

Overview

Programme Code	32004
Programme Title	Social Work
Awarding Institution	Liverpool John Moores University
Programme Type	Masters
Language of Programme	All LJMU programmes are delivered and assessed in English
Programme Leader	Darren Greenop
Link Tutor(s)	

Awards

Award Type	Award Description	Award Learning Outcomes
Target Award	Master of Arts - MA	See Learning Outcomes Below
Alternative Exit	Postgraduate Diploma - PD	<p>1. Work effectively and competently within legal and policy frameworks which guide social work practice. 2. Acquire, critically evaluate, synthesise, apply and integrate knowledge and understanding in five core areas of study; social work theory, values and ethics, service users and carers/people with lived experience and their detailed narratives, the leadership and organisation and delivery of social work services. 3. Use their knowledge and understanding of the five core areas of study in an integrated way, in specific practice contexts. 4. Demonstrate an ability to use their knowledge and understanding of the five core areas of study to engage in effective relationships with service. users/people with lived experience and carers and relationships with other professionals and through supervision. 5. Reflect on their previous learning and experience and incorporate this into their future learning and practice, including engagement with supervision. 6. Understand and critically evaluate the potential and limitations of social work as a practice-based discipline to effect individual and social change. 7. Reflect on and learn from the exercise of their skills, in order to build their professional identity. 8. Communicate effectively with service users/people with lived experience and carers, and with other professionals. 9. Integrate and synthesise a clear understanding of ethical issues and relevant codes or standards of ethics, conduct and practice with their interventions in specific situations. 10. Consistently exercise an appropriate level of autonomy and initiative in individual decision-making within the context of supervisory, collaborative, ethical and organisational requirements. 11. Embed skills of critical reflection on their performance and take responsibility for modifying action and learning in light of this, drawing on appropriate support mechanisms where necessary 12. Maintain records appropriately, using effective IT skills to assure the quality of their practice and establish and maintain safe practice in line with legal and policy frameworks. 13. Critically evaluate models of assessment and intervention that are relevant to social work practice. 14. Intervene in complex situations or complex problem solving with services users/people with lived experience using appropriate support and focusing on the rights and choices of individuals 15. Acquire and integrate knowledge of safeguarding, risk recognition and management, whistleblowing and other methods of raising concerns.</p>

Alternate Award Names	
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External Benchmarks

Subject Benchmark Statement	UG-Social Work (2019)
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Accreditation

Programme Accredited by

PSRB Name	Type of Accreditation	Valid From Date	Valid To Date	Additional Notes
Social Work England	Approved by Social Work England (SWE) for the purpose of providing eligibility to apply for registration with SWE as a social worker in England.			

Programme Offering(s)

Mode of Study, Mode of Delivery	Intake Month	Teaching Institution	Programme Length
Full-Time, Face to Face	January	LJMU Taught	2 Years
Full-Time, Face to Face	September	LJMU Taught	2 Years

Aims and Outcomes

Educational Aims of the Programme

This qualifying social work programme aims to prepare students to work as part of the social care workforce, employed increasingly in integrated teams across and within specialist settings in adult health, mental health and children's services. The programme aims to enable students to work inter-professionally alongside colleagues in the National Health Service, schools, police, criminal justice, private, voluntary and independent sector support agencies, and in partnership with service users and carers/people with lived experience. The programme learning outcomes aim to enable students to acquire and integrate the five core skills outlined in the Subject Benchmark Statement; problem solving skills, communication skills, skills in working with others, skills in personal and professional development and skills in the use of technology and numeracy. Students completing the programme will be equipped with the knowledge, skills and values to work in line within the Professional Standards of Social Work England the professional regulator. Qualifying students will establish trust and confidence in people, be accountable for all aspects of their practice, ensure they engage with continuing professional development, practice safely adhering to professional guidance and never behave in a way that would bring into question their suitability to work as a social worker while at work, or outside of work. Qualifying students will have the confidence to promote ethical practice and report concerns about harm, discrimination and poor and harmful organisational practice. They will inform people of their right to complain and co-operate with any fitness to practice investigations as required. The learning environment provided will give students access to education and training opportunities that enable them to develop their skills and knowledge across all areas of social work, gain required experience in practice settings and meet the professional standards in supportive, supervised and safe settings. In partnership with practice placement providers, practice learning experiences will support readiness to practise at point of graduation.

Alternative Exit/ Interim Award Learning Outcomes – Master of Arts in Applied Social Sciences: The student will have achieved 180 credits and less than 200 days of practice to the required standard. The student will not be eligible for application for registration with Social Work England. Consolidate knowledge, understanding and skills in the investigation, research and evaluation of issues related to effective and ethical social work practice and policy. Critically review and evaluate research findings relevant to Social Work through supervised independent study and make a coherent contribution to the knowledge base.

Alternative Exit/ Interim Award Learning Outcomes - Postgraduate Certificate in Applied Social Sciences: The student will have achieved 60 credits and will not be eligible to apply for registration with Social Work England. A student who is eligible for this award will be able to: Integrate advanced critical reasoning and problem solving in relation to contemporary social issues.

