BSc (Hons)/Diploma in Social Work [OUbs027N]

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	
Title of final award	**Bachelor of Science with Honours in Social Work** **BSc (Hons) Social Work**
Code	OUbs027N
Awarding Body	Open University of Mauritius
Disciplinary Division	Humanities
Programme Manager	Mrs Meera Gungea
Administrator in charge	Mrs Kalindee Lucknauth
Programme duration	**Degree Award** Minimum: 3 years Maximum: 6 years **Diploma Award** Minimum: 2 years Maximum: 3 years For the above award, all modules of the programme must be completed. The Diploma is provided as possible exit points in the programme. A learner may opt for a Diploma in Social Work provided he/she satisfies the minimum credit requirements.
Total Credits	180 credits
Credits per year	*Normally 60 credits per academic year* *Minimum number of credits per semester 20*
MQA NQF level	Level 8
EHEA EQF level	Level 6
External Accreditors	Not applicable
Collaborative Partners	Not applicable.
Programme approval date	Tbc
Last revision	Programme developed and approved in 2017
Last update	Not applicable

2.	ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

| General: | Based on the General Entry Requirements under Direct Entry to Undergraduate Programmes, applicants should fulfil the following conditions:
OPTION 1
A pass in English Language at Cambridge School Certificate/ 'O' Level or equivalent
AND
EITHER Pass in:
3 subjects at A-level and 1 subject at subsidiary level at Higher School Certificate Examination;
OR Pass in:
2 subjects at A-level and 2 subjects at subsidiary level at the Higher School Certificate Examination;
OR Pass in:
3 subjects at A-level at the London General Certificate Examination.
OR any other qualifications acceptable to OU. (refer to OU general rules and regulations)
OPTION 2
Submission of a comprehensive portfolio for possible recognition of prior learning/experience (RPL/RPE) as an alternative to above along with evidence for the language/numeracy/Information and Communication Technology (ICT) skills required for the programme of study.
Note:
• Mature candidates will be considered on their own merit. (refer to OU general rules and regulations)
• Learners who do not qualify under Option 1 may initially register for Foundation Courses offered by OU. (refer to OU general rules and regulations) |
| | P**rogramme Specific Requirement**
a. Those holding an OU Certificate in Social Protection (OUAC005) may, subject to approval, enter Year 2 of the programme.
b. Those holding an OU Diploma in Social Work (OUad003) may, subject to approval, enter Year 3 of the programme. Consideration for approval is subject to having completed the 2 following modules: Social Work Research and Social Work Practice II. Students should normally apply for a top-up programme (minimum 3 semesters duration) if they have not completed these 2 modules). |

1.	PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

| Aims and objective of the programme**:** | The aim of this program is to enable learners to earn a high level, specialist qualification, while also acquiring a skill set and expertise in social work. In this program, learners will acquire the basic tenets in social work. There are multiple avenues in social work which require social workers to take the time to understand the conditions of the individuals and communities they work with to improve their conditions in effective and safe ways. As social workers, learners may need to assist people with everyday issues like personal, family, and relationship issues. Sometimes they may be involved in helping individuals with disabilities, diseases, or social issues |

	like substance abuse or unemployment. Families with domestic conflicts can also turn to social workers for relief and guidance during difficult times. Social workers are thus trained in areas and particular service or setting, like child, family or school social work. Career path: - Hospitals, medical clinics, and nursing homes - Community mental health agencies and substance misuse clinics - State and local governments including child welfare agencies and departments of health and human services - Schools and other youth-serving organizations - Correctional facilities - Private practices

Intended Learning outcomes:

After completion of the programme, students will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding	**K1** Define the key concepts in social work **K2** Outline the different theories and emerging research about social work **K3** Describe the values and ethical standards needed for the profession
Cognitive skills	**C1** Discuss theories in the areas of engagement, assessment, intervention, and evaluation with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. **C2** Develop sound theoretical knowledge in the social work discipline **C3** Develop a professional orientation and identity as a social worker. **C4** Apply legal and ethical standards in the administration of social work. **C5** Analyse social protection and social welfare programmes **C6** Appraise evidence-based research and critical thinking skills to inform practice in meeting the needs of the society
Practical/professional Skills	**P1** Demonstrate skills in applying principles of advocacy toward promoting social work and positive social change in individuals, communities, and society. **P2** Apply professional standards as social workers in generic settings **P3** Show the link of theory to the practice of social work **P4** Develop social work intervention strategies network with civil society organisations **P5** Devise and manage social research to analyse social problems **P6** Interpret research findings to formulate appropriate social policies in line with the SDGs **P7** Apply professional social work skills and techniques
Transferable skills	**T1** Demonstrate how to manage and best respond to situations of crisis **T2** Appreciate the value of sustainable community development projects **T3** Utilize the evidence-based research methods to assess social problems **T4** Exhibit positive behaviours in academic, professional and social settings using knowledge acquired **T5** Mentor novice social work practitioners

2. PROFESSIONAL, STATUTORY AND REGULATORY BODIES (where applicable)
Not applicable

3. LEARNING AND TEACHING STRATEGY

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.

Learning and teaching methods:

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.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. 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 5 (NQ-MQA) – Short cycle Introductory (QF-EHEA)				
Code	**Module Title**	**Type**	**Semester**	**Credits**
OUbs027111N	Nature and History of Social Work	Core	S1	7.5
OUbs027112N	Applied psychology for social work	Core	S1	6
IT100N	Academic Literacies	Core	S1	3
OUbs027114N	Social Welfare Services	Core	S1	6
OUbs027115N	Social perspectives: an Introduction	Core	S1	6

Code	Module Title	Type	Semester	Credits
OUbs027121N	Ethics and the Law in Social Work	Core	S2	7.5
OUbs027122N	Social Psychology	Core	S2	6
OUbs027123N	Basic counselling skills for social workers	Core	S2	6
OUbs027124N	Family & Child Welfare	Core	S2	6
QMBUS100N	Quantitative Methods	Core	S2	6
			Credit Total	**60**

Year 2 – Level 6 (NQ-MQA) – Short cycle Intermediate (QF-EHEA)

Code	Module Title	Type	Semester	Credits
OUbs027211N	Social Work Practice I	Core	S1	6
OUbs027212N	Social Policy and social welfare	Core	S1	6
OUbs027213N	NGOs, CSR & Social Work	Core	S1	6
OUbs027214N	School Social Work	Core	S1	6
Oubs027215N	Critical Perspectives on Social Work	Core	S1	6
OUbs027221N	Social Work Practice II	Core	S2	6
OUbs027222N	Clinical Social Work	Core	S2	6
OUbs027223N	Sexuality and Health	Core	S2	6
OUbs027224N	Social Work Research	Core	S2	6
OUbs027225N	Society, Social Issues and social work intervention	Core	S2	6
			Credit Total	**60**

Year 3 – Level 8 (NQ-MQA) – 1st Cycle Honours (QF-EHEA)

Code	Module Title	Type	Semester	Credits
OUbs027311N	Assessment and intervention with Groups, Communities, Organisations & Institutions	Core	S1	7.5
OUbs027312N	Globalisation and Contemporary issues in social Work	Core	S1	7.5
OUbs027313N	Gender and Social Work	Core	S1	7.5
OUbs027321N	Assessment and Intervention with vulnerable populations	Core	S2	7.5
OUbs027322N	Social Project Development & Management	Core	S2	7.5
OUbs027323N	Ageing and social work practice	Core	S2	7.5
OUbs027324N	Dissertation	Core	S1 and S2	15
			Credit Total	**60**
			Overall Programme Credit Total	**180**

7. 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.

Marks (x) %	Description	Letter Grade	Grade point
X ≥ 70	Excellent	A	5
60 ≤ X < 70	Very Good	B	4
50 ≤ X < 60	Good	C	3
40 ≤ 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
CPA = 3640/60			**61.7**

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
Total CPA (180 credits)		**64**

8. PROGRESSION, EXIT POINTS AND AWARD	
Progression	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: - allow a student to carry forward up to 15 credits in the following year level in order to retake these units in attendance; - require the student to repeat the year; - award of an exit award once you've exhausted all the opportunities to retrieve failed assessment.

