



OPEN UNIVERSITY OF MAURITIUS

Undergraduate Programme Specification

## BSc (Hons) Social Work Top Up [OUbs031]

Academic year: 2019-2020

This programme documents detail the aims, learning strategies, structure and intended learning outcomes that students should achieve if they fully engage with the learning provided within the programme. The document is intended to support and inform prospective students, current students, academic and support staff, external stakeholders and external examiners.

1. PROGRAMME INFORMATION	
<b>Title of final award</b>	<b>Bachelor of Science with Honours in Social Work BSc (Hons) Social Work</b>
<b>Code</b>	OUbs031
<b>Awarding Body</b>	Open University of Mauritius
<b>Disciplinary Division</b>	Humanities
<b>Programme Manager</b>	Mrs Meera Gungea
<b>Administrator in charge</b>	Mrs Kalindee Lucknauth
<b>Programme duration</b>	<b>Degree Award</b> Minimum: 1.5 years Maximum: 3 years For the above award, all modules of the programme must be completed.
<b>Total Credits</b>	93.5 credits
<b>Credits per year</b>	<i>Normally 60 credits per academic year Minimum number of credits per semester 20</i>
<b>MQA NQF level</b>	Level 8
<b>EHEA EQF level</b>	Level 6
<b>External Accreditors</b>	Not applicable
<b>Collaborative Partners</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Programme approval date</b>	Tbc
<b>Last revision</b>	Programme developed and approved in 2017
<b>Last update</b>	Not applicable

## 2. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

General:	<p>General Entry Requirements under Direct Entry to Undergraduate Programmes. Applicants should fulfil the following conditions:</p> <p>(1) Cambridge School Certificate with at least five credits or equivalent <b>and</b> <b>Either</b> i) For fresh HSC holders: Three passes at Principal Level (A-Level) and Two passes at Sub Level (in appropriate subjects as indicated in the specific programme requirements)</p> <p>ii) For mature candidates: Either Two passes at Principal Level (A-Level) (in appropriate subjects as indicated in the specific programme requirements) Or One pass at Principal Level (A-level), should be above 25 years old and possess three years of working experience.</p> <p><b>And</b> (2) Candidates must hold a Diploma in Social Work from a recognised institution Learners must submit all relevant documents. Application for exemption will not be entertained</p>
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## 3. PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Aims and objective of the programme:	<p>Social Work is a key area aimed at providing professional support to society's vulnerable citizens. Having an academic qualification in this field allows social workers to develop their skills and abilities to resolve problems with a professional approach. This Top Up programme is specifically designed for those who already have a Diploma in Social Work and want to upgrade their qualification in this area.</p> <p>Aim of the Programme</p> <p>The BSc (Hons) Social Work (Top Up) aims to enable learners acquire a set of skills that will be invaluable for those looking forward to a fulfilling career in the social services sector. Upon completion of the programme, learners will acquire the latest knowledge required by professional social workers. This programme covers a range of issues central in the understanding of social work and include social work practice, ethical issue, clinical social work, gender issues and abuse of vulnerable people. A degree in Social Work opens up avenues in areas such as national and local governments including child/family welfare agencies and departments of health and human services, the private sector or the possibility of higher studies.</p>
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<b>Intended Learning outcomes:</b>	
After completion of the programme, students will be able to:	
Knowledge and understanding	<b>K1</b> Define the key concepts in social work <b>K2</b> Outline the different theories and emerging research about social work <b>K3</b> Describe the values and ethical standards needed for the profession
Cognitive skills	<b>C1</b> Discuss theories in the areas of engagement, assessment, intervention, and evaluation with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. <b>C2</b> Develop sound theoretical knowledge in the social work discipline <b>C3</b> Develop a professional orientation and identity as a social worker. <b>C4</b> Apply legal and ethical standards in the administration of social work. <b>C5</b> Analyse social protection and social welfare programmes <b>C6</b> Appraise evidence-based research and critical thinking skills to inform practice in meeting the needs of the society
Practical/professional Skills	<b>P1</b> Demonstrate skills in applying principles of advocacy toward promoting social work and positive social change in individuals, communities, and society. <b>P2</b> Apply professional standards as social workers in generic settings <b>P3</b> Show the link of theory to the practice of social work <b>P4</b> Develop social work intervention strategies network with civil society organisations <b>P5</b> Devise and manage social research to analyse social problems <b>P6</b> Interpret research findings to formulate appropriate social policies in line with the SDGs <b>P7</b> Apply professional social work skills and techniques
Transferable skills	<b>T1</b> Demonstrate how to manage and best respond to situations of crisis <b>T2</b> Appreciate the value of sustainable community development projects <b>T3</b> Utilize the evidence-based research methods to assess social problems <b>T4</b> Exhibit positive behaviours in academic, professional and social settings using knowledge acquired <b>T5</b> Mentor novice social work practitioners