Learning Outcomes

Code	Description
PLO1	Work effectively and competently within legal and policy frameworks which guide social work practice.
PLO2	Communicate effectively with service users/people with lived experience and carers, and with other professionals.
PLO3	Integrate and synthesise a clear understanding of ethical issues and relevant codes or standards of ethics, conduct and practice with their interventions in specific situations.
PLO4	Consistently exercise an appropriate level of autonomy and initiative in individual decision-making within the context of supervisory, collaborative, ethical and organisational requirements.
PLO5	Embed skills of critical reflection on their performance and take responsibility for modifying action and learning in light of this, drawing on appropriate support mechanisms where necessary.
PLO6	Apply research and evaluation skills through comparative literary and theoretical analysis to social work practice.
PLO7	Demonstrate their ability through empirical research conventions to independently plan and carry out a small research project which may include a variety of skills relevant to a chosen method of investigation and analysis.

Code	Description
PLO8	Maintain records appropriately, using effective IT skills to assure the quality of their practice and establish and maintain safe practice in line with legal and policy frameworks.
PLO9	Critically evaluate models of assessment and intervention that are relevant to social work practice.
PLO10	Intervene in complex situations or complex problem solving with services users/people with lived experience using appropriate support and focusing on the rights and choices of individuals.
PLO11	Acquire and integrate knowledge of safeguarding, risk recognition and management, whistleblowing and other methods of raising concerns.
PLO12	Acquire, critically evaluate, synthesise, apply and integrate knowledge and understanding in five core areas of study; social work theory, values and ethics, service users and carers/people with lived experience and their detailed narratives, the leadership and organisation and delivery of social work services.
PLO13	Promote the rights, strengths, self-management, sustainability and wellbeing of individual people, families and communities.
PLO14	Use their knowledge and understanding of the five core areas of study in an integrated way, in specific practice contexts.
PLO15	Demonstrate an ability to use their knowledge and understanding of the five core areas of study to engage in effective relationships with service users/people with lived experience and carers and relationships with other professionals and through supervision.
PLO16	Reflect on their previous learning and experience and incorporate this into their future learning and practice, including engagement with supervision.
PLO17	Understand and critically evaluate the potential and limitations of social work as a practice-based discipline to effect individual and social change.
PLO18	Use research and enquiry techniques with reflective awareness, to collect, analyse, synthesise and interpret relevant information.
PLO19	Critically evaluate and synthesise knowledge and evidence from a range of sources.
PLO20	Reflect on and learn from the exercise of their skills, in order to build their professional identity.

Programme Structure

Programme Structure Description

MA Social Work and eligibility to apply for registration with the Social Work England will be achieved by students who gain 180 credits and complete 200 days of practice to the required standard as assessed by their placement Practice Educator. 30 days of practice may be 'skills days' as arranged by the academic programme team. The programme ensures that students spend at least 200 days (including up to 30 skills days) gaining different experiences and learning in practice settings. Each student will have: Placements in at least two practice settings providing contrasting experiences. A minimum of one placement taking place within a statutory setting, providing experience of sufficient numbers of statutory social work tasks involving high-risk decision making and legal interventions. Pattern of Study: Students will complete 4 modules and 70 days of practice experience in year 1 and 3 modules and 100 days practice experience in year 2. Students also must complete 'Skills and Employability Personal and Professional Development Portfolio'. This will enable them to evidence 30 'skills days'. Exit awards: Students who gain 180 credits and less than 200 days of practice to the required standard will receive the award of Master of Arts in Applied Social Sciences and will not be eligible for application for registration with Social Work England. Students who gain 120 credits apart from the dissertation module, and having completed 200 days of practice to the required standard as assessed by their placement Practice Educator will receive the award of Post Graduate Diploma in Social Work and will be eligible to apply for registration with Social Work England. Students who gain 60 credits will receive the award of Post Graduate Certificate in Applied Social Sciences will not be eligible to apply for registration with Social Work England. Students who started on the programme prior to September 2022 will continue to follow the programme validated in 2015. They will complete the previous versions of the modules: 7101SWMAP 7102SWMAP 7103SWMAP 7104SWMAP 7105SWMAP 7107SWMAP 7108SWMAP

Programme Structure - 180 credit points	
Level 7 - 180 credit points	
Level 7 Core - 180 credit points	CORE
[MODULE] 7201SWMAP Working With Adults Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7202SWMAP Social Work Knowledge and Skills Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7203SWMAP Law and Social Policy for Practice Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7204SWMAP Poverty, Inequality and Social Justice Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7205SWMAP Introduction to Research Methods Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7207SWMAP Social Work Specialist Practice Children Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7208SWMAP Dissertation Approved 2022.01 - 60 credit points	

Module specifications may be accessed at <https://proformas.ljmu.ac.uk/Default.aspx>

Approved variance from Academic Framework Regulations

Variance
The following variances have been approved on 20/06/22: 1) Students must successfully pass all components of assessment in 7202SWMAP and 7208SWMAP to be awarded an overall pass in these modules. 2) 7202SWMAP is delivered as a Year-Long Module.

