



Course Information Form

This Course Information Form provides the definitive record of the designated course

Section A: General Course Information

Course Title	MA Advanced Social Work Practice
Final Award	MA
Route Code	MAASWAPP/MAASPAPP
Intermediate Qualification(s)	Post Graduate Certificate in Advanced Social Work Practice Post Graduate Diploma in Advanced Social Work Practice
FHEQ Level	7
Location of Delivery	Putteridge Bury Campus, Luton
Mode(s) and length of study	The programme is designed as a part-time course and normally takes 36 months to complete (45 months for those who start in January). Blended Learning – Campus Focused approach
Standard intake points (months)	September, January
External Reference Points as applicable including Subject Benchmark	QAA Quality Code section A1 (The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications) at Level 7 (QAA, 2014) QAA Master's Degree Characteristics Statement (2020) British Association of Social Workers, Practice Capabilities Framework (2018) British Association of Social Workers, Practice Educator Professional Standards (2022) (<i>Practice Educator Units only</i>)

Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation or endorsement	
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HECoS code(s)	100503
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UCAS Course Code	N/A
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Course Learning Outcomes	2	Demonstrate a systematic understanding and critical awareness of the role of leadership, power and change in improving social policy and social work practice	MA Advanced Social Work/Postgraduate Diploma Advanced Social Work Practice/Postgraduate Certificate Advanced Social Work Practice
	3	Analyse and evaluate safeguarding policy and practices from international, national and local perspectives to support and develop evidence-based practice.	MA Advanced Social Work Practice/Postgraduate Diploma Advanced Social Work Practice/Postgraduate Certificate Advanced Social Work Practice
	4	Demonstrate a practical understanding of the concepts, theories and skills required to be an effective leader and advanced practitioner.	MA Advanced Social Work Practice /Postgraduate Diploma Advanced Social Work Practice/Postgraduate Certificate Advanced Social Work Practice
	5	Demonstrate a critical understanding of the concepts and theories of abuse, power and interventions	MA Advanced Social Work Practice/Postgraduate Diploma Advanced Social Work Practice/Postgraduate Certificate Advanced Social Work Practice
	6	Demonstrate a critical awareness of power dynamics and the application of anti-discriminatory strategies in social work learning and practice	MA Advanced Social Work Practice/Postgraduate Diploma Advanced Social Work Practice/Postgraduate Certificate Advanced Social Work Practice
	7	Demonstrate a critical awareness of current ethical and legal challenges in social care, and an ability to reflectively engage in ethical social work practice and research.	MA Advanced Social Work Practice/Postgraduate Diploma Advanced Social Work Practice/Postgraduate Certificate Advanced Social Work Practice
	8	Demonstrate a thorough critical comprehension and evaluation of research design, methodology and ethics.	MA Advanced Social Work Practice/Postgraduate Diploma Advanced Social Work Practice
	9	Demonstrate the ability to critically evaluate various methodological paradigms and select the most appropriate one to address a complex health or social care research question at the master's level. Further, apply advanced analytical methods to evaluate research data creatively, resulting in justifiable and informed conclusions.	MA Advanced Social Work Practice
Learning and Teaching			
The University will collaborate with the employing agency to offer all students an initial meeting with the course coordinator. The purpose of this meeting will be to determine the optimal combination of course units for each student's individual course of study.			

A comprehensive variety of approaches to teaching and learning are used to deliver a wide-ranging curriculum and support all students in developing a broad range of skills. The different units within the course will have different commitments specified in their individual unit information forms (UIFs). Your learning will also be underpinned by the University's Virtual Learning Environment (BREQ). This will be used to provide access to additional guided learning materials and other e-learning resources.

You will be actively engaged in the learning process throughout and encouraged to take responsibility for identifying and addressing your own learning needs. Throughout the course you are also encouraged to identify and reflect on prior-professional and personal experience in relation to the core curriculum.

Transferable and enterprise skills are promoted, together with an emphasis on developing the skills to support lifelong learning.

The course is designed to promote effective social work practice and support the development of others. To achieve this, the learning strategy incorporates blended learning. Blended learning combines traditional face-to-face teaching methods with online learning resources to create a flexible and dynamic learning experience.

For part-time learners, blended learning provides a convenient way to access course material and complete assignments on their own schedule. It also allows students to access a variety of online materials, such as interactive tutorials, videos, and podcasts, which can be used to supplement their understanding of complex concepts.

Blended learning also opens up a variety of opportunities for online collaboration and communication, which can be used to facilitate group work and discussions. For example, students can participate in online forums, chat rooms, and video conferences to share ideas and engage in collaborative learning.

The course is taught by social work academics with direct experience of the subject area, who are research active or engaged in professional practice. This experiential approach to learning encourages the application of cutting-edge knowledge to the realities of social work practice. Teaching methods include not only the sharing of knowledge in lectures, but also the application of ideas through various means, such as the use of case studies, scenarios, and role plays.

Teaching may take place on campus, or online, and will include a range of pre-recorded lectures, activities, live seminars, and small group work. In addition, students are expected to undertake self-directed study in the form of reading, research, and application to practice.

The culmination of the Master's is the dissertation unit, where students will have the opportunity to generate their own research aims based on a topic specifically applicable to their area of professional practice and disseminate their findings to peers and the workplace. Overall, blended learning provides students with a comprehensive and flexible approach to learning, which is designed

Teaching, learning and assessment strategies

to promote effective social work practice and support the development of others.

Assessment

Each unit is designed to help you to develop your social work related skills in ways which are directly relevant to your interests or workplace. The overarching course assessment strategy is designed to assist you in identifying, reflecting on and meeting your own learning needs. Furthermore, where appropriate the unit assessments provide the flexibility for you to choose to investigate a contemporary issue.

Through the use of a variety of assessment methods, students will be able to showcase their knowledge and skills in different ways, catering to individual learning styles and promoting autonomous learning.

A range of assessment methods will be used throughout the course, including e-portfolios, observations, reflective assessments, case studies, presentations, vivas, and poster presentations. This variety ensures that students are tested in all the areas necessary for competent practice as an experienced social work practitioner, as well as in the academic disciplines underpinning this practice.

Each of these assessments will enable you to demonstrate the ability to critically understand and evaluate complex issues relevant to the social work profession and communicate these effectively to a range of audiences. This strategy informs the assessment methods for each individual unit within the course and is based on Masters level descriptors and course learning outcomes.

By using different assessment methods, students will be able to develop a wide range of key skills, including critical thinking, analysis, and evaluation. This will be helpful preparation for the research and dissertation units, as well as building towards the final stage of study, which encourages more self-directed study and autonomous learning.

The initial formative assessment early in the course delivery will provide students with constructive and developmental feedback on their academic skills. Reflection on evidence drawn from practice in the workplace underpins many of the assessment activities, providing students with a clear understanding of their areas for development.

Portfolios and presentation skills will also be developed and encouraged, along with wide reading across all the units to develop skills in analysing and evaluating data from relevant studies. For those students studying Practice Education Training, their practice competence will also be assessed by a professionally qualified and experienced Stage 2 Practice Educator mentor who has been approved by the University for this purpose.

	<p>Overall, assessment plays a crucial role in promoting autonomous learning and developing the key skills necessary for competent practice as an experienced social work practitioner. The use of a variety of assessment methods ensures that students can showcase their understanding and skills in different ways, catering to individual learning styles and promoting academic and practice competence</p>
<p>Learning support</p>	<p>The University's comprehensive student support service includes: Student Information Desk, a one-stop shop for any initial enquiries; Student Support team advising and supporting those with physical or learning needs or more general student well being; Study Hub team providing academic skills guidance; Personal Academic Tutoring system; a student managed Peer-Assisted Learning scheme; support from your lecturers</p>
<p>Admissions Criteria</p>	<p>https://www.beds.ac.uk/entryrequirements</p> <p>Approved Variations and Additions to Standard Admission</p> <p>Be a registered social worker with Social work England.</p> <p>For students undertaking either Practice Educator units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have at least two years' qualified experience Be able to offer a placement opportunity and be able to provide continuity of support for students in placement Be nominated by their agency/manager
	<p>https://www.beds.ac.uk/about-us/our-university/academic-information</p>

**Assessment
Regulations**

Note: Be aware that our regulations change every year

Approved Variations and Additions to Standard Assessment Regulations

For the following units:

ASS085-6: Practice Educator, Stage 1

ASS086-6: Practice Educator, Stage 2

the following Variations to Regulations apply:

Unit	Unit Name	Level	Credits	Core or Option	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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ASS144-6	Adult Exploitation and Safeguarding	7	30	Option	TA	TA1	TA1	TA1	TA1
					12	2	2	2	2

Glossary of Terms for Assessment Type Codes	
CW-CS	Coursework - Case Study
CW-EPO	Coursework - e-Portfolio
CW-ESS	Coursework - Essay
CW-PO	Coursework - Portfolio
CW-RW	Coursework - Reflective Writing
PJ-DIS	Coursework - Dissertation Report
PR-OR	Practical - Oral Presentation
WR-IR	Coursework - Individual Report
WR-PO	Coursework - Poster