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# SOCIAL WORK

BA (Hons)



**ARE YOU STIRLING?**

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## REASONS TO CHOOSE THIS COURSE

### 1 OUR EXPERTISE

All social work teaching staff are all qualified social workers with a strong commitment to the profession in terms of teaching and research.

### 2 ESTABLISHED PARTNERSHIPS

We have established partnerships with local agencies enhancing your knowledge further between academia and practice.

### 3 HIGHLY RANKED COURSE

2nd in Scotland and 2nd in the UK for Social Work (Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019).

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## WHY STUDY SOCIAL WORK?

Do you want a career that is stimulating, rewarding and makes a positive contribution to society? If so, a degree in social work could be for you.

At the University of Stirling social work education is committed to progressive social change through teaching, research and an active involvement with practice. We believe in a social work profession defined not only by its function but also by its values and integrity. We promote an understanding of social work, which is informed by social justice and human rights; a profession that acknowledges the links between “public issues” and “private troubles” and seeks to address both. We also value practice that has prevention at its heart and recognises the importance of collective approaches, actively engaging with and learning from user movements.

This degree course incorporates the professional qualification you need to practise social work alongside a strong grounding in relevant social science subjects. We will help you qualify as a social worker who is knowledgeable, skilled, analytical and ethical in your approach to working with individuals, families, groups and communities.

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## 2ND IN THE UK FOR SOCIAL WORK

Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019

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## COURSE DETAILS

You will be taught by a team of qualified social workers including world leaders in their research field and academics who maintain close connections with practice. You will enjoy the benefits of smaller class sizes (23-55) with creative approaches to teaching and assessment as well as detailed feedback on your progress. You will also experience contributions to teaching by people who have used social work services and carers and on your practice placements, and you will be supported and assessed by accredited or in training practice educators. .

This course will provide you with an integrated academic and professional course which develops the knowledge, skills and values necessary for professional practice as a social worker. Successful completion of this course will mean you are then eligible to be registered, by the Scottish Social Services Council, as a qualified social worker. Each UK country has its own registration body and this degree is accepted by all of them.

## COURSE DELIVERY AND ASSESSMENT

The first three semesters provide you with the foundation for the full-time professional course. From semester four onwards you will be encouraged to engage with theory and research through the use of case studies and role plays, discussions and project group work.

Your learning is greatly assisted by the contribution (to teaching and practice learning) of staff from local voluntary and statutory agencies. You will also benefit from contributions by service users and carers and from the range of research and teaching interests within the Faculty of Social Sciences, in which social work is located. Particular strengths include community care, criminal justice, children and families, skills teaching, values and social justice.

At Stirling, we recognise the role and benefits of online learning methods and these are utilised across our knowledge-based modules to enrich the quality and variety of the student learning experience. A wide range of assessment methods are used: essays, analytical accounts of practice, filmed assessment of practice skills, class presentations, an oral examination on social work practice and assessment of the two practice learning opportunities.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

This degree equips you for social work jobs throughout the UK, in a variety of settings including: local authorities, prisons, hospitals and voluntary organisations. The nature of the work is extremely varied and there is the capacity to move between different work settings throughout your career.

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**“It has been my experience and that of my practice teaching colleagues that social work students coming from Stirling are of exceptional calibre and bring with them a high level of knowledge and skills which they appear to easily transfer to practice. This of course has been enabled by the quality of teaching that they receive from both tutors and practitioners who are involved in various aspects of the course prior to students undertaking a practice learning opportunity.”**

**Vivian Fitzsimmons,**  
Practice Teacher/Coordinator, Falkirk Council.

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**SOCIAL WORK**  
[stir.ac.uk/4z](http://stir.ac.uk/4z)

**L500**

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### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

**YEAR 1 ENTRY –  
FOUR-YEAR HONOURS**

**SQA Highers:**

AABB – one sitting

AAAB – two sittings

**GCE A-levels:**

BBB

**IB Diploma:**

32

**BTEC (Level 3):**

DDM

### OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

**Scottish HNC/HND:**

Minimum entry: Bs

in graded units.

Minimum entry: Bs

in graded units.

### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Voluntary, paid or personal experience of social work or related activity is essential.

Students have to be registered with the Scottish Social Services Council by the start of the second semester in year one.

Continued registration on the social work student section of the register is a requirement throughout the course and is the student's responsibility to fulfil.

### PART TIME OPTIONS AVAILABLE

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## SOCIAL WORK — 2ND IN THE UK

Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019

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## TYPICAL TIMETABLE

YEAR	MODULE
1	Introduction to Social Work 1
	Social Differentiation
	Social Problems
	Active Learning in the Community
	Plus two modules of own choice
2	Understanding Social Policy
	Introduction to Social Work 2
	Social Work Law & Policy
	Human Development and Family Contexts
	Theory and Practice of Social Work
3	Evidence and Social Inquiry for Social Work
	Practice Learning 1
	Theory and Practice: Children, Families and Society
	Theory and Practice: Crime, Welfare and Justice
4	Theory and Practice: Health, Illness & Disability
	Practice Learning 2
	Dissertation

## PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

You will have two professional practice learning opportunities in Semester 5 (75 days) and in the summer period between Semesters 6 and 7 (95 days). These take place in a variety of settings where you will undertake direct work with people who use services. During practice learning placements you will receive supervision from qualified social workers and other professionals and have your practice assessed by an accredited or in training practice educator. Placements usually take place within a 60-mile radius of the University.

## CONTACT

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**Student Recruitment and Admissions**

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