



Module Descriptor

Title	Foundations in Social Work Practice (PG)		
Session	2025/26	Status	
Code	SWPG11010	SCQF Level	11
Credit Points	20	ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)	10
School	Education and Social Sciences		
Module Co-ordinator	L Nuttall		
Summary of Module			
This module will introduce students to varying definitions and theoretical approaches to social work. Within this module students will explore the historical foundations of Social Work and landmark developments in policy and practice, up to and including the current policy and practice context within Scotland. Students will examine the application of social work ethics and values to social work practice; this will include anti-oppressive and antiracist perspectives.			

Module Delivery Method	On-Campus¹ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Hybrid² <input type="checkbox"/>		Online³ <input type="checkbox"/>		Work -Based Learning⁴ <input type="checkbox"/>
Campuses for Module Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> Ayr <input type="checkbox"/> Dumfries		<input type="checkbox"/> Lanarkshire <input type="checkbox"/> London <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paisley		<input type="checkbox"/> Online / Distance Learning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)		
Terms for Module Delivery	Term 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Term 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Term 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Long-thin Delivery over more than one Term	Term 1 – Term 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Term 2 – Term 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	Term 3 – Term 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	

¹ Where contact hours are synchronous/ live and take place fully on campus. Campus-based learning is focused on providing an interactive learning experience supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

² The module includes a combination of synchronous/ live on-campus and online learning events. These will be supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus and online contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

³ Where all learning is solely delivered by web-based or internet-based technologies and the participants can engage in all learning activities through these means. All required contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

⁴ Learning activities where the main location for the learning experience is in the workplace. All required contact hours, whether online or on campus, will be clearly articulated to students

Learning Outcomes	
L1	Demonstrate a critical knowledge and understanding of the changing nature of social work across time and place.
L2	Demonstrate an understanding of social work values and ethical decision-making.
L3	Demonstrate knowledge and a critical understanding of the current Scottish Social Work context.
L4	Demonstrate knowledge and a critical understanding of social work theories.
L5	Produce work to a professional standard that conforms with academic convention

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 11 At the end of this module, students will have acquired a critical knowledge and understanding of how social work practice continues to change across time and place.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	SCQF 11 Students will be able to demonstrate their understanding of the relationship between social work theory, values and practice.
Generic Cognitive skills	SCQF 11 Students will use critical thinking skills to produce an analysis of the relationship between the context in which social workers practice, social work values and a range of appropriate theories.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	SCQF 11 Students will work together in groups to explore the module material and will be required to use a range of ICT competencies and the production of their presentation.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	SCQF 11 Students will work together in groups to explore the module material and will be required to use a range of ICT competencies and the production of their presentation.

Prerequisites	Module Code	Module Title
	Other	
Co-requisites	Module Code SWPG11001	Module Title Social Work Law (P.G.)

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	Student Learning Hours
During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:	(Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Lecture / Core Content Delivery	36
Independent Study	164
n/a	
n/a	
n/a	
n/a	
TOTAL	200

Indicative Resources
<p>The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes:</p> <p>Banks, S. (2021) Ethics and Values in Social Work 5th Edition. Globe press</p> <p>Payne, M. (2021) Modern Social Work Theory 5th Edition Palgrave Macmillan.</p> <p>(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)</p>

Attendance and Engagement Requirements
<p>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.</p> <p>For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:</p> <p>“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.</p> <p>For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following. As of September 2025, the SSSC has introduced a minimum attendance requirement of 80% for all taught sessions.</p> <p>The university is committed to providing a supportive learning environment that actively facilitates student success. In this module, there is a high degree of student-led flexibility. You are academically engaged if you are regularly engaged with scheduled live sessions on-campus and online, including engaging with online learning activities in your own time, course-related learning resources, and with timely completion and submission of assessments. Whilst we understand that there may be times when conflicting priorities make participation challenging, for you to gain the most from this module it is recommended that you participate in all scheduled live classes and complete your self-directed learning activities in a timely manner. It may be difficult to pass the assessment associated with this module if you are not regularly engaging with the module work and live classes. We may reach</p>

out to check how things are going and offer support if we observe that you have not been attending sessions or completing online activities.

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](#).

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Note: Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School.

In line with current legislation (Equality Act, 2010) and the UWS Equality, Diversity, and Human Rights Code, our modules are accessible and inclusive, with reasonable adjustment for different needs where appropriate. Module materials comply with University guidance on inclusive learning and teaching, and specialist assistive equipment, support provision and adjustment to assessment practice will be made in accordance with UWS policy and regulations.

(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 Social Work
Overall Assessment Results	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass / Fail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Graded
Module Eligible for Compensation	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If this module is eligible for compensation, there may be cases where compensation is not permitted due to programme accreditation requirements. Please check the associated programme specification for details.
School Assessment Board	UG/PG Social Work
Moderator	S Gittins
External Examiner	S Lucas
Accreditation Details	SSSC
Module Appears in CPD catalogue	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Changes / Version Number	3.03

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)

Assessment 1

Written assessment 3,500 words. 80% of Module weighting.

Assessment 2

Presentation 20% of module weighting.

Assessment 3

NA

(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.)

Component 1							
Assessment Type	LO1	LO2	LO3	LO4	LO5	Weighting of Assessment Element (%)	Timetabled Contact Hours
Written	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	80	24

Component 2							
Assessment Type	LO1	LO2	LO3	LO4	LO5	Weighting of Assessment Element (%)	Timetabled Contact Hours
Presentation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	20	12

Component 3							
Assessment Type	LO1	LO2	LO3	LO4	LO5	Weighting of Assessment Element (%)	Timetabled Contact Hours
NA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Combined total for all components						100%	hours

Change Control

What	When	Who
Transferred to new template 25/26 added LO5	Feb 25	L Nutall