University of the West of Scotland

Module Descriptor

Session: 202425

Title of Module: Professional Practice and Inquiry			
Code: SWRK10008	SCQF Level: 10 (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework)	Credit Points: 120	ECTS: 60 (European Credit Transfer Scheme)
School:	School of Education & Social Sciences		
Module Co-ordinator:	M Godfrey		

Summary of Module

This module integrates the final assessed practice learning opportunity for social work students. There is significant research and inquiry-based activity, informed by practice learning experiences and learning from the across the entire programme of study.

The practice placement element of the module will require students to demonstrate that they are competent regarding all aspects of the Social Work process. Students will demonstrate an ability to coherently and systematically integrate relevant skills and knowledge within a framework of critical analysis and reflection in both their practice setting and academic coursework.

During their practice placement, students will work under the supervision of a practice teacher, or a person undertaking training as a practice teacher who will be supervised by a practice assessor. The practice teacher, university tutor, and any link worker will constitute the learning team.

Students will undertake a significant research/inquiry-based activity as part of the assessment for this module that will integrate critical knowledge and understanding from students' engagement across the entirety of their degree programme, with a focus on applying that knowledge to an aspect, or aspects of practice.

- Practice placement within a professional Social Work or associated context to provide the student with an opportunity to meet the Standards in Social Work Education (SSSC, 2019) at SCQF Level 10.

- Professional learning, support, supervision and assessment from accredited practice teaching staff in the placement setting.

- University-led sessions to support learning on placement, to prepare students for research and inquiry-based assessment, and to prepare for transitions to qualification and professional practice.

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Module Delivery Method					
Face-To-Face	**Blended**	**Fully Online**	**HybridC**	**Hybrid 0**	**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 professional competence in social work practice at by meeting all practice standards contained in the *Standards in Social Work Education* (SSSC, 2019) at level 10.
L2	Demonstrate critical insight into a specialist area of social work policy and/ or practice.
L3	Apply appropriate methods of inquiry in a social work context, including ethical research practices and effective project planning and implementation strategies.
L4	Communicate the outcomes of professionally-situated research and inquiry.
L5	Demonstrate critical reflexivity within professional practice at Level 10.

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 **10** understanding of the contexts for Social Work practice and the key drivers of contemporary practice in Scottish and other jurisdictions. understanding of the principal theories that support social work practice. understanding of the ethical principles that underpin social work practice and ethical research/inquiry. Students will demonstrate detailed and critical understanding of the specialist context of the practice placement.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	SCQF Level **10** application of a wide range of generic and specialised skills and techniques that meet accepted standards of professional practice. ability to work within learning contexts that are complex and challenging. critical application of professional knowledge, skills and ethical principles to a sustained piece of professional practice.
Generic Cognitive skills	SCQF Level **10** critical identification, definition, conceptualisation and analysis of professional problems and issues within the academic and placement contexts. offering of professional insights, interpretations and solutions to problems and issues that arise within the placement context. demonstration of critical thinking and originality in understanding and dealing with professional challenges and dilemmas making judgements in complex and uncertain conditions
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	SCQF Level **10** use of a wide range of generic and some specialised skills in support of professional practice. presentation of information formally and informally to a range of audiences, meeting relevant standards of professional communication. communicating with peers, colleagues, senior staff, partner agencies and services users using verbal and written means, meeting professional standards. use of a wide range of information communication technology to support professional tasks.

	use and interpretation of qualitative and quantitative data to understand and explain organisational and demographic phenomena.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with others	SCQF Level **10** demonstration of awareness of own and others' roles and responsibilities within the agency context. demonstration of autonomy and initiative in professional and academic activities associated with this module. The ability to work under guidance, with senior colleagues, peers and associated professionals in the placement setting and wider professional and inter-professional contexts. Working with others to contribute to the development of social work practice. The identification, analysis and resolution of complex ethical issues whilst at all times working within professional standards and the requirements of the Scottish Social Services Council.

Pre-requisites:	Before undertaking this module the student should have undertaken the following:	
	Module Code:	**Module Title:**
	Other:	No student can progress into Level 10 with any module deficit at Level 9, as stipulated in SSSC regulations.
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.

This module represents the final assessed practice learning opportunity for the undergraduate qualifying award in social work. Students are required to demonstrate that they are competent regarding all aspects of the Social Work process. This will require students to demonstrate an ability to coherently and systematically integrate relevant skills and knowledge within a framework of critical analysis and reflection in both their practice setting and academic coursework. During the placement element of the module, students will work under the supervision of a practice teacher, or	**Student Learning Hours** (Normally totalling 200 hours): (Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)

a person undertaking training as a practice teacher who will be supervised by a practice assessor. The practice teacher, personal tutor, and any link worker will constitute the learning team. University-led sessions will prepare students for both the placement element of the module and for the research/inquiry-based elements of assessment in the module.	
Practice Based Learning	560*
Lecture/Core Content Delivery	40
Independent Study	600
Practice based learning requirements as required by SSSC	Hours Total 1200

**Indicative Resources: (eg. Core text, journals, internet access)

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

Adams, R, A., Dominelli, L. and Payne, M. (2009). Critical Practice in Social Work (2nd ed). Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan

Lishman, J. (2015) Handbook for Practice Learning in Social Work and Social Care. Knowledge and Theory (3rd ed). London: Jessica Kingsley.

Lomax, R. and Jones, K. (2014) Surviving Your Social Work Placement. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Payne, M. (2020) How to Use Social Work Theory in Practice and Essential Guide. Policy Press.

Rogers, M., Whitaker, D., Edmondson, D., Peach, D. (2016) Developing Skills for Social Work Practice. London, Sage.

Trevithick, P (2012) Social work skills and knowledge : a practice handbook 3rd ed. Maidenhead : McGraw-Hill/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:

students are required to attend all scheduled classes and participate with all delivered elements of the module as part of their engagement with their programme of study.

All placement days must be completed.

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.

Please ensure any specific requirements are detailed in this section. Module Co-ordinators should consider the accessibility of their module for groups with protected characteristics..

Using the module Aula space, learning materials will be presented electronically in formats that allow flexible access and manipulation of content. The module complies with University regulations and guidance on inclusive learning and teaching practice. Specialist assistive equipment, support provision and adjustment to assessment practice will be made in accordance with UWS policy and regulations. The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Policy can be accessed at the following link: http://www.uws.ac.uk/equality/

(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
Assessment Results (Pass/Fail)	Yes ☐No ☒
School Assessment Board	UG/PG Social Work
Moderator	S Grant
External Examiner	J Davey
Accreditation Details	SSSC
Changes/Version Number	

Assessment: (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)

Summative Assessment 1 – Placement is designated pass/fail as determined by the Practice Teacher, based on evidence of satisfying Standards in Social Work Education

Summative Assessment 2 Written assessment 50%

Summative Assessment 3 Portfolio of research/inquiry-based assessment 50%

(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**
Portfolio of Written Work	✓					0	0

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**
Case Study		✓			✓	50	0

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**
Dissertation /Project report/ Thesis		✓	✓	✓	✓	50	
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

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