former social services.

## **Fees**

- Basic grant that varies in value
- Contribution towards placement related costs
- Tuition fee support up to a capped amount
- MA - Income assessed maintenance grant and allowances, dependant on individual circumstances
- BA – may also be eligible for a LEA funding

## **GSCC**

See recent document from the GSCC – re state of social work

**TOPSS** – Training Organisation for Personal Social Services [now Skills for Care]

## Code of practice

1. Protect the rights and promote the interests of service users and carers
2. Strive to establish and maintain the trust and confidence of service users and carers
3. Promote the independence of service users while protecting them as far as possible from danger or harm.
4. Respect the rights of service users while seeking to ensure that their behaviour does not harm themselves or other people
5. Uphold public trust and confidence in social services
6. Be accountable for the quality of their work and take responsibility for maintaining and improving their knowledge and skills

**Key Role 1:** Prepare for, and work with individuals, families, carers, groups and communities to assess their needs and circumstances

**Key Role 2:** Plan, carry out, review and evaluate social work practice, with individuals, families, carers, groups, communities and other professionals

**Key Role 3:** Support individuals to represent their needs, views and circumstances

**Key Role 4:** Manage risk to individuals, families, carers, groups, communities, self and colleagues

**Key Role 5:** Manage and be accountable, with supervision and support, for your own social work practice within your organisation

**Key Role 6:** Demonstrate professional competence in social work practice

## Social work and new labour

- Managerialism – bullying and unsympathetic managers
- Any better than the Tories? Accepted the neo liberal perspective
- Evidence based work?
- Burn out and stress
- Under recruitment to unemployment
- Care to overt control – assertive outreach mental health
- Social exclusion – means addressing worklessness
- Funding issues – especially for adult services
- Eligibility criteria [especially for older people]

→ Jordan, B. (2000) *Social Work and the Third Way – tough love as social work*, Sage, London