



Module Specification

Policy Context and Legal Frameworks for Social Work

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Policy Context and Legal Frameworks for Social Work

Module code: UZVS4X-30-M

Level: Level 7

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

Faculty: Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

Department: HAS School of Health and Social Wellbeing

Partner institutions: None

Field: Health, Community and Policy Studies

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This module seeks to explore relevant legislation and policy to contemporary social work practice. It will support the application of the policy context and legal frameworks to practice, whilst considering power and diversity within society and the associated ethical tensions that may arise.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: In this module the history and contemporary organisation of social policy and the legal system, primarily with reference to England and the UK will be considered. This includes philosophy, key principles and the relationship between the law, social policy and social work practice with children, young people and adults

Outline syllabus: Central concepts and theoretical perspectives in relation to social policy and law including application to citizenship responsibility, choice and rights; human rights and social justice; discrimination and equalities; poverty and other forms of social disadvantage; voluntary, statutory, private and informal sector provision; advocacy, service user involvement and personalisation; and the nature of legal authority and statutory accountability will be explored.

This includes contemporary legal and policy developments in relation to welfare, health care, social care, criminal justice, housing, education, immigration/asylum and other fields of relevance to social work practice, management of risk, dilemmas and debates in social work in health and social care related fields of practice.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The teaching and learning methods in this module will follow a lecture and seminar model, which will allow you to apply your learning in a smaller group. Activities to support learning will include case studies, practical activities in small groups, group presentations, and discussions. There will be preparation set for each session in terms of academic reading.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Critically analyse issues in contemporary public and social policy in relation to practice and service delivery in social work with adults, children and families, and in related fields.

MO2 Critically apply a range of concepts and theories to explain policy and legal practice in social work and other fields of relevance to social work practice.

MO3 Critically reflect on key ethical and value-based dilemmas in the provision, delivery and management of social care and related services.

MO4 Identify major statutory powers and duties for social work practice in relation to service users and carers.

MO5 Articulate the significance of legislative and policy frameworks and service delivery standards and apply relevant policy and legal frameworks correctly to the social work role.

MO6 Show an understanding of statutory accountability and the tensions and relationship between statute, policy and practice.

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 240 hours

Face-to-face learning = 60 hours

Total = 300

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzvs4x-30-m.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzvs4x-30-m.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: This module has two assessment tasks; a written assignment and a presentation.

The summative written assignment (3000 words) is a response to a legal case scenario. The summative presentation (maximum 30 minutes - 15 mins presentation plus 15 mins questioning) is a critical analysis of a piece of contemporary UK policy. This is intended to comprehensively assess a range of capabilities of the student, in terms of critical evaluation; recall and application of theory, policy and legislation to social work practice.

Opportunities will be available to develop presentation and writing skills and practice delivering presentations within seminar groups. For example, a formative interview will be used to support students in preparation for the summative presentation, as they present their chosen policy and identify key factors in relation to critical analysis and application to social work practice. The interview is expected to inform the structure of the presentation.

Assessment tasks:**Written Assignment (First Sit)**

Description: Written Assignment (3000 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

Presentation (First Sit)

Description: Presentation (30 mins)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Written Assignment (3000 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

Presentation (Resit)

Description: Presentation (30 mins)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Social Work [Glenside] PGDip 2023-24