Post Graduate Certificate (PG Cert.) Advanced Social Work Practice (Practice Education)

Programme Specification

1. Programme title	**Post Graduate Certificate (PG Cert.) Advanced Social Work Practice (Practice Education)**
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	Middlesex University
4. Details of accreditation by professional/statutory/regulatory body	
5. Final qualification	PG. Cert.
6. Year of validation **Year of amendment**	
7. Language of study	English
8. Mode of study	Taught modules

9. Criteria for admission to the programme
The entry requirement for the programme is a previous degree or equivalent at level 6, and previous professional qualification, preferably with a minimum of two years post qualifying experience.

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to:

1. To facilitate the transition of qualified social workers from being enabled by others to becoming enablers of others, by meeting the practice education requirements as set out in the Practice Education Professional standards (PEPS)
2. Enhance the skills of professionals enabling them to develop their capacities in critical reflection, resilience and, effectiveness, so that they can practice at a specialist level and improve outcomes for users of services.
3. Offer students (who are professionals) stimulating post qualifying (PQ) specialist masters level study which has a coherent curriculum and related methods of assessment.
4. Further develop the research practice skills and critical thinking of practitioners so that they are able to evaluate research and scholarship in the field and apply it sensitively and systematically.
5. To develop students' professional leadership, and enable them to demonstrate mastery of social work skills within their specialist area.

11. Programme outcomes

A. Knowledge and understanding	**Teaching/learning methods**
On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of: 1. The legal, policy and practice framework within which social work practice education takes place. 2. Application of adult learning theories, models and methods within the context of social work practice education. 3. Knowledge and research that helps practitioners to understand the lives and experiences of people who need social work services.	The programme is designed to build upon the student's knowledge and practice experience which they have acquired in social work. Students gain systematic knowledge and understanding through attending seminars and workshops used for the exposition of theoretical material and factual information. This will enhance critical analysis and debate, and will further the application of knowledge base in social work practice education. Students are expected to undertake self-directed study to supplement and consolidate their learning in both academic and practice arenas.

4. Values and ethics relevant to social work practice. 5. The social work role within multi-professional contexts. 6. Professional authority related to the care and control dimensions of social work practice and practice education. 7. The knowledge required to meet the requirements of Professional Capabilities Framework (PCF) and other relevant criteria for specialist practice in social work and practice education. 8. The knowledge required to meet the requirements for a specialist award at PG Cert. level (level 7).	In practice students will be assessed on a number of occasions as a vehicle for facilitating learning and teaching. **Assessment methods** Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by the use of a variety of methods including: observations, case studies, portfolios, self-evaluative reports and practice assessor reports. Students are able to prepare for formative and summative assessments via seminar support. Formative opportunities are integrated into each of the modules.
B. Cognitive (thinking) skills On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to: 1. Integrate the knowledge base of social work within social work practice education in a complex, comprehensive and creative fashion.	**Teaching/learning methods**

2. Critically analyse and synthesise theoretical and research material relevant to social work practice education. 3. Understand the complex nature of values and ethics as applied to social work practice and practice education. 4. Reflect upon and articulate the impact of themselves upon the work and the work upon themselves. 5. Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems.	Students learn cognitive skills through preparing reasoned creative and informed arguments developed through the teaching and learning programme. Each module, whilst differing in curriculum content, involves discussion of key concepts, ideas and ethical issues underpinning effective social work practice education in social work. Seminars develop skills in analysing, summarising, synthesising and evaluating information. Workshops encourage the development of awareness by emphasising the intellectual and emotional components of social work practice education. **Assessment methods** Students' cognitive skills are assessed by a variety of methods designed to test students' breadth and depth of relevant knowledge, their ability to grasp concepts and their inter-relationships, demonstrate their understanding of the relationship between values, ethics and practice, focus evidence and sustain arguments, and present literate, fluent and accurate work. Formative feedback as described above helps students with the development of these abilities.
C. Practical skills	**Teaching/learning methods**