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

The programme has a robust quality assurance processes and engages fully with service users and carers/people with lived experience of social work to deliver a curriculum that is fit for purpose. The academics delivering the programme have the relevant expertise and qualifications to deliver it. Practitioner expertise is be used to inform teaching delivery. The curriculum will continually evolve to take account of the developing evidence-informed practice and research that exists, to ensure it matches the contemporary demands of the whole social work sector. The academic programme team and wider LJMU support services will provide effective educational and pastoral support to progress students through their course and develop the knowledge and skills necessary to meet the professional standards when they qualify. Teaching and learning strategies include interactive lectures with a range of student centred learning methods, such as small group work, role play, discussion, case study and active blended learning. Specialist IT and internet resources are used. Postgraduate students will be expected to engage in a wide range of appropriate reading throughout the course to supplement and consolidate what is being taught, and actively participate in their own learning and that of others. They are expected to make maximum use of library and internet facilities to access recent research. Intellectual skills are developed through group discussions and debates within small and large group settings, and through practical project work, tutorial work and coursework assignments. Application of cognitive skills to practice is developed through case study work and via reflection upon the student's own professional practice, including postgraduate assignment and research based activities focused on ethical and methodological issues, professional practice and research. The teaching and learning strategy includes input from service users and practitioners with an emphasis on inter-professional and multi-professional practice. Assessment methods may include essays, case studies, self assessment tasks, group presentations, exams and practice observations. Additionally, knowledge is assessed via work based upon the student's practice placement. This requires students to demonstrate their ability to link theory to practice. Postgraduate students will engage in a research based task which will demonstrate their knowledge of the subject area, its relation to social work practice, and recent relevant research. Additionally students will be assessed on their practice skills via the analysis of case scenarios and direct practice with service users on placement. This evidence will be presented in their practice reports. Postgraduate students will be assessed on their ability to theorise their practice at the required level for a Masters programme. Students are expected to apply the knowledge gained in the University to their placements. Each student has a Practice Educator who, through professional supervision, consolidates the development of knowledge, skills and values as guided by the Social Work England's (SWE) Professional Standards (2019) and the Professional Capabilities Framework (PCF) (British Association of Social Workers). The assessment of SWE's Professional Standards and the PCF is undertaken by a suitably qualified Practice Educator. The student is responsible for compiling evidence upon which the assessment is based. There is a written report by the student's Practice Educator, which makes a judgement on whether the required standards have been met. In addition the report must detail the specified number of observed practices carried out by the student with a service user(s). Students must produce a Practice Assessment Report signed off by the Practice Educator. Assessment of postgraduate research and evaluation skills will be through the research task.

Opportunities for work related learning

Students are expected to apply the knowledge gained in the University to their placements. Each student has a Practice Educator who, through professional supervision, consolidates the development of knowledge, skills and values as guided by Social Work England's Professional Standards (2019) and the domains within the Professional Capabilities Framework (British Association of Social Work). The work-based placement will offer students an opportunity to develop their knowledge skills and values across public, private and voluntary sectors. The assessment of the Social Work England's Professional Standards is undertaken by a suitably qualified social work Practice Educator. The student is responsible for compiling evidence upon which the assessment is based. There is a written report by the student's Practice Educator, who makes a judgement on whether Social Work England's Professional Standards and the domains within the Professional Capabilities Framework have been met. In addition the report must detail the specified number of observed practices carried out by the student with a service user(s). Students must produce a Practice Assessment Report signed off by the Practice Educator.

Entry Requirements

Type	Description
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Other international requirements	IELTS 7.0
Alternative qualifications considered	Application is via UCAS. Applicants are required to produce a extended personal statement as part of their application. A minimum of 500 hours of relevant experience working in a social work/care related post in either a paid or voluntary capacity is required. Applicants must (in accordance with the professional requirements): Attend an assessment day. Demonstrate that they can understand and make use of written material and are able to communicate clearly and accurately in spoken and written English. Demonstrate appropriate personal and intellectual qualities to be social workers. Supply additional reference which provides evidence of applicant's ability to work with others. Candidates selected for interview will complete a written exercise, an assessed group work activity and an interview by a panel of two, which will include a social work academic and either a service user or social work practitioner.
A levels	The recruitment and admissions process for the programme aims to assess the capability and suitability of applicant's to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to meet the Professional Standards and Education and Training Standards of the regulator and be eligible to register with Social Work England upon completion of the course. Eligibility criteria: An Honours degree (minimum 2:2) with a substantial proportion of the degree being in the social sciences or a related subject area. A minimum of 500 hours prior experience either paid or voluntary in the social welfare field. English key skills/GCSE Grade C/4 or equivalent. The following Level 2 qualifications will be considered in place of English Language GCSE grade C/4 or above: Key Skills, City and Guilds, OCR (via Learn Direct) and ALAN.

Extra Entry Requirements