

University of the West of Scotland

Module Descriptor

Session: 2024-25

Title of Module: Social Work Law			
Code: SWRK08002	SCQF Level: 8 (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework)	Credit Points: 20	ECTS: 10 (European Credit Transfer Scheme)
School:	School of Education and Social Sciences		
Module Co-ordinator:	D Sidhva		
Summary of Module			
This module contributes to helping students prepare for assessed practice by introducing them to key aspects of policy and legislation in Scotland, which underpin contemporary social work practice. The module covers contemporary policy and legislation relevant to social work practice in Scotland, specifically the fields of community care, justice and children and families social work. Human rights are also explored. Practical applications throughout the module illustrate the ethical dimensions of applying policy and legislation.			

Module Delivery Method					
Face-To-Face	Blended	Fully Online	HybridC	Hybrid0	Work-Based Learning
☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
See Guidance Note for details.					

Campus(es) for Module Delivery
The module will normally be offered on the following campuses / or by Distance/Online Learning: (Provided viable student numbers permit) (tick as appropriate)

Paisley:	Ayr:	Dumfries:	Lanarkshire:	London:	Distance/Online Learning:	Other:
☒	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	Add name

Term(s) for Module Delivery					
(Provided viable student numbers permit).					
Term 1	☒	Term 2	☐	Term 3	☐

Learning Outcomes: (maximum of 5 statements) These should take cognisance of the SCQF level descriptors and be at the appropriate level for the module. At the end of this module the student will be able to:	
L1	Demonstrate contextual knowledge and understanding of policy and legislation relevant to social work practice.
L2	Demonstrate applied knowledge of relevant policy and legislation, to aid professional social work decision-making, including professional assessment.
L3	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of relevant policy and legislation to enhance professional identity, specifically in relation to anti-oppressive requirements.
Employability Skills and Personal Development Planning (PDP) Skills	
SCQF Headings	During completion of this module, there will be an opportunity to achieve core skills in:
Knowledge and Understanding (K and U)	SCQF Level 8 Students will develop a robust understanding of the legal basis for social work interventions in Scotland.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	SCQF Level 8 Students will develop the ability to apply their knowledge to a range of professional practice contexts.
Generic Cognitive skills	SCQF Level 8 Students will develop the ability to critically evaluate and synthesize ideas, concepts and information relevant to social work process and practice and to develop and present reasoned opinions and coherent arguments.

Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	SCQF Level 8 Students will develop a range of professional communication and ICT skills as a result of engagement in this module. These will include developing competence in the use of a variety of online platforms used in professional social work practice.	
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with others	SCQF Level 8 Students will take responsibility for significant elements of their own learning as well as working in groups and teams	
Pre-requisites:	Before undertaking this module the student should have undertaken the following:	
	Module Code:	Module Title:
	Other:	
Co-requisites	Module Code:	Module Title:

Learning and Teaching	
In line with current learning and teaching principles, a 20-credit module includes 200 learning hours, normally including a minimum of 36 contact hours and maximum of 48 contact hours.	
Learning Activities During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:	Student Learning Hours (Normally totalling 200 hours): (Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Lecture/Core Content Delivery	36
Laboratory/Practical Demonstration/Workshop	0
Asynchronous Class Activity	36
Independent Study	128
	200 Hours Total
**Indicative Resources: (eg. Core text, journals, internet access)	

The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes:

Maclean, S., and Shiner, M. (2018) Social Care and the Law in Scotland 11th edition

Guthrie, T. (2018) Social Work Law in Scotland. Edition 4, Bloomsbury Professional

Davis, G. and Gordon, J. (2021) Social Work and the Law in Scotland, Open University Press

(*N.B. Although reading lists should include current publications, students are advised (particularly for material marked with an asterisk*) to wait until the start of session for confirmation of the most up-to-date material)

Attendance and Engagement Requirements

In line with the [Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure](#):

Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time.

For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:

Engaging with online pre and post class activities. Attending taught classes on and off-campus as directed, being prepared for all teaching sessions.

Equality and Diversity

The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: [UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code](#).

This module is compliant with all protected characteristics as defined in equalities legislation.

(N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School)

Supplemental Information

Divisional Programme Board	Psychology and Social Work
Assessment Results (Pass/Fail)	Yes ☐ No ☒
School Assessment Board	Ug/Pg Social Work & CDAS
Moderator	D Calderwood.
External Examiner	J Davey
Accreditation Details	Scottish Social Services Council
Changes/Version Number	4. Changes to wording in “Module Summary”. Changes to Assessment. Reduction in number of “Indicative Resources”

Assessment: (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1: Written Case study worth 100% of the module mark.
(N.B. (i) Assessment Outcomes Grids for the module (one for each component) can be found below which clearly demonstrate how the learning outcomes of the module will be assessed. (ii) An indicative schedule listing approximate times within the academic calendar when assessment is likely to feature will be provided within the Student Module Handbook.)

Assessment Outcome Grids (See Guidance Note)

Component 1							
Assessment Type (Footnote B.)	Learning Outcome (1)	Learning Outcome (2)	Learning Outcome (3)	Learning Outcome (4)	Learning Outcome (5)	Weighting (%) of Assessment Element	Timetabled Contact Hours
Case study	X	X	x	x		100	

Component 2							
Assessment Type (Footnote B.)	Learning Outcome (1)	Learning Outcome (2)	Learning Outcome (3)	Learning Outcome (4)	Learning Outcome (5)	Weighting (%) of Assessment Element	Timetabled Contact Hours

Component 3							
Assessment Type (Footnote B.)	Learning Outcome (1)	Learning Outcome (2)	Learning Outcome (3)	Learning Outcome (4)	Learning Outcome (5)	Weighting (%) of Assessment Element	Timetabled Contact Hours
Combined Total for All Components						100%	XX hours

Change Control:

What	When	Who
Further guidance on aggregate regulation and application when completing template	16/01/2020	H McLean
Updated contact hours	14/09/21	H McLean
Updated Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure	19/10/2023	C Winter
Updated UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code	19/10/2023	C Winter
Guidance Note 23-24 provided	12/12/23	D Taylor
General housekeeping to text across sections.	12/12/23	D Taylor