<b>4. PROFESSIONAL, STATUTORY AND REGULATORY BODIES (where applicable)</b>
Not applicable

<b>5. LEARNING AND TEACHING STRATEGY</b>
<p>The programme is run on a blended-learning mode combining face to face learning interactions with e-learning. Using practical and hands-on approaches to learning, participants will be given the opportunity to develop knowledge in youth and development related areas through learning activities geared towards developing analytical and critical thinking.</p> <p><b>Learning and teaching methods:</b></p>

Students will be provided with opportunities to engage in a diverse range of learning environments so as to maximise their learning. For this programme students will interact with their tutor and their fellow students mostly through the e-platform.

The e- platform will use the following tools:

- Online activities: for every unit covered in each module students will be given opportunities to complete interactive learning activities including discussion forums, quizzes, field trips, webinars and problem-solving activities. Students will be encouraged to work independently but also to engage in collaborative work.
- Independent study: Independent study forms an essential part in the development of your knowledge and understanding. We will guide you, via the e-platform, on the reading and reflection of primary and secondary texts. Students should use this independent study time to link knowledge with e-class and face-to-face activities and develop their own understanding and critical perspective on the topics they are studying.

**Strong experimental/practical elements that learners need to grasp.**

We also offer optional face-to-face sessions.

The face-to-face sessions are an opportunity to untangle complex concepts and provide students with an opportunity to apply the knowledge acquired in the preceding weeks. During the face-to-face sessions, students can be expected to:

- Engage in discussions around youth development activities
- Engage with reading material to engage in class discussions
- Review core/complex concepts through applied work.

Research supervision:

In the final part, students will undertake a dissertation, supervised by one of our tutors with expertise in the area of the dissertation topic. Students will have the opportunity to meet with the supervisor to explore the topic, receive guidance on the research and receive feedback on the work as it progresses.

**Overall Workload:**

Your overall workload as a student consists of independent learning, e-learning activities and, if you choose to, face to face sessions. The following gives you an indication of how much time you will need to spend on the different components of your programme at each level. Each ECTS credit taken is equivalent to 25 hours of study time.

The expected study time for this programme will be as follow:

Year 1: 1,500 hours for 60 ECTS credits.

Year 2: 1,500 hours for 60 ECTS credits.

Year 3: 1,500 hours for 60 ECTS credits.

Typically, for each year of your degree you will spend 0-10% of your time in face to face sessions, 30-40% of your time engaging with e-learning activities and 60% of your time in independent study time.

A typical study week for a student will involve some optional face to face sessions, required engagement in online discussion forum, the completion of online activities and independent study time to review attached readings, textbooks and relevant sections of the module document. Students should expect to devote 8 to 12 hours of study time per week per module.

These are indicative and may vary from student to student.

## 6. ASSESSMENT STRATEGY

### Assessment Methods

A range of formative and summative assessment exercises are designed to enable you to demonstrate and apply your knowledge and understanding.