Classification of Awards	For the award of the Honours degree, all modules of the programme must be completed.

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:

Award	Title	Level NQ-MQA	Total required Credits	Classification Based on Cumulative Point Average (CPA)
BSc (Hons)	Social Work	8	180	**1st Class Honours** (First): CPA ≥70 **2nd Class 1st Division Honours** (2:1): 60 ≤ CPA < 70 **2nd Class 2nd Division Honours** (2:2): 50 ≤ CPA < 60 **3rd Class :** 45 ≤ CPA < 50
Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE)	Social Work	6	120	**Distinction:** CPA ≥ 70 **Pass:** 40 ≤ CPA < 70 **No Award:** CPA < 40
Certificate of Higher Education (CertHe)	Social Work	5	60	**Distinction:** CPA ≥ 70 **Pass:** 40 ≤ CPA V 70 **No Award:** CPA < 40

9. STUDENT SUPPORT

Support available through:
studentsupport@open.ac.mu

10. 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
Year 1 NQ-MQA Level 6																											
Nature and History of Social Work	OUbs027111N	C	BL	√		√				√	√	√				√	√			√		√		√			
Applied psychology for social work	OUbs027112N	C	BL	√	√						√				√	√	√	√			√						
IT Essentials	IT100N	C	BL																								
Social Welfare Services	OUbs027114N	C	BL	√		√				√	√	√	√	√		√	√							√	√		
Social perspectives: an Introduction	OUbs027115N	C	BL	√						√	√				√			√		√							
Ethics and the Law in Social Work	OUbs027121N	C	BL	√	√	√				√	√	√	√											√			
Social Psychology	OUbs027122N	C	BL	√		√				√	√					√	√	√	√					√			√
Basic counselling skills for social workers	OUbs027123N	C	BL	√							√	√						√			√	√	√				√
Family & Child Welfare	OUbs027124N	C	BL		√						√	√		√		√	√										
Quantitative Methods	QMBUS100N	C	BL																								
Year 2 NQ-MQA level 7																											
Social Policy and social welfare	OUbs027211N	C	BL	√	√	√				√	√			√		√		√							√		√
Social Work Practice I	OUbs027212N	C	BL	√						√	√	√	√	√		√								√			√
NGOs, CSR & Social Work	OUbs027213N	C	BL	√							√		√	√	√	√		√	√		√						
School Social Work	OUbs027214N	C	BL	√	√					√	√			√				√									
Critical Perspectives on Social Work	Oubs027215N	C	BL	√	√						√							√							√		
Social Work Practice II	OUbs027221N	C	BL	√							√	√		√		√	√	√			√	√	√	√			√
Clinical Social Work	OUbs027222N	C	BL	√	√						√					√	√										√
Sexuality and Health	OUbs027223N	C	BL	√	√						√					√		√	√							√	
Social Work Research	OUbs027224N	C	BL		√						√	√					√	√		√						√	
Society, Social Issues and social work intervention	OUbs027225N	C	BL							√	√	√					√	√									
Year 3 NQ-MQA level 8																											
Assessment and intervention with Groups, Communities, Organisations & Institutions	OUbs027311N	C	BL	√	√						√			√						√			√	√			
Globalisation and Contemporary issues in social Work	OUbs027312N	C	BL	√	√					√	√					√		√							√		
Gender and Social Issues	OUbs027313N	C	BL	√							√							√							√	√	
Assessment and Intervention with vulnerable populations	OUbs027321N	C	BL	√	√						√							√	√			√	√	√			
Social Project Development & Management	OUbs027322N	C	BL		√						√					√		√	√			√	√			√	
Ageing and social work practice	OUbs027323N	C	BL								√			√				√	√	√	√	√					√
Dissertation	OUbs027324N	C	BL																								

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