On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to: 1. Demonstrate that they have consolidated and extended their practice in a social work setting and in accordance with the appropriate requirements of the PCF at masters level. 2. Work in an anti-discriminatory, anti-oppressive and empowering manner in accordance with the Equality Act (2010), and other relevant policies on promoting equality and equal opportunity. 3. Practice social work in line with the HCPC, BASW, and IFSW's code of conduct, and in line with other regional or national guidance. 4. Plan their continued development of knowledge, understanding, research and skills in social work practice and practice education. 5. Demonstrate the knowledge and skills required to meet the appropriate specialist standards in accordance with PCF and other relevant guidance in social work practice and practice education. 6. Demonstrate the knowledge and skills required to meet the requirements of the specialist level award in social work practice education.	Students learn practical skills through workshops, assessed practice observations and seminars. Detailed guidance on the skills needed to meet the requirements for the award is integrated within each of the modules. **Assessment methods** Academic assignments will evidence students' ability to critically reflect upon and apply their specialist practitioner skills in the interest of service users and carers. There are a number of ways this is assessed including: case studies, observations, self-evaluative reports, etc.

D. Graduate skills	**Teaching/learning methods**
On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to: 1. Collect, collate, analyse and synthesise materials for specific academic and practice purposes. 2. Evidence their numeracy relevant to their academic study and their practice requirements. 3. Effectively make use of ICT for both academic study and in practice. 4. Communicate effectively in written and oral forms. 5. Work effectively within a group or organisation. 6. Demonstrate a capacity to be reflective and evaluative of their own work. 7. Identify their own learning needs, and be able to seek out the means for those needs to be met through continuing professional development activities.	Students acquire graduate skills through both the academic and practice components of the programme. Academic modules are assessed via case studies, observations and portfolios. Written feedback is provided to each student in relation to skills in communication, data collection, power of analysis and synthesis, and self-reflection. Seminars and workshops offer opportunities for the development of skills in relation to team working, and becoming an autonomous self-directed practitioner in social work practice education. Students access a variety of information technology resources for social work by linking to the University's Learning Resource Services. This programme also uses Moodle as platforms to promote learning outside of the classroom. **Assessment methods** Students' graduate skills are assessed via: formal academic assignments (see above), and in practice.

12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)
12. 1 Overall structure of the programme

The Post Graduate Certificate (PG Cert.) Advanced Social Work Practice (Practice Education) award is aimed at building on practitioners' specialist knowledge and skills in social work practice education and to prepare practitioners for research.

The entry requirement for the programme is a previous degree or equivalent at level 6, and previous professional qualification, preferably with two years post-qualifying experience.

The students may achieve a PG Cert Advanced Social Work Practice (Practice Education) if they meet all of the following requirements and conditions:

1. Successfully complete the following two modules for a total of 60 academic credits:

Module Name	Module Code	Level	Academic Credits
Practice Education (Stage 1)	SWK4011	7	30
Practice Education (Stage 2)	SWK4420	7	30

After completing the requirements for the PG Cert as specified above, the students may choose not to exit and instead complete additional SWK modules at level 7 for an additional 60 academic credits to receive a PG Dip in Advanced Social Work Practice. For more information about the PG Dip in Advanced Social Work Practice, please see the university website or postgraduate prospectus.

There will be opportunity for students to APL prior learning, and/or APEL their prior workplace experience. For example, APEL may be granted where a student has carried out significant work or undertaken a project in teaching and learning at an advanced specialist level. Such previous work should be documented and submitted in a portfolio to be evaluated by the university based on the PCF, and based on the student being able to evidence that they have achieved the learning outcomes of a given module as well as the currency of their knowledge. The University may require the student to submit or undertake additional work or examination in order to verify the students' capabilities.

The students may APL/APEL relevant academic credit gained at level 7 at other higher education institutes toward the PG Cert. Such *APL can be granted for a maximum of half of the total credits required for each award, in specific:

- Maximum of 30 academic credits for PG Cert.

Each previous study module and/or portfolio reflecting the practitioner's experience that is APLed/APELed should meet the learning outcomes of the corresponding module in the programme for which it is being APLed/APELed.

12.2 Levels and modules		
Level 7		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must successfully complete: Practice Education (Stage 1) *(SWK4011) 30 credits level 7.* **and** Practice Education (Stage 2) *(SWK4420) 30 credits level 7.*		

12.3 Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)	
Module level	**Module code**

Level 7	SWK4011
Level 7	SWK4420

13. Curriculum map

See attached.

