SPECIAL REGULATIONS: BA (Hons) SOCIAL WORK PROGRAMME

INTRODUCTION

1 These Special Regulations relate only to the following programme:

- BA (Hons) Social Work - September 2017 validation

ADMISSION

2 The requirements for admissions are those set out in the Regulation and Credit Framework for the Conferment of Awards; the additional requirements are set out below.

3 All entrants are required to attend a selection day/event, and complete any assessments prescribed as part of the selection process aimed at assessing their ability and suitability to undertake social work education.

4 Selection activities include an observed group exercise, assessing ability to communicate verbally, their value base, ability to work with others and openness to alternative points of view, a timed written test, assessing the ability to communicate in written English, and an individual interview to assess that they meet the Professional Capabilities Framework (PCF) entry level and progression to final year level descriptors.

GENERAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5 All entrants are to satisfy the University in relation to health clearance (including occupational health requirements) following the prescribed procedures at the time of application.

6 All entrants must satisfy the requirements concerning clearance in relation to criminal convictions and any other requirements specified by the University, taking account of the requirements of the regulatory bodies, in relation to the protection of vulnerable persons. Students on the programme must remain in good standing in relation to such requirements, including, where required, registration for the updating of certificates by the Disclosure and Barring Service.

ADDITIONAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

7 In addition to the entrance requirements specified in the Regulation and Credit Framework for the Conferment of Awards and any additional requirements specified by professional or regulatory bodies entrants to the programme must have achieved at least level 2 in English and mathematics. This would normally be equivalent to grade C in the GCSE examination in English and mathematics.

8 Successful applicants must meet communicating and comprehension skills to International English Language Testing Systems (IELTS) at level 7 with no element below 6.5.

9 All applicants must confirm prior to interview/offer decision making that they have the ability to use basic IT facilities, including word processing, internet browsing and use of email. The programme recognises these skills can be developed in year 1 of the programme.

PROGRAMME AWARD

10 The award of BA (Hons) Social Work is made upon successful completion of 360 credits over a period of 3 years full-time. This is the only award that infers eligibility to apply for registration with the Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC).

CLASSIFICATION

11 In calculating the honours degree class the marks for each theory module are weighted according to their credit rating and the level of the module, with Level 6 marks weighted to Level 5 marks in the ratio 60:40.

12 For the classification of a BA (Hons) Social Work a weighted average of the marks of all modules at Level 5 (year 2) and all modules at Level 6 (years 3) will be used and rounded to the nearest integer, as follows:

a) where the final mark is 70% and above, the award of First Class Honours will be made;

b) where the final mark is 60% - 69%, the award of Upper Second Class Honours will be made;

c) where the final mark is 50% - 59% the award of Lower Second Class Honours will be made;

d) where the final mark is 40% - 49% the award of Third Class Honours will be made.

DEFAULT EXIT AWARDS NOT LEADING TO PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION

13 13 years 1 and 2 but does not complete the final year, the Board of Examiners must consider recommending an exit award that does not lead to professional recognition.

14 The following exit awards are available to students not recommended for an award leading to professional registration.

a) To qualify for a Bachelor of Science degree in Social Care students must:

- Pass at least 60 credits at level 6
- Pass level 5
- Pass level 4

b) To qualify for a Diploma of Higher Education in Social Care students must:

- Pass level 5
- Pass level 4

c) To qualify for a Certificate of Higher Education in Social Care students must:
- Pass level 4

15 Where an award cannot be recommended, the Board may recommend the award of institutional credits.

16 Aegrotat awards may be offered at the discretion of the Board of Examiners as outlined in the regulations; however, such awards would not provide eligibility to apply for admission to the relevant professional register.

CREDIT EXEMPTION ON ENTRY

17 Entrants may gain exemption from modules in line with the University's policy in the Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL).

18 For Social Work students requesting transfer from another institution, a transcript, reference, completed assessment of practice documentation and placement hours will be required. All applicants' past theory and practice learning will be mapped against the programme's modules.

MODULES

19 Students on this programme will not be able to choose starred modules.

ASSESSMENT

20 All assessments must be passed. This includes theoretical assessments and those involved in the assessment of practice.

21 Students must pass the Readiness for Direct Practice requirements and the Holistic Assessment Report Template. These assessments will be graded as either 'Pass (P)' or 'Fail (F)'.

REASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

22 A student may be reassessed in a practice on one occasion only for each assessment of practice.

COMPENSATION

23 The programme is excluded from University regulations regarding compensation.

24 There can be no compensation for failure in the assessment of practice and there can be no compensation between theory and practice. Students must pass successfully all elements of practice learning.

PROGRESSION

25 Students can progress from one year or one part of the programme to the next without successful completion of the required practice assessment.

26 The programmes can postpone the placement from one level of the programme to the next (placement element only).

27 The programme is excluded from University regulations regarding trail and progress.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE AND CONDUCT

28 Students are required to make a formal declaration of good health and good character at the beginning of each year of the programme.

29 As a condition of a professional award, students must successfully meet the requirements concerning attendance and professional practice, together with the requirements of the regulatory bodies relating to student conduct, good health and good character. Potential breaches of professional conduct will be subject to the fitness to practise procedures for the Faculty.

EXTERNAL EXAMINERS

30 At least one External Examiner appointed to the programme must be appropriately experienced and qualified in the relevant area of practice and, unless other arrangements are agreed with the appropriate regulatory body, be from the relevant part of the Register.

Approved by Academic Board, 28 June 2017.

Modification for S19 and S20 cohorts only for Covid-19 – Approved by Academic Board 28 July 2021.