Most modules will consist of a Tutor Marked Assessment component and an examination. TMAs include:

- Tests
- Essays
- Written projects
- Practical projects
- Exercises and problem set
- Webinars
- Team projects

In addition to TMAs, this programme includes final examination for all modules except the Final year dissertation module.

Assessment mapping: See Appendix page 12

### Academic Feedback

Throughout the course of your studies, tutors will provide informal feedback on your online activities and class contributions. Feedback may be individual or provided to the class as a whole.

Each summative assessment will be accompanied by detailed marking criteria and marking scheme detailing the expectation of the assessment at each grade classification level. Feedback on assessment will be provided along the marking criteria. Marking criteria will be made available to the student at the same time as the assessment details.

Students will receive written individual feedback on all TMA components.

The university policy on assessment feedback and guidance on provisional marks can be found in the General Rules

### Late submission, Extension and Resit Policy

The university policy on late submission, Extension and re-sits can be found in the General Rules

### Special Circumstances

The university policy on special circumstance can be found in the General Rules

### **Continuous assessment and Exam Regulations**

The university regulations on continuous assessment and examination can be found in the General Rules.

## **7. ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

As a safeguard to the quality and standard of Open University's qualifications and awards, the university takes any incidence of academic misconduct seriously and will investigate any reported case.

Academic Misconduct refers to any activity where a student, through unpermitted means, seeks to gain an advantage in the completion of an assessment. Any unpermitted action will be considered as academic misconduct when occurring during a formal examination, a TMA, or any other form of assessment considered by Board of Examiners and undertaken in pursuit of a University qualification or award.

**Plagiarism** (using, intentionally or unintentionally another person's work and presenting it as its own) will be systematically checked through an text-matching automated detection software that support the detection of plagiarism: Turnitin.

**Any suspected cases of academic misconduct will be reported and investigated. Academic misconduct offences, may lead to suspension or expulsion from the University.**

The university regulations on Academic Misconduct can be found in the General Rules.

## **8. PROGRAMME STRUCTURE**

C= Core i.e. modules which must be taken to be eligible for the award

S1 = Semester 1

S2 = Semester 2

### **Year 1 – Level 7 (NQ-MQA) – Short cycle Intermediate (QF-EHEA)**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Semester</b>	<b>Credits</b>
OUBs031111	Ethics and the Law in Social Work	Core	S1	7.5
OUBs031112	Social Work Practice I	Core	S1	6
OUBs031113	Clinical Social Work	Core	S1	6
OUBs031114	Sexuality and Health	Core	S1	6
OUBs031115	Social Work Research	Core	S1	6
OUBs031121	Society, Social Issues and social work intervention	Core	S2	6
OUBs0311212	Social Work Practice II	Core	S2	6

OUBs0311213	Assessment and intervention with Groups, Communities, Organisations & Institutions	Core	S2	7.5
OUBs0311214	Globalisation and Contemporary issues in social Work	Core	S2	7.5
			<b>Credit Total</b>	<b>48.5</b>

<b>Year 2 – Level 8 (NQ-MQA) – 1<sup>st</sup> Cycle Honours (QF-EHEA)</b>				
<b>Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Semester</b>	<b>Credits</b>
OUBs031131	Gender and Social work	Core	S3	7.5
OUBs031132	Assessment and Intervention with vulnerable populations	Core	S3	7.5
OUBs031133	Social Project Development & Management	Core	S3	7.5
OUBs031134	Ageing and social work practice	Core	S3	7.5
OUBs031135	Dissertation	Core	S2 and S3	15
			<b>Credit Total</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Overall Programme Credit Total</b>				<b>93.5</b>

## 9. GRADING

### Grading system:

Assessments are graded in percentage and correspond to a letter grade and a grade point.

To pass a module, students need an overall of 40% weighted average of their combined continuous assessment (TMA) and examination.

