

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: Social work law, rights and responsibilities
Status: Definitive
Code: **4060SWA** (128263)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

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

Team	Leader
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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: NS2 (S2 for Jan)

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	24
Seminar	4
Workshop	10

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Exam	MC Exam	Multiple-choice / Short answer exam	100	2

Aims

The aim of the module is to explore the responsibilities of the professional social worker, to provide a comprehensive examination of the legislative framework in which social work operates and the impact of social work intervention on the rights of service users, their families and carers.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Identify and apply the legislative framework for social work intervention in a range of social care settings
- 2 Demonstrate an understanding of the rights of service users, their families and carers
- 3 Recognise the responsibilities of the professional social worker in context with the law
- 4 Discuss legal and ethical tensions when applying social work legislation

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Multiple Choice Exam	1	2	3	4
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Outline Syllabus

Your outline indicative syllabus for this module includes

- *Introduction to the legal framework for social work practice*
- *The responsibilities of social workers – statutory requirements (SWE, PCF, KSSs)*
- *The rights of service users, their families and carers - the legal framework and service user led workshop*
- *The central role of Equality and Human Rights legislation in social work interventions*
- *Understanding and applying the Mental Capacity Act 2005*
- *Understanding and applying Mental Health legislation*
- *Understanding and applying the Care Act 2014*
- *Understanding and applying Children and Families legislation*
- *Safeguarding children legislation, rights and responsibilities*
- *Safeguarding adults legislation, rights and responsibilities*
- *Youth justice*
- *Domestic violence*
- *The Data Protection Act 2018*

Learning Activities

The teaching and learning on this module will include a blend of lectures with group discussions, seminars and workshops, where students can apply the taught content to practice scenarios.

Notes

This module is designed to provide you with a comprehensive overview of the legislative framework for social work practice, alongside the responsibilities of social workers in context with service users' rights.

The module will include exploration of human rights and equality legislation and how legislation must be applied in the best interest of service users, their families and carers.

You will be provided with opportunities to consider legislation in the context of practical case scenarios. The tensions and dilemmas that can occur as a result of social work intervention in the private lives of service users will be given due regard during this module.

Mapping of this module to the different standards for social work education

Apprenticeship Standards

Skills:

Personal and professional development:

- show an awareness of current and relevant legislation

Views of people who use services, carers, their families and communities:

- work with people to enable them to make informed decisions and exercise their rights

Safe professional practice and safeguarding:

- respond appropriately to signs of harm, abuse and neglect

Communication:

- Exercise professional curiosity

Knowledge:

Professional values and ethics:

- the importance of rights, responsibilities, freedom, authority and use of power
- the importance of maintaining, and the limits of, confidentiality
- current legal and ethical frameworks

Personal and professional development:

- how to update knowledge to ensure evidence informed practice
- the requirements of the relevant professional body

Safe professional practice and safeguarding:

- applicable safeguarding/health and safety legislation, policies and procedures
- 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
- the role of the Social Worker and roles of others within safeguarding, appropriate to levels of skills and experience

Recording and reporting:

- the applicable legislation, policies and procedures

Use of technology:

- IT data sharing protocols

Social Work England Professional Standards

Standard 1 Promote the rights, strengths and wellbeing of people, families and communities (1.2, 1.6, 1.7)

Standard 2 Establish and maintain the trust and confidence of people (2.4, 2.6)

Standard 3 Be accountable for the quality of my practice and the decisions I make (3.1, 3.3, 3.7)

Standard 4 Maintain my continuing professional development (4.8)

Standard 6 Promote ethical practice and report concerns (6.5, 6.6)

PCF domains

Professionalism; Values and ethics; Diversity; Rights, Justice and economic wellbeing; Knowledge; Critical reflection and analysis and Skills and Interventions.

Knowledge and Skills Statements

- Knowledge and Skills for Approved Child and Family Practitioners: The law and The family and youth justice systems; and
- Knowledge and Skills Statement for Social Workers in Adult Services: Safeguarding; Mental Capacity and Organisational Context.