

# BA Social Work

Brendan Wood

# 3 Year degree course

- Current version has been running since September 2013 (our first graduates completed the programme in 2016).
- Students now assessed against the Professional Capabilities Framework

# Further changes

- Higher tariff entry level now
- Smaller size (45 in Year 1)
- Course will be part of the South Yorkshire Teaching Partnership from April 2018

# Our students

- High number of local students
- Likely to live and subsequently work in the South Yorkshire area (not everyone fits this stereotype!!)
- Employability is excellent (and we expect this to improve with smaller numbers)

# The Content - Year 1

Semester 1 -

**Readiness for Social Work 1** (introduces students to using research, evidence and literature to understand and develop practice - basic safeguarding)

**Psycho-Social Studies** (introduces students to basic theories that derive from psychological and sociological approaches)

And inter-professional module within this semester

# The Content - Year 1

- Semester 2
- **The People We Work With** (introduces the various groups of people we might work with in practice)
- **Social work Law, Policy and Practice** (includes brief intro to benefits work as well as key law and policy)
- **Readiness for Social Work 2** (covers professional values and ethics, and how to evaluate learning against the 9 domains of the PCF)

# The Content - Year 2

- Semester 1
- First Placement
  
- Ethical Decision Making - using Analysis, Evidence and Values ( a new module running for the first time in Autumn 2017 - aim is to enhance students level of 'criticality')

# The Content - Year 2

- Semester 2
- Social Work Practice with Children, Young People and Families
- Social Work Practice with Adults

(Both modules build on practice experience and look in greater depth at current practice - aim is to draw out the complexities of practice)

And inter-professional module within this semester



# The Content - Year 3

- Semester 1
- Final Placement

And inter-professional module within this semester

# The Content - Year 3

- **Research for Social Work Practice** (students choose what to explore and receive individual tutor support for this larger piece of work that ends their course)
- **Developing Critical Practice in Social Work** (this includes the bridge to practice with students assessing themselves against the Knowledge and Skills Statements as a prelude to employment)

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# Underlying Pedagogy of the course

- A Spiral curriculum which builds on previous learning and knowledge
- Concept of 'scaffolding'
- Theories of Adult Learning important here (e.g. range of learning activity)

# Some further key points

Students have many sources of support

- Personal tutor in each year
- Student support officer (pastoral support)
- Academic support through library services
- Additional 'disability support' for additional learning needs

# It's our course

- We are all participants and stakeholders in our course
- Students, Tutors, Practice Educators, Agencies, Employers
- Development needs to be continual and built upon our collective discussions