14. Information about assessment regulations

The social work programmes abide by the assessment regulations outlined in Middlesex University's Guide and Regulations. Owing to the professional nature of this programme, however, there are a number of additional regulations:

- Students enrolled on social work programmes are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the University's 'Rules on Student Conduct and Discipline', alongside the Health and Care Professions Council's 'Standards of Proficiency' and 'Standards of conduct, performance and ethics'.
- In line with the above, a student's training will be ended if their behaviour:
    - is confirmed to be damaging or dangerous to other people who use services, other students or programme providers;
    - creates unacceptable risk for themselves or others; or
    - shows a serious failure to follow any relevant Code of Practice.
- Students are usually allowed to defer once only in each module.
- Fail grades are not compensated for on any module.

A minimum of 80% attendance is required for all Social Work modules.

15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)

n/a

16. Future careers (if applicable)

Graduates from this programme will have developed knowledge and skills to enable them to apply for specialist practitioner roles and/or more advanced social work positions such as those within practice management.

17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

Where necessary, tutors encourage and signpost students to relevant services within the university in order to support students to successfully complete their course.

18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)	L500 Programme Code:
19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)	Social Work

20. Reference points

- Health and Care Professions Council (2017) *Standards of Proficiency for Social Workers in England*, http://www.hcpc-uk.org/assets/documents/10003B08Standardsofproficiency-SocialworkersinEngland.pdf
- Health and Care Professions Council (2016) Standards of conduct, performance and ethics. available at: http://www.hcpc-uk.org/publications/standards/index.asp?id=38
- The College of Social Work (2012) *Practice Educator Professional Standards for Social Work*. available at: http://cdn.basw.co.uk/upload/basw_105938-8.pdf

21. Other information

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

Curriculum map for Post Graduate Certificate (PG Cert.) Advanced Social Work Practice (Practice Education)

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding		Practical skills	
A1	To critically appraise the legal, policy and procedural frameworks within social work practice education.	C1	Demonstrate that they have consolidated and extended their practice in social work practice education setting and in accordance with the appropriate requirements of PCF at a specialist level.
A2	To consolidate and extend understanding of theories, models and methods of social work interventions and related research in social work practice education.	C2	Work in accordance with the relevant Knowledge and Skills Statement (KSS) and the social work regulatory body's policies and guidance.
A3	Critical awareness of knowledge and research that helps practitioners to understand the lives and experiences of people who need social work services.	C3	Plan their continued development of knowledge, understanding, research and skills in social work practice education.
A4	Integration of value and ethics relevant to the student's specific specialist area of practice.	C4	The skills required to meet the requirements of PCF and other relevant standards at a specialist level.
A5	A critical analysis of social work within multi-professional contexts and in the student's specialist area.	C5	The knowledge and skills required to meet the requirements of the specialist award at masters level (level 7).
A6	The effective use of professional authority related to the care and control dimensions of social work practice and practice education	C6	Demonstrate the knowledge and skills required to meet the requirements of the specialist level award in social work practice education.
A7	The knowledge required to meet the requirements of PCF for social work practice education at a specialist level.		

A8	The knowledge required to meet the requirements for a specialist award at PG Cert. level (level 7)		
Cognitive skills		Graduate Skills	
B1	Integrate the knowledge base of social work practice and practice education at a complex, comprehensive level and in a creative fashion.	D1	Collect, collate, analyse and synthesise materials for specific academic and practice purposes.
B2	Critically analyse and synthesise theoretical and research material relevant to social work practice education.	D2	Evidence their numeracy relevant written to their academic study and social work practice education requirements.
B3	Understand the complex nature of values and ethics as applied to social work practice education.	D3	Effectively make use of ICT for both academic study and in practice.
B4	Reflect upon and articulate the impact of themselves upon the work and the work upon themselves.	D4	Communicate effectively in and oral forms.
B5	Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems.	D5	Work effectively within a group or organisation.
B6		D6	Demonstrate a capacity to be reflective and evaluative of their own work.
B7		D7	Identify their own learning needs and be able to seek out the means for those needs to be met through continuing professional development activities.

Programme outcomes																								
A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5		D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	D7
Highest level achieved by all graduates																								
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7		7	7	7	7	7		7	7	7	7	7	7	7

Module Title	Module Code by Level	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	D7
Practice Education (Stage 1)	SWK 4011	X	X		X		X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Practice Education (Stage 2)	SWK 4420	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X