<b>Marks (x) %</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Grade point</b>
$X \geq 70$	Excellent	A	5
$60 \leq X < 70$	Very Good	B	4
$50 \leq X < 60$	Good	C	3
$40 \leq X < 50$	Satisfactory	D	2
$X < 40$	Ungraded	U	0
Non-graded/pending	See section 17.1.1 in assessment rules and regulation for pending grades letter codes		

To pass a module, students need an overall of 40% weighted average of their combined continuous assessment and examination. All components of TMAs will have to have be submitted and examination sat to pass the module.

Students will normally not be allowed to postpone more than two modules for the following semester.

If a student obtains grade “U” in three or more modules in the same semesters, and the CPA is below 40 for that semester, the student will be requested to repeat the semester unless decided otherwise by the Academic Council upon the recommendation of the Board of Examiners. When repeating a semester, a student may or may not take the modules for which Grade C or above have been obtained.

If after completing a level the student's CPA < 40, the student will have to repeat the entire academic year, and retake the modules as and when offered. However, s/he will not be required, if s/he wishes, to retake 3 module(s) for which Grade C or above has been obtained.

Students will not be allowed to repeat more than two semesters during the entire duration of the programme.

University general marking criteria for undergraduate exams and undergraduate dissertations can be found in the General Rules.

**Cumulative Point Average (CPA):**

Total CPA for Undergraduate degrees is calculated by:

- a) multiplying the module credit by the % marks for the module and then summed up and divided by the total credits attempted over the cumulative period at each level (1 semester or 1 year). AND
- b) Taking the weighted average of the obtained CPAs at each level. The respective weights being set as follow: the CPA of level 5 modules (year 1) will be weighted at 15% (0.15), the CPA of level 6 modules (year 2) will be weighted at 35% (0.35) and the CPA of level 7/8 modules (year 3 and/or 4) will be weighted at 50% (0.5).

Example calculation of the CPA at level 5 for undergraduate programmes:

Course Level 5	% Scores	ECTS Credit unit	Module Credit x % Score
BAXX1	64	7.5	64*7.5 = 480
BAXX2	71	7.5	71*7.5 = 533
BAXX3	44	7.5	44*7.5= 330
BAXX4	59	7.5	59* 7.5= 443
BAXX5	82	5.0	82*5 = 410
BAXX6	62	5.0	62*5 = 310
BAXX7	65	5.0	65*5 = 325
BAXX8	54	15.0	54*15 = 810
Total		60	3640
<b>CPA = 3640/60</b>			<b>61.7</b>

Example Calculation Total CPA:

Level	Score	Weighted score
CPA level 5 (60 credits)	61.7	61.7 *0.15 = 9.11
CPA level 6 (60 credits)	63.4	63.4*0.35 = 22.19



CPA level 7/8 (60 credits)	65.5	$65.5 * 0.5 = 32.75$
<b>Total CPA (180 credits)</b>		<b>64</b>

