



## **Module Specification**

# **Developing Decision-Making on Protection and Risk in Social Work Practice**

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** Developing Decision-Making on Protection and Risk in Social Work Practice

**Module code:** UZVYKU-20-3

**Level:** Level 6

**For implementation from:** 2023-24

**UWE credit rating:** 20

**ECTS credit rating:** 10

**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:** Yes

**Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements:** None

## Part 2: Description

**Overview:** This module is designed to enable experienced social workers to develop their evidence based decision making skills regarding the core elements of protection and risk in practice.

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** This module aims to develop experienced social work practitioners' understanding of the theory and evidence base on decision-making regarding protection and risk and to support their development of criticality for complex and high risk situations.

**Outline syllabus:** This is a module is designed for social work post-qualifying continuing professional development.

This module will support students to explore theory, research and anti-oppressive approaches in relation to abuse and professional responses in relation to the prevention and management of risk and harm. Theories explored include psycho-social approaches to violence and abuse, positive risk-taking approaches, cultural aspects of abuse and risk and risk management approaches. The module will give opportunities for students to consider specific areas of abuse such as sexual abuse and signs and symptoms of abuse in children and adults. The teaching will encourage students to recognise protection and risk as interprofessional social, individual and family issues which often require multi-agency responses. Professionals in health and social care are required to be accountable for and defend their decision making, and this module will enable students to think critically about how they balance protection, autonomy and rights in managing risk and harm.

### **Part 3: Teaching and learning methods**

**Teaching and learning methods:** Teaching on this module includes whole group lectures and small group activities such as learning sets. Students will be expected to study independently with structured learning which could include guided reading, case studies etc. Teaching may be face to face, online or a mixture of these.

This module is taught and assessed at both level 6/3 and 7/M.

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

**MO1** Identify and explore the types, signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect across children, adults and families

**MO2** Explore the impact of diverse social and cultural contexts for understanding issues of abuse and neglect and management of risk

**MO3** Examine the strengths, limitations and ethical dimensions of approaches taken by health and social care professionals to managing risk and making decisions

**MO4** Analyse theoretical understandings of decision making and reflect on how these might be applied to practice contexts

**MO5** Demonstrate reflective practice by applying values, theory, knowledge, research and legal and policy frameworks and guidance to examples of decision-making in contexts of risk

**Hours to be allocated:** 200

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 152 hours

Face-to-face learning = 48 hours

Total = 200

**Reading list:** The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link <https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/F69FD9E5-B51A-ADE7-7215-EDD579EC4B14.html?lang=en&login=1>

## **Part 4: Assessment**

**Assessment strategy:** The assessment on this module comprises:

Formative feedback opportunities are provided to students throughout the module by the teaching staff and through peer led learning sets. Students will be asked to read and discuss specific journal articles which will form the basis for the assignment questions. They will receive feedback through this process on their developing understanding, knowledge and critical evaluation skills within a supportive context. Teaching staff will provide ongoing feedback on the appropriateness and level of student understanding and skills and offer support with study and critical thinking

skills as required.

Summative assessment for this module is a 3000 word assignment that will enable students to demonstrate their critical appraisal of key theories and concepts relating to protection and risk in social work and their ability to relate these to practice.

**Assessment tasks:**

**Written Assignment (First Sit)**

Description: 3000 word written assignment

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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

**Written Assignment (Resit)**

Description: 3000 word written assignment

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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

**Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: