



## MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Social Issues and Social Problems		
Module Code	UZSSLG-30-1	Level	Level 4
For implementation from	2020-21		
UWE Credit Rating	30	ECTS Credit Rating	15
Faculty	Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences	Field	Sociology and Criminology
Department	HAS Dept of Health & Social Sciences		
Module type:	Standard		
Pre-requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co- requisites	None		
Module Entry requirements	None		

Part 2: Description
<p><b>Educational Aims:</b> See Learning Outcomes.</p> <p><b>Outline Syllabus:</b> The definition and nature of social issues and social problems</p> <p>Understanding the historical nature and contemporary form of Social Issues and Social Problems (indicative):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Poverty and Inequality</li> <li>Health and Illness</li> <li>Employment/Unemployment/Low Pay</li> <li>Crime and Deviance</li> <li>Alcohol and Drug Abuse</li> <li>Aging and the Life Course</li> <li>Transport/Mobility</li> <li>Disability</li> <li>Housing/Homelessness</li> <li>Racism</li> <li>Media and Culture</li> </ul> <p>Social Problems and Public Policy: Government Intervention and Policy Making in historical and</p>

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comparative perspective.

The Practice and Ideology of Social Welfare: Historical and Comparative Perspectives

**Teaching and Learning Methods:** Scheduled learning includes one hour lectures and two-hour workshop. The module is based on a problem/enquiry based learning approach which engages students with social problems and issues while fostering both independent study and team work. Workshops therefore aim to help students learn and practice the range of skills indicated in above sections, while lectures offer orientation and knowledge acquisition. Students will be expected to conduct independent study related to the presentations. Independent study is required in relation to set reading for lectures and workshops, as well as assessed work.

Lectures are essential for providing an overview of syllabus topics;

Workshops are designed to be central to learning, teaching and assessment in this module through facilitating groups work and, group presentations and tutorial time to further encourage and engagement with broader lecture themes;

Directed Tasks will include those based on reading in preparation for seminars;

E-learning resources as appropriate, including the use of UWEonline.

Scheduled learning includes lectures, seminars, tutorials, project supervision, demonstration, practical classes and workshops; fieldwork; external visits; work based learning; supervised time in studio/workshop.

Independent learning includes hours engaged with essential reading, case study preparation, assignment preparation and completion. Scheduled sessions may vary slightly depending on the module choices you make.

There will be 3 formal contact hours per week, in addition to an expectation that individual students spend time in independent reading/research. There will be one lecture, one two-hour workshop per week (66 contact hours in total over two semesters).

### Part 3: Assessment

In semester one, students will prepare a case study on a social problem or issue that will demonstrate an attempt to connect personal experience and public issues and contrast 'common sense' and sociological explanations of social issues and social problems.

In semester two students will complete an essay which enable them to engage with the relationship between social problems, government policy and competing and/or comparative understandings of social welfare.

The campaign brief will assess the ability of students to understand social issues and social problems in a conceptual and policy context.

First Sit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Written Assignment - Component B		40 %	2000 word essay
Portfolio - Component A	✓	30 %	Campaign Brief (1500 words)
Case Study - Component B		30 %	1500 word case study of social problem/issue

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Portfolio - Component A	✓	30 %	Campaign Brief (1500 words)
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Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods															
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes:														
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Module Learning Outcomes</th> <th>Reference</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Understand the nature of social problems and the ways in which sociology as a discipline can articulate the connections between private troubles and public issues</td> <td>MO1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Demonstrate a familiarity with and an understanding of a range of substantive social problems and the ways in which sociology has attempted to understand and analyse these problems</td> <td>MO2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Have gained an understanding of the governmental policy-making process and the factors that impinge on it</td> <td>MO3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Understand some of the key concepts used in social policy such as need, equity, inequality, poverty, exclusion, identity, difference and diversity</td> <td>MO4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Understand key concepts in social policy and their relationship with the historical development of the welfare state and analyse the changing shape and priorities of social policy, and of different welfare states and policy priorities of other countries</td> <td>MO5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Demonstrate how and why some social issues are incorporated onto the public agenda and/or government agenda and to differentiate between ideological perspectives which influence definitions of a social problem and policy responses to it</td> <td>MO6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Module Learning Outcomes	Reference	Understand the nature of social problems and the ways in which sociology as a discipline can articulate the connections between private troubles and public issues	MO1	Demonstrate a familiarity with and an understanding of a range of substantive social problems and the ways in which sociology has attempted to understand and analyse these problems	MO2	Have gained an understanding of the governmental policy-making process and the factors that impinge on it	MO3	Understand some of the key concepts used in social policy such as need, equity, inequality, poverty, exclusion, identity, difference and diversity	MO4	Understand key concepts in social policy and their relationship with the historical development of the welfare state and analyse the changing shape and priorities of social policy, and of different welfare states and policy priorities of other countries	MO5	Demonstrate how and why some social issues are incorporated onto the public agenda and/or government agenda and to differentiate between ideological perspectives which influence definitions of a social problem and policy responses to it	MO6
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Contact Hours	<b>Independent Study Hours:</b>														
	Independent study/self-guided study	234													
	<b>Total Independent Study Hours:</b>	234													
	<b>Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:</b>														
	Face-to-face learning	66													
	<b>Total Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:</b>	66													
	<b>Hours to be allocated</b>	300													
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Reading List	<p><i>The reading list for this module can be accessed via the following link:</i></p> <p><a href="https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzsslg-30-1.html">https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzsslg-30-1.html</a></p>
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### **Part 5: Contributes Towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: