

Social and Community Development

BA (Hons)

This course focuses on the context within which social problems arise and includes in-depth examination of social issues, the ways in which these issues are addressed and will equip students with key skills for working in the social care sector.

Course content

The course will develop students' understanding of social care provision in areas such as community development, child protection and mental health. This course offers the opportunity to study contemporary social issues and develop skills that are of use in a number of sectors including social care, community development, social housing and criminal justice. It incorporates two key strands: exploring current issues in social provision and preparing students for employment. A critical analysis of contemporary issues is underpinned by knowledge drawn from sociology, psychology, social policy, law, community development, management and research methods.

The design of the degree recognises the current climate and focuses particularly on service delivery looking at how individuals, organisations and communities try to find solutions to social problems.

Stage one

Provides foundation knowledge with core modules in sociology, psychology, social policy, sustainable communities, equality and human rights law and volunteering.

Stage two

This stage provides more specific and detailed knowledge, exploring in greater depth the social issues that effect society, the nature of gender and cultural inequalities, the role of community development work and the relevance of research literacy skills.

Students also have the option of specialising in one area of study which currently includes managing social welfare organisations, human rights law and international development.

Stage three



Course level

Undergraduate

Modes of study

Full time

UCAS or UKPASS details

UCAS code: L510

UCAS description: BA/Scd

Length of study

Three years full-time or four years with a placement

School

School of Health

Location

Park Campus

Course contact

study@northampton.ac.uk

Avenue Campus

St George's Avenue
Northampton
NN2 6JD

Park Campus

Boughton Green Road
Northampton
NN2 7AL

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This stage consolidates the students' knowledge and learning. The practice skills module assists students to gain skills in interviewing/counselling and in group work. The developing and managing of not-for-profit organisations module provides students with an understanding of how to set up and manage a project in response to community need. The final year dissertation also acts as a gateway to future employment.

Special course features

- Focus on practical skills
- Optional placements
- Develops the student's knowledge and understanding of social issues, professional interventions and the role of social care and third sector organisations in social welfare services

Typical modules

- Community participation and community work
- Gender and cultural perspectives
- Management and social enterprise skills
- Sustainable communities and community development
- Contemporary social policy
- Equality and human rights law
- Sociology and psychology
- Practice skills
- Volunteering and optional work experience placement

Types of assessment

Students are assessed by means of coursework essays and reports, critical reviews, oral presentations, examinations, individual and group work.

Entry requirements

Standard entry requirements apply. A typical offer would be 260-300 UCAS tariff points. We welcome international applications and applications from students with a range of non-traditional educational or professional qualifications.

Career opportunities

This degree will prepare students for employment in the field of social welfare, social care and a wide range of voluntary, statutory and private sector organisations. Additionally, there are potential career opportunities for students interested in working overseas with various international charities and non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

Two recent graduates have used the knowledge and skills learnt on the degree to set up their own social enterprises, one working with young people and the other one providing an information service for people from the ethnic minorities. Other students have gone onto careers as diverse as social work, health promotion, counselling, policing, housing and teaching.

Work placement opportunities

We have developing opportunities in a range of social welfare organisations based in Northamptonshire, London and Milton Keynes.

Opportunities to study abroad

We have strong links with international charities and non governmental organisations based in India, Ghana and East Africa.

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