



Credit Transfer Arrangements and Graduate Entry Procedure

1. *What is the degree in social work?*

It is the qualification for social workers, which replaced the Diploma in Social Work. Successful completion of the programme will give you both a professional qualification and an honours degree. The programme structure is changing from February 2014, so please refer to the end of this document regarding the structure that is most appropriate for you. If you are unsure about which structure to follow, please contact the contact The Open University in Scotland for advice.

Email: Scotland@open.ac.uk or tel: 0131 549 7945.

2. *How long does it take to get the qualification?*

The degree is worth 480 credit points, which means that if you study two 60 credit point modules each year, you will complete it in four years. However, you can study fewer modules each year and complete the programme over a longer period of time if you prefer. Normally students will be expected to complete within seven years of registration with the Scottish Social Services Council. (From 2004 all social work students in Scotland have to register with the SSSC before beginning their studies to ensure that they are suitable to undertake social work training).

3. *I have previously studied for related qualifications; can I obtain any credit for them?*

You can obtain between 60 and 180 credit points for related qualifications. There are two ways of obtaining credit. The usual way is to make a claim to the University at the address below. The arrangements for graduates are slightly different; please read paragraph four below carefully for advice, if you are seeking credit for an existing degree.

4. *I have a degree from a UK University; what credit can I obtain?*

You are entitled to enter the programme at Stage Two if you have a UK honours or ordinary degree, no matter what subject it is in, or when it was studied. As a graduate we think you have the study skills to absorb information quickly, write essays in an academic style and understand critical debate. You do not need to make a credit transfer claim, simply append a copy of your degree certificate to your application, signed on the reverse by your sponsor, to confirm that they have seen the original. You should register for the Stage Two modules at the same time and the Social Work Co-ordinator, Scotland staff will ensure that you are identified as a graduate entrant. However, if you are not entirely confident about your ability to study at Stage Two straight away you may want to consider doing one of the Stage One modules, K101 or DD102 first.

If your degree included a substantial amount of study which was closely related to the content of the 'old' social work degree it is possible to claim up to 60 credit points at Stage Two, against module K229 (you would also need to demonstrate that you have been appropriately assessed on the policy 'Key Capabilities in Child care and protection' www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/12/13102807/0 and you should also contact the Head of Social Work, Scotland for advice) and/ or the option modules, K225/ K272/K260. In order to claim credit for a relevant degree, you would

have to demonstrate that your study closely matched the course content for K229 and/or one of the options. Graduates seeking credit for Stage Two modules **must make a claim**. Before doing so, you may want to seek informal advice about this from the Scotland office at the address below. Information about making a claim is also given below. Student who have not The Open University is incorporated by Royal Charter (RC 000391), an exempt charity in England & Wales and a charity registered in Scotland (SC 038302).

completed K229 or are not registered on K229 13J should follow the new programme structure at the end of this document.

5. *I have a relevant qualification; can I obtain any credit for it?*

The University offers credit for a wide range of qualifications in health or social care. Some of those most commonly credited are listed overleaf. If you have a qualification which you think matches the content of Stage One or Stage Two of the degree, but is not on the list it is still worth making a claim. Information about how to do so is given below. If you hold a qualification which does not appear on this list you may still be eligible for credit. Currently relevant qualifications eligible for credit transfer must not be older than 10 years.

If you think you may be eligible for credit transfer then you must arrange this before you register for an OU qualification or start studying with us. Once you have begun your studies you will not be able to apply for credit transfer.

6. *Can I obtain credit for any of the practice learning courses?*

The University does not allow credit beyond Stage Two of the degree and you cannot claim credit for any of the practice learning modules, K113, K216 or K315.

7. *What happens if my claim is not successful?*

If your claim is not successful you will have to complete the modules for which you have claimed credit. It is important that you make your claim in good time, in order to ensure that you can register for the appropriate modules. Normally students should complete one stage of the Programme before moving onto the next.

8. *How do I apply?*

The Open University has well established procedures for credit transfer; advice about how to apply is available via the Credit transfer office web site at:
<http://www8.open.ac.uk/study/credit-transfer/>.

We advise that you claim as soon as possible to enable you to plan your studies. Please note that it likely to take up to eight weeks for you to receive a decision regarding the outcome of your claim and may take longer for more complex cases.

You can contact the Credit Transfer Centre by letter, telephone, fax or e-mail. Contact details are given at the bottom of this page.

It is important that you do not assume that holding one of the qualifications listed automatically entitles you to credit. This can only be achieved by making an application.

The Credit Transfer Centre
The Open University
P O Box 80
Milton Keynes
MK7 6AS
United Kingdom
Email: credit-transfer@open.ac.uk
Tel: +44 (0)1908 653077

QUALIFICATION	CREDIT
HNC in Social Care	60 credit points for Stage One
HNC in Health and Social Care with an SVQ3 in Care or in Health and Social Care	120 credit points for Stage One. You join the programme at Stage Two
HNC in Social Sciences	60 credit points for DD101 (you must do K101)
HND in Social Care	120 credit points for the whole of Stage One
HNC in Social Care and S/NVQ 4 in Care or HNC in Social Care and Registered Manager in Health and Social care	120 credit points for the whole of Stage One
RMN (must be linked to a DipHE)	120 credit points for the whole of Stage One
Successful completion of the first 120 credit points of the Diploma in Social Work	120 credit points for the whole of Stage One Note: You cannot obtain credit for any practice learning

Currently relevant qualifications eligible for credit transfer must not be older than 10 years.

