



Module Specification

Equality, Ethics and Values for Social Work

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Equality, Ethics and Values for Social Work

Module code: UZVYH9-30-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2025-26

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: Recognising and promoting equality, practising ethically and in accordance with social work values is essential for professional social work practice. This module aims to support those nearing the end of their qualifying degree to explore the challenges of ethical and rights-driven practice with diverse service users, carers and communities and how to apply this knowledge to their decision-making.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: This module aims to encourage you to reflect on the diversity of experiences you may encounter in social work and explore and apply ways that ethics and values could guide and inform your practice.

Outline syllabus: While studying this module you will consider how diverse experiences, discrimination and oppression impact the individuals, families, and communities that social workers work with. You will consider your personal experiences as part of your learning. Through examination of theory, research, law on equalities and rights, social policy and professional standards, you will identify key models and approaches for anti-oppressive and ethical social work practice. These could include theories of power and intersectionality and approaches to addressing racism, ableism, classism, ageism, and homophobia/transphobia. You will explore applying these approaches to practice situations

You will consider how ethical perspectives such as deontology, utilitarianism, and virtue ethics, can aid understanding of where conflicts arise in decision-making. You will also learn about how to address complexity and dilemmas in a values-driven manner, as well as the nature of social work as an ethical profession. You will have opportunities to reflect on oppression and ethical dilemmas you encountered in practice and explore values-driven solutions to complex decisions.

Studying on this module is likely to provide learning in relation to emerging legislation and guidance, for example Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS) (draft) Learning Outcomes: 1, Human rights as a basis for LPS, and 4. Understanding deprivation of liberty.

In this module the United Nations Sustainability Development Goals (SDG) '5. Gender equality' and '10. Reduce Inequalities' will be considered.

Studying this module is likely to provide learning in relation to the following domains of the Professional Capability Framework (PCF): Domain 2 'Values and ethics', Domain 3, Diversity and equality', Domain 4 'Rights, justice and economic wellbeing', Domain 5 'Knowledge', and Domain 6 'Critical reflection and analysis'.

The scheduled teaching and learning will count towards the 30 days of skills development required by Social Work England.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Teaching will take place in lectures, smaller groups for seminars and learning activities such as panel discussions or debates. Case studies and ethical scenarios will be used to consider how to apply theory and research to decision-making. Your reflections on your own experiences, including from placement, will be a central element of your development of ethical and anti-oppressive reasoning.

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

MO1 Recognise and critically explore how people's diverse experiences impact on them and consider how anti-oppressive approaches can inform social work intervention.

MO2 Use knowledge of ethical models to build professional arguments to address dilemmas relevant to social work practice.

MO3 Recognise and critically explore the nature and impact of your values and how they may inform or influence on your practice as a social worker.

MO4 Identify the tensions and dilemmas in the use of power in work with service users and carers to reach decisions based on partnerships.

MO5 Critically reflect on the structural, cultural and personal contexts that can inform complexity in decision-making and how to address these in practice.

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Total = 300

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link

<https://ri.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/DF3A8A7A-4B96-C436-25DD-758C7CB58658.html?lang=en&login=1>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Formative assessment will take the form of a group presentation relating to an element of anti-oppressive practice or ethical decision-making which will include reflection on how your own identity might positively or negatively affect your professional decision-making. This will help you prepare for the summative assessment.

This module will be assessed via a 2500 word critically reflective account based on an anonymised ethical dilemma from your practice experience. The word count for this module reflects the writing that will have already taken place in your practice portfolio for module 'Social Work Placement 2'. This will be drawn from your experience on placement and will give an opportunity for you to critically explore and reflect on ethical and values driven decision-making in the context of discrimination and oppression. Guidance will be given during teaching on relevant practice for you to use for this assignment.

Assessment tasks:

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: Critical reflective account (2500 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Critical reflective account (2500 words)

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:

Social Work [Glenside] BSc (Hons) 2023-24