

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	BA (Hons) Family Studies
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 6
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	None
Credit Structure ²	360 Credits Level 4: 120 Credits Level 5: 120 Credits Level 6: 120 Credits
Mode of Attendance	Full-time and part-time
Standard Length of Course ³	3 years full-time
Intended Award	BA (Hons) Family Studies
Named Exit Awards	DipHE Family Studies
Entry Requirements ⁴	Subjects/qualifications for pre-entry include for example: A levels, Access programmes, vocational A levels within sociology, social policy, politics, psychology etc. Mature students would be welcome.
Delivering Institution(s)	University of Suffolk
UCAS Code	L522

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the BA (Hons) Family Studies course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2019-20 academic year⁵.

Course Summary

The programme focuses on the multi-disciplinary nature of the study of the family, which embraces diverse academic disciplines such as sociology, education, psychology, social policy and health. Such inclusion allows for the diverse, multi-faceted experiences of the family to be explored, contextualised and interrogated through application of social science perspectives. Such an approach has a well-established record in supporting students to develop and follow particular interest in this diverse field.

Course Aims

- To develop students' systematic knowledge and understanding of the conceptual underpinnings of the family from a range of perspectives and disciplines.

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

² All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

³ Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information about mode of study and maximum registration periods can be found in the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#).

⁴ Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#)

⁵ The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the [Admissions Policy](#).

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- To cultivate a questioning and critical approach to the multiple theories and philosophies surrounding the family and family life through a diverse range of historical, social and political contexts.
- To develop professional, subject specific and translatable skills and dispositions valuable to employability, further study and personal development.

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the BA (Hons) Family Studies course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 6 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)⁶.

1. Systematic knowledge and critical understanding of key aspects of the family (subject specific skills).
2. Well-developed ability to reflect on a range of perspectives in relation to the family (subject specific skills).
3. An enhanced ability to deploy accurately established techniques of analysis and enquiry (cognitive skills).
4. In-depth conceptual understanding that enables the student to devise and sustain arguments, and/or to solve problems, using ideas and techniques, some of which are at the forefront of the discipline (K&U skills).
5. A well-developed ability to apply the methods and techniques that they have learned to review, consolidate, extend and apply their knowledge and understanding (K&U skills).
6. The ability to communicate effectively information, ideas, problems and solutions in a variety of appropriate forms (cognitive skills/generic skills).
7. The generic and translatable skills necessary to exercise initiative, personal responsibility, decision-making in complex and unpredictable contexts, and to work collaboratively with others (generic skills).
8. Knowledge of the recruitment and selection methods used by graduate opportunity providers, and an understanding of how students should present themselves and their skills and abilities to opportunity providers.

⁶ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

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Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following QAA Benchmarks:

- Early Childhood Studies Benchmark Statements (2014)
- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (2008)
- Social Work Benchmark Statement (2016)
- Careers Education Benchmarks Statements (2005)

Course Structure

The BA (Hons) Family Studies comprises modules at levels 4, 5 and 6.

Module Specifications for each of these modules is included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

Module title	Credits	Module Type ⁷	Timing
Introduction to Academic and Research Skills	20	R	S1
Healthy Children and Families?	20	R	S1
The Sociology of Childhood and Families	20	R	S1
Making the Most of University – Personal and Professional Development	20	R	S2
Psychology and the Family	20	R	S2
Children, Families and Welfare	20	R	S2
Level 5 modules			
Safeguarding	20	M	S1
Children and Family Relationships	20	R	S1
Creating Families	20	M	S1
Research Methods	20	M	S2
Cultural Representations of Family Life	20	R	S2
Plus one of the modules below:			
Power, Rights, Family and the State	20	O	S2
Working with Children and Families in Context	20	O	S2
Level 6 modules			
Dissertation	40	M	Y
Early Interventions	20	R	S1
Childhood and Family Matters	20	R	S1
Humanitarianism, Globalisation and Families	20	R	S2
Troubling Families or Families in Trouble?	20	R	S2

⁷ Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#)

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Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a BA (Hons) Family Studies. Students who leave the course early may be eligible for a DipHE Family Studies on successful completion of 240 credits including all mandatory modules at levels 4 and 5.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at Ipswich. Students studying full-time on BA (Hons) Family Studies are likely to have approximately 12 contact hours per week for level 4, 12 contact hours per week for level 5 and 10 contact hours per week for level 6. The contact hours will be made up of a mix of lecture, workshop, seminar, groupwork and practical activities. Students will normally be expected to undertake a minimum of 12 hours of independent study in an average week, but should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module's intended learning outcomes. At level 4 coursework includes essays, reports, presentations, group work, a health promotion and multi-choice exams. In levels five and six students are exposed to innovative and creative assessments that enhance their opportunities for effective learning through cultural representations, student led case studies and forums.

Course Team

Most staff are qualified to PhD level and all to Masters level. They are specialists in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute.

Course Costs

Students undertaking BA (Hons) Family Studies will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK/EU	£9,250 per year
Part-time UK/EU	£1,454 per 20 credit module
Full-time International	£11,790 per year
Part-time International	£1,965 per 20 credit module

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the [website](#).