For informal advice about obtaining credit please contact the Credit Transfer Office at Walton Hall (01908 653077) or the Social Work Co-ordinator, Scotland at the address below.

The Open University in Scotland
 10 Drumsheugh Gardens
 Edinburgh
 EH3 7QJ
 Tel: 0131 549 7945
 Fax: 0131 220 6730
 E-mail: Scotland@open.ac.uk



The Open University
Faculty of Health and Social Care
BA (Hons) Social Work: Scotland
Programme structure from February 2014

Programme Structure for students who have not completed K229 or are not registered on K229 13J (last presentation)

It should be noted that:

1. Normally students will progress through the programme as described below; if a student has previously completed one or more modules before registering for the degree, they can be counted in, except for courses at Stage 4.
2. Students must complete the practice learning modules in order, including K113, and achieve a pass at each stage, before proceeding to the next stage.
3. Students undertaking the programme over a longer period may opt for a different pattern of study from the one outlined below.
4. Some of the modules listed below are open to all students. You do not have to be registered for the degree to study them. They are highlighted in bold.
5. Please note that registration as a social work student with the SSSC is for seven years from registration. If this is exceeded a case will need to be made and accepted by the SSSC as to why registration should be extended.

Further information regarding the degree programme may be obtained from the Open University in Scotland by e-mailing Scotland@open.ac.uk or calling (0131) 226 3851 and asking for the Faculty of Health and Social Care.

	Module Title	SCQF Level	Credits	2014/15 Module Starts	2014/15 UK Module Fees
Stage One	K101: <i>An introduction to health and social care*</i> and DD102: <i>Introducing the social sciences*</i> students who have completed the discontinued modules K100/KZX100 and/or DD100/D101 may count them in place of K101 and DD102)	7	60	Oct/Feb	£775
		7	60	Oct/Feb	£775
Stage Two	K113: <i>Foundations for social work practice</i> or KYJ113: 'open' version of Foundations for social work practice+ and +KYJ113 must be counted into the Social Work degree within two years of completion; if not, the 10-day period of verified practice learning in a social care/social work setting practice must be repeated	7	60	end Jan	£1,310
	K218: <i>Working with children, young people and families</i>	7	60	Oct	£850
Stage Three	K207: <i>The law and social work in Scotland</i> and K216: <i>Applied social work practice (100 days practice learning)</i>	9	60	Feb	£1,015
		9	60	end Jan	£2,770
Stage Four	K319: <i>Adulthood, ageing and the life course</i> and K315: <i>Critical social work practice (100 days practice learning)</i>	10	60	Oct	£850
		10	60	end Jan	£2,770



Programme Structure for students who have completed K229 or are registered on K229 13J

It should be noted that:

1. Normally students will progress through the programme as described below; if a student has previously completed one or more modules before registering for the degree, they can be counted in, except for courses at Stage 4.
2. Students must complete the practice learning modules in order, including K113, and achieve a pass at each stage, before proceeding to the next stage.
3. Students undertaking the programme over a longer period may opt for a different pattern of study from the one outlined below.
4. Some of the modules listed below are open to all students. You do not have to be registered for the degree to study them. They are highlighted in bold.
5. Please note that registration as a social work student with the SSSC is for seven years from registration. If this is exceeded a case will need to be made and accepted by the SSSC as to why registration should be extended.

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	Module Title	SCQF Level	Credits	2014/15 Module Starts	2014/15 UK Module Fees
Stage One	K101: An introduction to health and social care*	7	60	Oct / Feb	£775
	DD102: Introducing the social sciences* <small>*students who have completed the discontinued modules K100/KZX100 and/or DD101 may count them in place of K101/DD102</small>	7	60	Oct/ Feb	£775
Stage Two	K113: <i>Foundations for social work practice</i>	7	60	end Jan	£1, 310
	or KYJ113: 'open' version of Foundations for social work practice+	7	60	end Jan	£1, 310
	and K229: Social work with children, young people and families in Scotland	8	30	Oct 13 (last presentation)	N/A
	and One option from:				
	K225: Diverse perspectives on mental health=	8	30	Oct	£440
K260: Death and dying	8	30	Oct	£440	
K235: Dementia care	8	30	Oct	£440	
K272: Challenging ideas in mental health	8	30	Oct	£440	
	<small>+KYJ113 must be counted into the Social Work degree within two years of completion; if not, the 10-day period of verified practice learning in a social care/social work setting practice must be repeated =students who have completed the discontinued module K257 may count it in place of K225.</small>				
Stage Three	K207: The law and social work in Scotland	9	60	Feb	£1,015
	and K216: Applied social work practice (100 days practice learning)	9	60	end Jan	£2,770
Stage Four	One option from:				
	K313: <i>Leadership and management in care</i>	10	60	Oct	£850
	KE312: <i>Working together for children</i>	10	60	Oct	£850
	K319: <i>Adulthood, ageing and the life course</i>	10	60	Oct	£850
and K315: Critical social work practice (100 days practice learning)	10	60	end Jan	£2, 770	

