

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

Overview

NFQ Level 9, Major Award

The Master of Social Work is a full-time professional training programme running for 21 months over two academic years from the date of first registration for the programme.

Students take 60 credits in each year of the programme (a total of 120 credits). The programme is divided into six thematically-based combinations

Exit Award: Postgraduate Diploma in Social Work Studies (NFQ Level 9, Major Award)

Candidates who fail to achieve an aggregate of 50%, but who have not fallen below 40% in any module in **Year 1**, and who have passed the Fieldwork Placement element (SS6112), will progress to the Second Year of the Postgraduate Diploma in Social Work Studies (<https://ucc-ie-public.courseleaf.com/programmes/pdsws/>).

Candidates who fail to achieve an aggregate of at least 50% across all taught modules in **Years 1 and 2**, but who have not fallen below 40% in any module, and who have passed the Fieldwork Placement element (SS6112), may also be awarded the Postgraduate Diploma in Social Work Studies (<https://ucc-ie-public.courseleaf.com/programmes/pdsws/>).

Programme Requirements

For information about modules, module choice, options and credit weightings, please go to Programme Requirements (p. 1).

Programme Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
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Students take **120** credits.

Year 1 - Core Modules

Students take **60** credits as follows:

Social Work, Counselling and Development Issues

SS6101	Social Work Approaches 1: Theory and Practice	10
SS6102	Human Growth and Development	5
SS6108	Child and Family Welfare I	5

Social Work Practice and Fieldwork Placement I

SS6112	Practice Skills and Fieldwork Placement 1	20
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Social Science, Law and Social Work Settings

LW6005	Social Work and the Law (Child Law)	5
SS6105	Social Policy and Social Exclusion	5
SS6106	Applied Social Research	5
SS6107	User Experiences in Diverse Contexts I	5

Year 2 - Core Modules

Students take **60** credits as follows:

Social Work, User Groups and Law

LW6003	Social Work and the Law (The Rights of Vulnerable Persons)	5
SS6200	Social Work Approaches II: Theory and Practice	5
SS6201	Child and Family Welfare II	5
SS6202	User Experiences in Diverse Contexts II	5

Social Work Practice, Counselling Skills and Fieldwork Placement II

SS6207	Practice Skills and Fieldwork Placement II	20
<i>Dissertation and Practice Research Presentation</i>		
SS6206	Dissertation in Social Work	20
Total Credits		120

Examinations

Full details and regulations governing Examinations for each programme will be contained in the *Marks and Standards Book* and for each module in the *Book of Modules*.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Programme Learning Outcomes for Master of Social Work (NFQ Level 9, Major Award)

On successful completion of this programme, students should be able to:

- Apply knowledge of social systems and human behaviour to promote social change, problem solving in human relationships and the empowerment of people to enhance their well-being;
- Apply knowledge of social policy to critically examine and respond to the impact of social and political contexts on service users and social work;
- Reflectively evaluate and implement the values and ethics of the profession of social work as embodied in the Irish Association of Social Workers, CORU and International Federation of Social Workers codes;
- Promote principles of social justice, human rights and anti-oppressive practice as intrinsic elements of social work practice;
- Demonstrate core social work practice proficiencies in the areas of: professional autonomy and accountability; communication, collaborative practice and teamworking; safety and quality; professional development; professional knowledge and skills;
- Demonstrate knowledge of theory, legislation, policy, official inquiry reports and international conventions, and apply this to assessment and intervention planning in social work practice;
- Illustrate a reflective approach to learning that is self-directed, strengths-based and reflective;
- Engage in a process of self-awareness, self-monitoring and continuous professional development;
- Develop as 'research minded' practitioners who will continue to update their knowledge and engage in systematic evaluation of their practice;
- Respond reflectively and reflexively as social workers in a variety of social work settings, including multi-disciplinary contexts;
- Complete a research dissertation that demonstrates their knowledge and capacity to undertake a social work related research project.