10. PROGRESSION, EXIT POINTS AND AWARD											
Progression	<p>If a student fails to achieve 60 credits at the end of a year level, the board of examiners will make a decision with regard to the student's progression. At its discretion, the board of examiners may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- allow a student to carry forward up to 15 credits in the following year level in order to retake these units in attendance;</li> <li>- require the student to repeat the year;</li> <li>- award of an exit award once you've exhausted all the opportunities to retrieve failed assessment.</li> </ul>										
Classification of Awards	<p>For the award of the Honours degree, all modules of the programme must be completed.</p> <p>The Certificate of Higher Education and the Diploma of Higher education are awarded as possible exit points in the programme as indicated in the table below:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Award</th> <th>Title</th> <th>Level NQ-MQA</th> <th>Total required Credits</th> <th>Classification Based on Cumulative Point Average (CPA)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>BSc (Hons)</td> <td>Social Work</td> <td>8</td> <td>93.5</td> <td> <b>1<sup>st</sup> Class Honours (First):</b>  CPA <math>\geq 70</math>  <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Class 1<sup>st</sup> Division Honours (2:1):</b>  <math>60 \leq \text{CPA} &lt; 70</math>  <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Class 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Honours (2:2):</b>  <math>50 \leq \text{CPA} &lt; 60</math>  <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Class Honours:</b> <math>45 \leq \text{CPA} &lt; 50</math> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Award	Title	Level NQ-MQA	Total required Credits	Classification Based on Cumulative Point Average (CPA)	BSc (Hons)	Social Work	8	93.5	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Class Honours (First):</b> CPA $\geq 70$ <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Class 1<sup>st</sup> Division Honours (2:1):</b> $60 \leq \text{CPA} < 70$ <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Class 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Honours (2:2):</b> $50 \leq \text{CPA} < 60$ <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Class Honours:</b> $45 \leq \text{CPA} < 50$
Award	Title	Level NQ-MQA	Total required Credits	Classification Based on Cumulative Point Average (CPA)							
BSc (Hons)	Social Work	8	93.5	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Class Honours (First):</b> CPA $\geq 70$ <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Class 1<sup>st</sup> Division Honours (2:1):</b> $60 \leq \text{CPA} < 70$ <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Class 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Honours (2:2):</b> $50 \leq \text{CPA} < 60$ <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Class Honours:</b> $45 \leq \text{CPA} < 50$							

## 11. STUDENT SUPPORT

Support available through:  
[studentsupport@open.ac.mu](mailto:studentsupport@open.ac.mu)

## 12. Have you say

Open University values student feedback and students will be given opportunities to have their say on their learning experience in the following way:

- Student programme and module evaluation surveys;
- Acting as student representative and participate in a range of committees such as the staff-student consultative committee;
- Participate in programme validation processes.

The University will respond to student feedback through the following channels:

- Response and action taken following the module evaluation survey will be posted on the e-platform;
- Action from minutes will be monitored by the chair of the relevant committees;
- Annual programme monitoring process will take into account student feedback;
- Programme review process (every five years).

Curriculum Map of Modules against programme intended learning outcomes

Module unit and code				Knowledge and understanding						Cognitive Skills						Practical Skills							Transferable Skills and Personal Attributes					
Module title	Code	Type	Mode	K1	K2	K3	K4	K5	K6	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	
<b>Year 2 NQ-MQA level 7</b>																												
Ethics and the Law in Social Work	OUs027121	C	BL	√	√	√				√	√	√	√											√				
Critical Perspectives on Social Work	OUs027215	C	BL	√	√						√							√						√				
Social Work Practice II	OUs027221	C	BL	√							√	√		√		√	√	√				√	√	√			√	
Clinical Social Work	OUs027222	C	BL	√	√						√					√		√									√	
Sexuality and Health	OUs027223	C	BL	√	√						√					√		√	√						√			
Social Work Research	OUs027224	C	BL		√						√	√					√	√		√					√			
Society, Social Issues and social work intervention	OUs027225	C	BL							√	√	√					√	√										
Assessment and intervention with Groups, Communities, Organisations & Institutions	OUs027311	C	BL	√	√						√			√						√			√	√				
Globalisation and Contemporary issues in social Work	OUs027312	C	BL	√	√					√	√					√		√						√				
<b>Year 3 NQ-MQA level 8</b>																												
Gender and Social Issues	OUs027313	C	BL	√							√							√						√	√			
Assessment and Intervention with vulnerable populations	OUs027321	C	BL	√	√						√							√	√			√	√	√				
Social Project Development & Management	OUs027322	C	BL		√						√					√		√	√			√	√			√		
Ageing and social work practice	OUs027323	C	BL								√			√				√	√	√	√	√					√	
Dissertation	OUs027324	C	BL																									

C = Core; E = Elective; DL = Distance Learning; BL= Blended Learning; CD = Campus delivery

