

Annexe: Regulations for Social Work programmes

These regulations are published as an annexe of the University's *Regulations for Taught Degree Programmes (2023)* and indicate where exceptions will apply to those regulations. Exceptions are listed under the sections of the main regulations. These exceptions apply to the following programmes:

Code	Title
BSSOCWFT	BSc (Hons) Social Work
PDSOCWFT	PGDip Social Work
MSSOCWFT	MSc Social Work
BSSOCWAP	Social Work Degree Apprenticeship

E. Enrolment and re-enrolment

- At enrolment, learners must complete a self-declaration form confirming that they have no criminal convictions or health issues that would impact their ability to study on the programme and be eligible for registration on its successful completion.
- As soon as possible after enrolment and prior to being permitted to undertake their first practice learning placement experience, each learner must have:
 - Undergone a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check and achieved clearance
 - Undergone an Occupational Health Assessment and achieved clearance

G. Appointment of external examiners

- In accordance with Social Work England requirements, in addition to the standard criteria for their appointment, external examiners appointed to these programmes must have professional experience and qualifications relevant to the programme and be registered social workers.

H. Boards of Examiners

- Boards of Examiners will additionally make decisions on learners' readiness for practice on these programmes.
- For the Social Work Degree Apprenticeship a Gateway Board of Examiners will be held to confirm progression to the End Point Assessment.

K. Module pass requirements

- All assessment elements must be passed separately to pass a module overall. This applies to all modules on all listed programmes.

Practice Standards Panels (PSPs)

- Practice Standards Panels are comprised of academic staff, practice educators and on-site supervisors, practitioners, service users and carers. PSPs will monitor all submitted

practice placement portfolios to ensure that appropriate processes have been followed and portfolios contain:

- the required elements as set out in the relevant Practice Curriculum
- the evidence necessary to support the practice educators' decisions for a Pass or Fail on placement
- Practice Standards Panels will formally notify learners whether:
 - their portfolio meets the requirements set out in the Practice Curriculum and will be recommended to the Board of Examiners as a pass
 - their portfolio does not meet the requirements – with details of any missing or inadequate elements of the portfolio (including anonymisation issues) – but can be addressed by resubmitting the portfolio – the deadline for which will normally be 2 weeks after the PSP meeting. Following resubmission, the portfolio will be reconsidered for a recommendation to the Board of Examiners as a pass or fail
 - their portfolio does not meet the requirements and that this cannot be addressed by resubmitting the elements of the portfolio that are considered unsatisfactory and will be recommended to the Board of Examiners as a fail
- Practice Standards Panels will be unable to consider portfolios where documentation has not been received within the specified timescales

L. Progression of learners

- Prior to being permitted to undertake their first practice learning placement experience, learners must have demonstrated their readiness for practice. This will be demonstrated as follows:
 - Learners on the BSc (Hons) Social Work programme must have passed the following modules:
 - HSC4006 Preparation for Practice (20 Credits)
 - HSC4008 Context of Social Work (20 Credits)
 - HSC4010 Skills Development (20 Credits)
 - Learners on the PGDip and MSc Social Work programmes must have passed CW1 of HSC7003 Preparation for Intervention with People with Lived Experience (20 Credits)
 - Learners on all programmes must also have satisfied Occupational Health and DBS requirements as set out above.
- Learners on the Social Work Degree Apprenticeship programme must meet the gateway criteria set out within the Social Worker (Integrated Degree) Apprenticeship Standard to be permitted to undertake the End Point Assessment. A Gateway Board of Examiners will be held in order to confirm progression to the EPA module.

M. Use of compensation

- The use of compensation is not permitted on these programmes under any circumstances.

N. Use of reassessment

- Learners may not be offered reassessment in the practice elements of a placement module. Where a learner has failed the practice element of a placement module, the Board of Examiners may offer a repeat attempt, which will be subject to agreement from employers and/or placement providers. Where an employer and/or placement provider is unable to support a learner for a repeat attempt, it is possible that the Board of Examiners will recommend withdrawal from the programme. Learners may be offered reassessment in theory elements of a practice learning module as normal.

O. Repeating a stage or year of study

- For learners on the Social Work Degree Apprenticeship programme, the decision to offer a repeat stage or year of study will be determined by the employer's willingness to fund the repeat opportunity.

P. Consideration for an award

- "Social Worker" is a protected title and only learners who have successfully completed all core modules and placement elements can be awarded a degree containing the words "social work".
- Where a learner is not eligible for the full award, following a period of reassessment, an exit award will be granted in accordance with the awards in the following table. Learners who are granted an exit award will not be eligible to apply for registration with Social Work England unless stated.

Programme	Exit Awards
BSc (Hons) Social Work / Social Work Degree Apprenticeship	BSc (Hons) Social Studies This award will be granted where the learner has achieved a minimum of 360 credits, including a minimum of 120 credits at Level 6 but has not achieved the professional requirements for registration.
	BSc Social Studies (<i>Ordinary Degree</i>) This award will be granted where the learner has achieved a minimum of 300 credits, including a minimum of 60 credits at Level 6.
	DipHE Social Studies This award will be granted where the learner has achieved a minimum of 240 credits, including a minimum of 120 credits at Level 5 or higher.
	CertHE Social Studies This award will be granted where the learner has achieved a minimum of 120 credits at Level 4 or higher.

Programme	Exit Awards
PGDip Social Work	<p>PGDip Social Studies This award will be granted where the learner has achieved 120 credits at Level 7 but has not achieved the professional requirements for registration.</p>
	<p>PGCert Social Studies This award will be granted where the learner has achieved a minimum of 60 credits at Level 7.</p>
MSc Social Work	<p>MSc Social Studies This award will be granted where the learner has achieved 180 credits at Level 7 but has not achieved the professional requirements for registration.</p>
	<p>PGDip Social Work This award will be granted where the learner has achieved a minimum of 120 credits at Level 7 excluding HSC7011 Research Methods and Major Project/Dissertation. Learners who achieve this award will be eligible for registration with Social Work England.</p>
	<p>PGDip Social Studies This award will be granted where the learner has achieved a minimum of 120 credits at Level 7.</p>
	<p>PGCert Social Studies This award will be granted where the learner has achieved a minimum of 60 credits at Level 7.</p>

S. Consideration of exceptional or mitigating circumstances

- The use of aegrotat is not permitted on these programmes under any circumstances.