

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: Social Work Theory and Methods
Status: Definitive
Code: **4030SWA** (128259)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

Owning School/Faculty: Nursing and Allied Health
Teaching School/Faculty: Nursing and Allied Health

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Academic Level: FHEQ4 **Credit Value:** 20 **Total Delivered Hours:** 40

Total Learning Hours: 200 **Private Study:** 160

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Summer

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	24
Workshop	16

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	Essay	The 2,500 word essay will assess your understanding of two social work methods of intervention as well the principles of any social work theory or theories which has influenced the development of the two methods you have chosen to discuss.	60	

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Presentation	Presentati	The individual presentation will assess your understanding of the meaning of social work and the role of the social worker in relation to working with service users.	40	

Aims

The aim of this module is to enable students to engage in theoretically informed practice, which is ethical and needs led.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the nature of social work in contemporary society, the role of the social worker and professional practice.
- 2 Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the range of social work theory and models relevant to social work and apply this knowledge to their practice.
- 3 Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of service user perspectives and participation within the process of social work and decision-making.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

Essay	2	3
Presentation	1	

Outline Syllabus

What is social work?

The knowledge base of social work: concepts, theories, methods and models.

The relationship between theory and practice.

The role of research in social work practice.

Working ethically and anti-oppressively with individuals, families, groups and communities.

Understanding assessment in social work.

Intervention strategies for achieving change.

Reviewing and evaluating practice.

Personal and professional development: The critically reflective practitioner.

Working with other professionals – inter-professional practice.

Service user and carer perspectives – front-line voices.

Learning Activities

Lectures, group discussions, seminars, co-produced workshops with academics, practitioners and service users.

Notes

The module is mapped against the followings standards and frameworks:

Social Work England Professional Standards:

1. Promote the rights, strengths and well being of people, families and communities (1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7)
2. Establish and maintain the trust and confidence of people (2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6)
3. Be accountable for the quality of my practice and the decisions I make (3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.6, 3.7, 3.9, 3.11, 3.12, 3.13, 3.14, 3.15)
4. Maintain my continuing professional development (4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.8)
5. Act safely, respectfully and with professional integrity (5.1, 5.2, 5.5,5.6)
6. Promote ethical practice and report concerns (6.1, 6.3,6.4,6.5,)

PCF domains

Professionalism; Values and ethics; Diversity and equality; Rights, justice and economic well being; Knowledge; Critical reflection and analysis, skills and Intervention, contexts and organisations.

Knowledge and Skills Statements

Knowledge and Skills for Approved Child and Family Practitioners: Relationships and effective direct work, Communication, Abuse and neglect of children, Child and family assessment, Analysis, decision-making, planning and review, The role of supervision.

Knowledge and Skills Statement for Social Workers in Adult Services: Person – centred practice, Safeguarding, Effective assessments and outcome based support planning, Direct work with individuals and families, Supervision, critical reflection and analysis, organisational context, Professional ethics and leadership.

Apprenticeshp Standards.

Professional values and ethics skills:

- ensure the highest standard of person centred approach, so that people are treated with dignity and their rights, values and autonomy are respected.

- practise in a non-discriminatory manner

Knowledge:

- that relationships with individuals and their carers should be based on respect, honesty and integrity.
- the impact of different cultures and communities and how this affects social work.

Views of people who use services, carers and families skills:

- hear the views of people who use services, carers, their families and communities, recognise their expertise, and enable their views to have validity and influence.
- promote the best interests of people who use services, carers, their families and communities
- work with people to enable them to make informed decisions and exercise their rights.
- work to promote individual growth, development and independence.

Knowledge:

- the contribution that peoples' own resources and strengths can bring to social work.

Evidence-based decision-making and analysis skills:

- undertake assessments of need and/or capacity.
- initiate resolution of issues and use initiative.
- gather, analyse, critically evaluate and use research information and knowledge in your practice to develop an understanding of the individual's situation
- make and receive referrals appropriately.
- use social work methods, theories and models to enable individuals to identify actions to achieve change and improve life opportunities.
- manage and weigh up competing/conflicting values or interests to make reasoned professional judgement.

Knowledge:

- the impact of different societies' views on human behaviour
- the value of research and analysis and be able to evaluate evidence to inform practice
- that experiences and feelings affect behaviour in interactions

Personal and professional development skills:

- manage the physical and emotional impact of your practice
- identify and apply strategies to build professional and emotional resilience
- use supervision to support and enhance the quality of your practice
- recognise the need to manage workloads and resources effectively
- keep your skills, knowledge and ongoing professional development up to date
- show an awareness of current and relevant legislation
- use a range of research methodologies to inform your practice
- work in partnership with others

Knowledge:

- social work theory, models and interventions;
- the impact of injustice, demography, social inequality, policies and other issues which affect the demand for social work services
- how to update knowledge to ensure evidence informed practice
- the scope and limits of practice and when/how to seek advice from a range of sources
- models of supervision, critical reflection and self-reflection to enhance/change practice
- the requirements of the relevant professional body

Safe professional practice and safeguarding skills:

- balance appropriate levels of autonomy within a complex system of accountability
- respond appropriately to unexpected situations, identify and challenge practices which present a risk to, or from, people you are working with, their carers or others in order to uphold professional requirements
- respond appropriately to signs of harm, abuse and neglect
- maintain the safety of people you work with, their families/carers and your colleagues
- establish and maintain personal and professional boundaries
- follow health and safety policies and procedures.

Knowledge:

- applicable safeguarding/health and safety legislation, policies and procedures
- how to maintain your own personal safety and that of others in complex situations
- signs of harm, abuse and neglect and the importance of professional curiosity when these are observed and the appropriate risk assessment tools and processes to use.

Knowledge:

- the role of the Social Worker and roles of others within safeguarding, appropriate to levels of skills and experience

Communication skills:

- communicate your role and purpose sensitively and clearly, using appropriate language and methods
- communicate in a way which is engaging, respectful, motivating and effective, even when dealing with conflict or resistance to change
- exercise professional curiosity
- have difficult conversations with empathy.

Knowledge:

- how communication skills affect the assessment of, and engagement with, individuals and their families/carers.

Working with others skills:

- demonstrate effective interpersonal skills
- engage with individuals and their families/carers and sustain effective relationships

in order to effect change

Knowledge:

- the full range of interpersonal skills required to work with other professionals and agencies

Recording and reporting skills:

- Critically reflect on/review practice and record the outcomes of reflection appropriately.

Knowledge:

- The principles of good record keeping.

Use of technology skills:

- Use technology to manage work
- Use technology to communicate appropriately