

BA (Hons) Social Work



View on bradfordcollege.ac.uk



Subject Area	Health & Social Care
Course Type	Higher Education
Study Level	Level 6
Delivery Mode	Full-time
Duration	3 Academic Years
Start Date	September 2026
Course Code	PFUB048

This course is approved by



**University of
Greater Manchester**

Course Summary

A career as a social worker offers a unique and rewarding opportunity to make a meaningful difference in the lives of individuals and communities.

Social workers serve as advocates for those in need, providing support, guidance, and resources to help individuals navigate challenging life circumstances. Whether working

with families, children, the elderly, or marginalized groups, social workers play a critical role in promoting social justice, mental health, and overall well-being.

The ability to foster positive change, build connections, and empower others makes social work not just a profession, but a calling for those passionate about improving lives and creating stronger, more resilient communities.

This course is approved by Social Work England, who is our professional, statutory and regulatory body. It combines applied academic study with social work placements leading to skills-based and academic assessments.

We work closely with the Bradford Teaching Partnership (which includes Bradford Council, the University of Bradford and Bradford Children and Families Trust), voluntary agencies and people with lived experience of social work (co-production).

Students form smaller teaching groups, providing high levels of pastoral support, provided by qualified and experienced social workers who bring a wide variety of practice experience and professional wisdom. Students can dial into masterclasses provided by both the British Association of Social Work and Social Work England, as well as access to online support and resources, in addition to their teaching. Two work placements (one 70 days and one 100 days) are included in the course.

What You Will Learn

First year modules introduce key themes such as human rights, social justice, social work theory, social policy and readiness for practise skills. This includes engaging in 20 skills days on a variety of social work themes and topics.

In the second year, students engage in subject specific learning such as social work with adults, social work with children and social work law. Students undertake a 70 day social work placement in a voluntary or statutory setting in semester 2. Academic study includes adversity, trauma and resilience and evidence based practice.

Third year students study higher level subject specific topics such as mental health social work and international social work. They undertake a 100 day placement with statutory involvement. Tutors provide a high level of academic and pastoral support which is student centered.

A trauma informed approach is woven throughout the course.

Modules

Year 4:

- Introduction to Psychology and Human Development
- Readiness for Direct Practice 1
- Readiness for Direct Practice 2
- Social Work Theory and Practice
- Equity, Empowerment and Rights
- The Politics of Social Policy

Year 5:

- Adult Social Work Practice
- Social Work Law
- Evidence Based Practice
- Adversity, Trauma and Resilience
- Preparation for Professional Practice 1
- Professional Practice 1
- Social Work with Children, Young People and Families

Year 6:

- International Social Work Practice
- Mental Health Social Work
- Inclusive Assessment and Decision Making
- Preparation for Professional Practice 2
- Professional Practice and Research
- Risk Assessment and Professional Judgement

Entry Requirements

Entry to this course requires 120 UCAS tariff points, as well as GCSE English at a grade 4 or C.

Entry to this course can also include:

- An overall Access course pass, to include a minimum of 18 points at merit level.
- IELTS level 7 in English for International students who are 2nd language speakers. This is the PSRB requirement.
- An Enhanced Child/Adult DBS check is also a requirement.
- You will be required to complete a health check.

- You will be required to complete a Social Work Declaration form.
- 100 hours of social work related experience.
- A reference of good character and conduct.

Work Experience

The course includes:

- 70 days of placement in Year 2
- 100 days of placement in Year 3

Placements are designed to develop and challenge your practice skills, knowledge and understanding.

Placement and college work are designed to support each other.

Progression

Most social workers are employed by local authority children's or adult services. As a registered social worker, you may also find work in NHS mental health trusts and community-based settings or prisons. Jobs are available in the private sector, such as with private fostering agencies, and you might also seek supply work with social work staffing agencies. Increasingly, opportunities are also available with voluntary organisations and charities.

If you're considering further study, postgraduate qualifications are available in areas such as community justice, social policy and counselling. You can also take advantage of the numerous continuing professional development opportunities that aid your progression in the social work field.

Graduates can also use the qualification as a stepping-stone into a range of other careers. Some of these roles may require relevant experience and/or postgraduate study.

Potential careers include:

- Advocacy
- Community development
- Counselling
- Probation
- Youth work

- Mental health
- Teaching
- Journalism
- Volunteer management
- Substance misuse
- Social housing
- Learning support
- Academic research
- Public health

Disclaimer: Our prospectus, college documents and website are simply here to offer a guide. We accept no liability for any inaccurate statements and are not responsible for any negative outcomes if you rely on an inaccurate statement. We reserve the right to withdraw any programmes or service at any time.