

1.5 Programme Specification

1. Qualification BA Honours	2. Programme Title Youth & Community Work	3. UCAS Code	4. Programme Type Modular, Single Honours, Full -time & Part-time
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5. Main Purposes and Distinctive Features of the Programme:

The BA Honours Degree in Youth & Community Work enables full - time and part- time students to achieve the aim of becoming reflective and knowledgeable graduates and effective practitioners in youth and community work. The Degree has been professionally validated by the National Youth Agency on behalf of the JNC and incorporates both study elements and practical experience that meets the current Occupational Standards in Youth and Community work and the common core of skills and knowledge for The Children's Workforce. The development of the degree has taken place in consultation with local, regional and national representatives from statutory youth services, the NYA, voluntary sector organisations and other specialists from the youth work field.

The aims of the course are as follows:

1. To enable students to learn about young people and their personal and social development.
2. To build relationships with young people in a practice-based youth work environment; to learn about the core values in youth work and enable both student and young people to reflect on actions and responsibilities within a youth work setting.
3. To learn about, and critically analyse the social policy context of working with young people and individuals and groups within communities.
4. To learn appropriate skills, competencies, and underpinning knowledge that will enable students to be effective practitioners in the field of youth and community work. This includes working with young people and their communities and staff from other agencies.
5. To develop powers of critical analysis and independent thinking that will enhance commitment to appropriate values (anti discriminatory) , and promote inclusion and participation in a democratic society.
6. To enable students to effectively lead and manage staff.
7. To develop skills that will enable students to develop and monitor service provision.

6. What a graduate should know and be able to do on completion of the programme

Knowledge and understanding in the context of the subject(s)

1. Awareness of major foundational concepts/theories re youth work i.e. inclusion/exclusion, community, state, social policy, ethnicity, class, gender, diversity, disability.
2. Understanding of application of concepts in context of education, health, religion, etc.
3. Ability to evaluate national, European and local policies implemented in specific contexts i.e. young people in UK and elsewhere.
4. Ability to analyse social issues and structures and make theoretically informed critical judgements that may influence practice.

Cognitive skills in the context of the subject(s)

1. The capacity for critical reasoning and analysis.
2. Synthesis of data and interpretation of findings.
3. Application of concepts.
4. Identification and solving of problems, both in a practical and theoretical context.
5. Evaluation /analysis of ideas, theories and ideologies.
6. Application of theories to group situations.

Subject-specific practical/professional skills:

1. Competence in working with a wide range of young people in youth and community settings
2. Ability to plan and deliver a wide range of sessions designed to meet the needs of specific youth and community groups.
3. Problem solving in real and simulated situations.
4. Develop specific skills connected with youth and community work i.e. competency in group work, working on a one to one basis and outreach techniques.

Other skills (e.g. key/transferable) developed in subject or other contexts

1. Capacity to learn and investigate.
2. Effective communication, orally and in writing.
3. Numerical and quantitative skills appropriate to the youth and community working environment
4. Competent use of information technology to retrieve data and communicate.
5. Ability to work as part of a team and apply management skills where necessary.
6. Social and political awareness and participation where appropriate.
7. Ability to recognise, value and evidence own learning in academic and non-academic contexts.

7. Qualities, Skills & Capabilities Profile:

Producing written coursework and to be evidenced by PDP/Reflective Log

A Cognitive	B Practical	C Personal & Social	D Other
Critical reasoning	Writing skills	Self expression	
Theoretical and conceptual thought	Demonstration of critical analysis i.e. research methods/analysis of case studies	Self motivation Ability to recognise opportunities for new learning	Demonstrate a responsible attitude to own personal, educational and career development. Ability to justify and account for personal strategies
Social problem solving	Use of communication technology	Organisation and time management Ability to create a strategy for self-improvement Ability to monitor and review progress towards the achievement of goals and targets	
Analytical ability	Processing data	Teamwork and leadership	
Application of theory to real group situations	Problem solving within a placement setting	Social interaction and communication	Demonstrate an ability to reflect upon personal and professional practice
Ability to justify and account for personal strategies	Ability to develop and review personal strategy	Ability to evaluate and recognise own strengths and weaknesses and identify ways in which perceived weaknesses might be improved and make best use of strengths	Demonstrate an ability to initiate self-direction through reflective practice and work-based placements

8. Duration and Structure of Programme/Modes of Study/Credit Volume of Study Units

The course is three years full time, 4.5 years part time. Full-time: day and evening (mixed)/ Part-time: and/or evening (mixed). This is organised on a two semester per year basis.

Level HE4 (year 1) comprises: 6x 20 credit modules.

Level HE5 (year 2) comprises 6x20 credit modules

Level HE6 (year 3) comprises 3x20, 2x10 and 1x40 credit modules.

H4, H5 and H6 levels have compulsory practice based placements.

Placements will be undertaken as follows which are in line with NYA requirements:

Year 1: Placement (1) Module – 140 hours throughout the duration of the taught module + 82 ho throughout the duration of the academic year.

Year 2: Placement (2) Module – 140 hours throughout the duration of the taught module + 82 ho throughout the duration of the academic year.

Year 3: Placement (3) Module – 280 hours throughout the duration of the taught module + 164 ho throughout the duration of the academic year.

Total Placements = 888 hours or 24 weeks over 3 years

Students who wish to exit at H4 or H5 will receive:

*H4 = Certificate in Higher Education

*H5= Diploma in Higher Education

***Both awards will NOT carry a Youth and Community Work qualification**

Number of credits:

BA (Hons) Youth and Community final award = 360 credits

Certificate in HE = 120 credits

Diploma in HE = 240 credits

<p>H4 Honours Modules</p>	<p><u>Core Modules</u> Community Studies. Welfare and Social Policy 1. Working with Groups. Learning to Learn. The Youth Work Process and the Role of the Youth Worker. Placement (1)</p>	<p>Optional modules All modules are core for this level</p>
<p>H5 Honours Modules</p>	<p><u>Core Modules</u> Approaches To Investigating Society. Dynamics of Human Relations. Reflective Learning. Managing your Youth Work. Diversity and Community. Placement (2)</p>	<p><u>Optional Modules</u> All modules are core for this level</p>

<p>H6 Honours Modules</p>	<p><u>Core Modules</u> Young People in the Community. Multi-agency Working. Neighbourhood, Community and Regeneration. Placement 3 /Dissertation.</p>	<p><u>Optional Modules</u> Global Perspectives Issues in Contemporary Society Management Skills Youth Work in Practice</p>
<p>9. Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy</p> <p><u>Learning and Teaching Methods</u> Active learning is promoted by seminars, self directed study, lectures, video viewing and analysis, tutorials, IT sessions, library and guided study, practice placements in youth/voluntary/ community settings.</p> <p><u>Assessment Methods</u> Assessment tasks are linked to the learning outcomes of each module and are normally completed during the end of each semester</p> <p>Level 1: Essays, Reports, Case Studies, Peer & Supervisor Observation, Presentation, Portfolio, Practical Placement, Reflective Log, PDP</p> <p>Level 2: Essays, Reports, Case Studies, Supervisor Observation, Practical Placement, Reflective Log, PDP</p> <p>Level 3: Essays, Reports, Case Studies, Supervisor Observation, Presentation, Practical Placement, Reflective Log, PDP, Dissertation</p> <p><u>Assessment Classification System</u> Pass mark for individual assessment 40% Final degree classification is based on aggregated performance in all H6 modules and the best 4 marks from H5 modules and profile information for marginal candidates (Marginal criteria operate within 2% each category).</p> <p><u>Honours Classification Bands</u></p> <p>Work judged to be First quality: 70%+</p> <p>Work judged to be Upper Second quality: 60 – 69%</p> <p>Work judged to be Lower Second quality: 50 – 59%</p> <p>Work judged to be Third quality: 40 – 49%</p> <p>Work judged to fail: below 40%</p>		<p>10. Other Information (<i>including compliance with relevant University policies</i>)</p> <p><i>For all applicants:</i> Portfolio of evidence of experience in youth and Community Work AND Letter of recommendation from most recent youth and community work experience. N.B. Experience MUST be no less than 6 months.</p> <p><u>Admissions Criteria</u></p> <p>180 UCAS points or equivalent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five GCSE/GCE, grade C or above, including English with two A level passes (10 points), , or • Foundation Certificate in Youth & Community Work or • NVQ Level 3 Youth Work (or equivalent), or • Completion of a suitable Kite marked access course with minimum of 12 credits, or • Other equivalent qualifications e.g. Scottish Highers, Irish Leaving Certificate, International/European Baccalaureate. • Special consideration is given to applicants without the above qualifications but with relevant voluntary or work experience. Applicants are encouraged to contact the Department to arrange an interview. <p>Non-traditional entry route by interview and written work, and some voluntary or youth work experience.</p> <p><u>Indicators of Quality and Standards :</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Validation by panel with external subject specialists and professional validation by the National Youth Agency 2. Internal Review 2013 3. External Review by NYA 2013 <p>Date programme first offered: September 2008</p>