MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Theory and Research for Social Work Practice		
Module Code	UZVSMD-30-2	Level	Level 5
For implementation from	2020-21		
UWE Credit Rating	30	ECTS Credit Rating	15
Faculty	Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences	Field	Health, Community and Policy Studies
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

Educational Aims: See Learning Outcomes

Outline Syllabus: Theories of the human subject and identities – e.g. Gidden's structuration theory, symbolic interactionism, psychosocial theory

Contemporary society as the context of social work - globalisation, social justice, individualism, inequalities, diversity

Theories of power: structuralism, post-structuralism, social capital, empowerment, governmentality and self- governance

Theories of agency and change, e.g. psychoanalytical theory, habitus, motivation

Knowledge and information evaluation: using multiple sources, consider validity and reliability

Developing skills in critically reading social science research papers and critical appraisal skills, and applying research learning to social work practice thinking

Ethics for research

Teaching and Learning Methods: Scheduled learning includes online lectures, seminars and workshops.

Directed Independent learning includes hours engaged with essential reading, seminar task preparation, assignment preparation and completion etc.

Part 3: Assessment

A - the skills of reading and critically discussing research papers will be examined by the critical discussion of a research paper as online exam (up to 2500 words with a 24 hour window for completion).

Assessment criteria
Critical evaluation and analysis
Factual accuracy
Understanding of relevant issues and ideas
Capacity to structure and present work
Formative assessment – critical discussion and analysis in seminars of set research papers for group discussion and peer feed-back

B- The assignment will assess students' critical understanding a range of competing theories and how they can be used to enhance understanding for social work practice. The most useful format for this is an extended essay, in which ideas can be developed and complex connections explored (2,500 words)

Formative assessment: presentation of essay plan at group assessment support session for peer and tutor feed-back

Assessment criteria
Ability to relate theory and concepts to a discussion
Critical analysis and evaluation
Evidence of wide reading
Synthesis, structure, referencing

First Sit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Written Assignment - Component B	✓	50 %	2500 word essay
Examination (Online) - Component A		50 %	Online exam with questions based on research paper (up to 2500 words)
Resit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Written Assignment - Component B	✓	50 %	2500 word essay
Examination (Online) - Component A		50 %	online exam questions based on research paper (up to 2500 words)

Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods	
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes:

Module Learning Outcomes	Reference
Evaluate a range of theoretical social science perspectives through which people in their life worlds can be usefully understood	MO1
Understand a range of perspectives on the development of identities and how this knowledge can be utilised in social work practice	MO2
Demonstrate an understanding of theories of unequal power relations and their manifestation in class, gender and cultural differentiation and their application to social work	MO3
Discuss the strengths, limitations and ethical dimensions of a range of sources of knowledge for social work	MO4
Show a growing understanding of the role and importance of research in constructing knowledge, and the strengths and limitations and ethical dimensions of the major (qualitative and quantitative) research paradigms	MO5
Apply social sciences theories of the subject : service users and carers and workers, to the practices of social work	MO6
Develop critical reflective capacity in relation to the application of complex theory to understanding self and service users	MO7

Contact Hours	**Independent Study Hours:**	
	Independent study/self-guided study	228
	Total Independent Study Hours:	228
	Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:	
	Face-to-face learning	72
	Total Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:	72
	Hours to be allocated	300
	Allocated Hours	300

Reading List	*The reading list for this module can be accessed via the following link:* https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzvsmd-30-2.html

Part 5: Contributes Towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: