

Course Specification

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Produced By:	Laura Clode
Status:	Validated

Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	School of Social, Historical and Political Studies		
Course Code(s):	SA005K23UV	Sandwich	3 Years
UCAS Code:	L404		
Course Title:	BA (Hons) Social Policy with Sandwich Placement		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Bachelor of Arts with Honours Social Policy, having satisfactorily completed a sandwich placement Bachelor of Arts with Honours Social Policy Bachelor of Arts Social Policy Bachelor of Arts Social Policy, having satisfactorily completed a sandwich placement Diploma of Higher Education Social Policy Certificate of Higher Education Social Policy University Statement of Credit University Statement of Credit		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:	26/Sep/2016		
Last Review:	2015/6		
Course Specification valid from:	2015/6		
Course Specification valid to:	2021/2		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	JANE BOOTH
Head of Department:	Dr Clare Williams

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	Not delivered in partnership
Teaching Institution:	University of Wolverhampton
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS

2017 Entry

- 'A' levels at grades BBC - CCC
- BTEC QCF Extended Diploma grade MMM, BTEC QCF Diploma grade DD
- Access to HE Diploma full award (Pass of 60 credits - of which a minimum of 45 credits must be at level 3 including 18 at Merit or Distinction).
- If you've got other qualifications or relevant experience, please contact [The Gateway](#) for further advice before applying.
- Successful completion of the foundation year of our [BA \(Hons\) Law and Social Sciences with Foundation Year](#) guarantees entry on to this course
- International student language requirements and application guidance can be found at <http://www.wlv.ac.uk/international/apply>
- Successful completion of the [International Foundation Year in Social Sciences](#) guarantees entry on to this course

Other Requirements

Students must have studied a minimum of two years post GCSE level. However, it is expected that some applicants will be mature students with work experience, who wish to further their career development. These applicants will be processed through standard procedures, which may involve an interview as part of the process. Please see<http://wlv.ac.uk/mature> for further information.

Those who do not meet the entry requirements may be offered an alternative course

Distinctive Features of the Course:

The course offers students an opportunity to examine a diverse range of interconnected topics within Social Policy that relate to contemporary economic, social and political factors. The course is distinctive in allowing students to study Social Policy as a specialist route and has a distinctive combination of modules.

A placement can be undertaken anywhere; local, national or even, in some instances, international. During a placement, you will be doing similar work to a normal employee of the organisation giving you a unique insight into your chosen profession or sector, the opportunity to acquire crucial personal skills and also the opportunity to build a network of useful contacts. Many companies that employ graduates use placement programmes as a method of recruitment so you could be fast tracked into employment or onto one of their graduate schemes if you impress them.

The team at [The Workplace](#) constantly search for new placement opportunities but if you find an opportunity that interests you or you have been successful in securing one yourself, contact them for further information and support.

Educational Aims of the Course:

Social Policy is the study of ways in which government, charities, and even businesses meet our welfare needs that we cannot meet ourselves. Including areas such as health, housing, education, benefits and much more, Social Policy at the University of Wolverhampton covers topics that are important in today's society, economy and politics.

As well as learning about why Britain has a welfare state, studying Social Policy involves looking at contemporary policies, the way welfare and services are delivered and ask questions about how this is changing. Over the last twenty years, Social Policy has been a key focus for local and national governments as well as increasing welfare provision coming from charities and private business. It is clear that this focus is set to remain for the foreseeable future.

Social Policy at the University of Wolverhampton is taught in a lively and engaging manner with plenty of opportunities for discussion, debate and questions. In addition to lectures and seminars, the course includes field trips and visiting speakers from a range of organisations. There is also a high level of staff support, with all teaching staff being available in their offices for students to visit every week and dedicated support for essay writing. Our teaching is informed by the extensive local research we carry out and is delivered through a diverse range of methods including lectures, seminars, workshops, guest speakers, tutorials and quizzes.

Graduating with a degree in Social Policy opens up a wide range of opportunities. For those looking for a job, our graduates are working in a diverse range of settings including housing, social care, immigration and numerous voluntary sector organisations. Employers are happy to take on Social Policy graduates as it shows you can understand policy development and the ways in which it works; these are valuable skills. To further enhance students' employability, the course includes opportunities for students to formally volunteer as well as having yearlong placement modules at level five.

For those wanting to study in more depth after graduating, many of our graduates progress on to postgraduate courses, such as masters programmes. This includes occupational courses such as Social Work as well as other courses studying areas such housing, international development, health and much more.

Intakes:

September

Major Source of Funding:

Office for Students (OFS)

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2020/1	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9250.00
2020/1	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£12250.00

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning

experience.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Academic Regulations Exemption:

1.3.1 - Each course will be made up of units of study called modules. Modules are discrete units of assessed learning at a given level, with coherent aims and learning outcomes. One independent study/dissertation 40 credit module will be permitted at level 6. A 60 credit dissertation/project module must be included at level 7 for the Masters award.

Whilst it is normal for a 40 credit module to be only available at level six as an independent study module, the option to have a year-long placement with an external organisation is an excellent opportunity to apply knowledge learned on the course and to enhance employability. However, it is felt that this is an opportunity best given to students at level five on this course to avoid too much independent study in the final year and to allow students to develop experiences and focus within a topic prior to starting their dissertation.

One of the key elements of Social Policy at the University is its strong links with external partners as well as students graduating with a strong employability profile. We are looking to build on this position by incorporating a year-long optional placement module within the second programme where students will spend time with an external organisation working on a defined piece of work. In addition to being academically rigorous, the placement will allow students to graduate with not just a final year dissertation where they have investigated a topic independently and in-depth, but also an independent piece of work that has been carried out with an external organisation and evidence a range of employability and independent skills whilst applying their social policy knowledge.

For this to happen in meaningful and effective manner that will be useful to external partners and also allow the students sufficient opportunity to become involved, contribute towards and write-up a defined piece of work whilst still studying, the module would need to run through the whole academic year, ie, across both semesters one and two. Furthermore, for the workload that would be expected, this goes beyond the remit of a standard 20 credits and, as such, the module would need to be 40 credits.

Signed off by DVC 19/07/2016

Section 1.2.7 - Exemption to permit a 40 credit Placement module at Level 5 to contribute towards independent study in addition to 40 credits worth at Level 6 (exceeding the maximum of 60 credits permitted for an undergraduate honours degree programme);

5SA013 Social Science Placement (40 credits).

APPROVED by AFRSC (10/11/2016).

Reference Points:

Quality Code - [Part A: Setting and Maintaining Academic Standards](#). Including :

[Qualifications Frameworks](#)

[Characteristics Statements](#)

[Credit Frameworks](#)

[Social Policy and Administration](#) QAA Subject Benchmark

Quality Code - [Part B: Assuring and Enhancing Academic Quality](#)

University Policies and Regulations

Equality Act (2010)

Learning Outcomes:

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 1 (CHECLO1)

"Demonstrate knowledge of the underlying concepts and principles associated with your area(s) of study, and an ability to evaluate and interpret these within the context of that area of study"

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 2 (CHECLO2)

"Demonstrate an ability to present, evaluate and interpret qualitative and quantitative data, in order to develop lines of argument and make sound judgements in accordance with basic theories and concepts of your subject(s) of study."

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 3 (CHECLO3)

Evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems related to your area(s) of study and/or work

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 4 (CHECLO4)

"Communicate the results of your study/work accurately and reliably, and with structured and coherent arguments"

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 5 (CHECLO5)

Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of some personal responsibility

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 1 (DHECLO1)

"Demonstrate knowledge and critical understanding of the well-established principles of your area(s) of study, and of the way in which those principles have developed with an understanding of the limits of your knowledge, and how this influences analyses and interpretations based on that knowledge."

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 2 (DHECLO2)

"Demonstrate the ability to apply underlying concepts and principles outside the context in which they were first studied, including, where appropriate, the application of those principles in an employment context"

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 3 (DHECLO3)

"Demonstrate knowledge of the main methods of enquiry in the subject(s) relevant to the named award, and ability to evaluate critically the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems in the field of study"

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 4 (DHECLO4)

"Use a range of established techniques to initiate and undertake critical analysis of information, and to propose solutions to problems arising from that analysis"

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 5 (DHECLO5)

"Effectively communicate information, arguments and analysis in a variety of forms to specialist and non-specialist audiences, and deploy key techniques of the discipline effectively"

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 6 (DHECLO6)

"Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment, requiring the exercise of personal responsibility and decision-making and undertake further training, developing existing skills and acquire new competences that will enable them to assume significant responsibility within organisations."

Ordinary Degree Course Learning Outcome 1 (ORDCLO1)

"Be able to reflect on and understand social, political and cultural diversity."

Ordinary Degree Course Learning Outcome 2 (ORDCLO2)

" Demonstrate knowledge of Social Policy studied, including familiarity with its institutions and procedures and an understanding of how social policy fits together and operates"

Ordinary Degree Course Learning Outcome 3 (ORDCLO3)

Be able to apply a critical approach to methods of enquiry and evaluation in a social policy context

Ordinary Degree Course Learning Outcome 4 (ORDCLO4)

Be able to evaluate social policies

Ordinary Degree Course Learning Outcome 5 (ORDCLO5)

Be able to apply social policy theories to analyse social needs and policy outcomes

Honours Degree Course Learning Outcome 1 (DEGCLO1)

"Reflect on and understand social, political and cultural diversity."

Honours Degree Course Learning Outcome 2 (DEGCLO2)

"Demonstrate knowledge of Social Policy studied, including familiarity with its institutions and procedures and an understanding of how law fits together and operates in comparable jurisdictions"

Honours Degree Course Learning Outcome 3 (DEGCLO3)

Be able to apply a critical approach to methods of enquiry and evaluation in a social policy context

Honours Degree Course Learning Outcome 4 (DEGCLO4)

Be able to evaluate social policies both independently and in relation to social policy taught specifically in other modules.

Honours Degree Course Learning Outcome 5 (DEGCLO5)

Be able to act independently in planning and managing tasks with limited guidance in areas which they have studied and will be able to demonstrate proficiency in the use of ICT and engage with blended and technology supported learning

Honours Degree Course Learning Outcome 6 (DEGCLO6)

Be able to apply social policy theories to analyse social needs and policy outcomes

Overview of Assessment:

Module Title	Course Learning Outcomes
4CJ002 Criminal Justice	CHECLO2, CHECLO3, CHECLO4
4CJ003 Thinking About Crime	CHECLO2, CHECLO3, CHECLO4
4DF009 Introduction to British Sign Language	CHECLO4, CHECLO5
4PO003 Introduction to British Politics	CHECLO4
4SA007 The Development of the Welfare State: 1945-2010	CHECLO1, CHECLO2, CHECLO3, CHECLO4
4SA008 Contemporary Social Policy	CHECLO1, CHECLO2, CHECLO3, CHECLO4
4SL010 The Media and the Manufacture of Deviance	CHECLO1, CHECLO2, CHECLO3, CHECLO4
5CJ009 Victims and Offenders	DHECLO3, DHECLO4, DHECLO5
5LW016 Housing and Welfare Law	DHECLO1, DHECLO3, DHECLO4, DHECLO5
5LW022 Supervised Placement Year	DHECLO4, DHECLO6
5PO006 Contemporary Britain	DHECLO2, DHECLO3, DHECLO4, DHECLO5
5SA007 Paying for Welfare	DHECLO1, DHECLO2, DHECLO3, DHECLO4, DHECLO5
5SA009 Communities in Social Policy	DHECLO1, DHECLO2, DHECLO3, DHECLO4, DHECLO5
5SA014 Families, Children and the State	DHECLO1, DHECLO2, DHECLO3, DHECLO4, DHECLO5
5SL001 Racism, Diversity and difference in the British Context	DHECLO3, DHECLO4, DHECLO5
5SL007 Doing Quantitative Research	DHECLO3, DHECLO4, DHECLO5
6CJ006 Controlling Crime	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO6, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO3
6DF006 Welfare and campaigning	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO4, DEGCLO5, DEGCLO6, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO3, ORDCLO4, ORDCLO5
6HS015 Charity and Campaigning in Modern Britain and Empire	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO6, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO3
6LW048 Nationality, International Migration and Refugee Law	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2
6SA003 Approaches to Poverty and Social Exclusion	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO4, DEGCLO6, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO3, ORDCLO4
6SA004 Independent Project in Social Policy	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO4, DEGCLO5, DEGCLO6, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO3, ORDCLO4, ORDCLO5
6SL011 The Sociology of Migration	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO6, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO3
6SL012 Qualitative Research Methods	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO4, DEGCLO5, DEGCLO6, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO3, ORDCLO4, ORDCLO5
6SL013 The Global World	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO6, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO3

Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

The programme adheres to constructive alignment by ensuring that learning outcomes, course content and

assessments are coherent and coordinated.

As mentioned in the educational aims of the course above, the teaching methods are varied and include not only formal taught sessions such as lectures and visiting speakers, but also discursive based sessions such as seminars and workshops and individual tutorials. These are in addition to sessions such as quizzes, assessment preparation, and videos.

The assessments are similarly diverse throughout the course in order to maintain the students' interest as well as systematically assess their knowledge in line with the learning outcomes. Furthermore, the assessments are designed to contribute to employability by using methods such as presentations, reports and case studies that are likely to feature as part of students' subsequent careers. Presentations are usually in pairs, which encourages students' ability to work cooperatively in partnership.

Exams and essays are retained in the assessment portfolio as they have a clear academic role to play, but the balance features a strong employability focus.

Assessment Methods:

At the University of Wolverhampton, a variety of modes of assessment will be used to support and test your learning and progress and to help you develop capabilities that are valued beyond your University studies and into your working life. Your course may include a variety of assessment activities:

Written examinations (including online examinations, open and closed book examinations and quizzes)
Coursework (for example, essays, reports, portfolios, project proposals and briefs, CVs, poster presentation)
Practical (for example, oral and video presentations, laboratory work, performances, practical skills assessment)

In the final year of your undergraduate degree, and at the end of your postgraduate degree, you are likely to be expected to write an extended piece of work or research, such as a dissertation or a practice-based piece of research.

Student Support:

A significant amount of support is provided for students by the university, including academic study skills and support for students with additional needs. Within the Social Policy team, we also encourage students to make full use of the four hours per week of staff availability time, with appointments available to be booked online as well as drop in sessions. Furthermore, every module has dedicated time set aside where teaching staff can provide assessment support and answer questions

Employability in the Curriculum:

Within the curriculum, the assessment regime of case studies, reports and presentations are set up in a manner that reflects many of the skills necessary to work within the field of social policy as well as further afield. The course also includes visiting speakers working within social policy and opportunities for volunteering and placements at levels four and five

The completion of a Sandwich Year will enable you to gain valuable hands on experience in a relevant work environment. This will not only provide additional practical subject skills but it will also develop personal transferable skills such as communication skills, problem solving skills and demonstrate competency in working with other people. This will increase your employability and assist you in gaining employment in the future.

