

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	FdA Social Care Practice
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 5
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	None
Credit Structure ²	240 Credits Level 4: 120 Credits Level 5: 120 Credits
Mode of Attendance	Full-time
Standard Length of Course ³	2 years full-time
Intended Award	FdA Social Care Practice
Named Exit Awards	None
Entry Requirements ⁴	Typical Offer: 80 UCAS tariff points (or equivalent) Any offer of a place will be subject to a satisfactory enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check Students will need to be working in an appropriate setting in either a voluntary or paid capacity for 10 hours per week
Delivering Institution(s)	University of Suffolk at East Coast College (Great Yarmouth)
UCAS Code	L500

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the FdA Social Care Practice course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2017-18 academic year⁵.

Course Summary

This course has been developed to meet the education and training requirements of a range of individuals employed within the statutory, voluntary and not-for-profit social care sector. It offers students the opportunity to enhance their work-based skills and achieve a recognised academic qualification. The course has been developed in liaison with employers and employees in the social care sector and has been tailored to meet the specific training requirements of the sector. The students study a range of modules, all of which they are able to shape to their own practice and interests. These include: Personal & Professional Development, Human Growth & Development, Safeguarding, Communication & Teamwork,

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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Application of Research, Applied Social Care, Social Care Values & Dilemmas, Continuing Personal and Professional Development.

Course Aims

- To provide students with the knowledge, understanding and associated skills that will enable them to work effectively, flexibly and responsively within their health or social care arena
- To enable students to recognise the scope, depth and breadth of their knowledge and skills to work inclusively within an inter-professional team
- To provide students with an appropriate understanding of the regulatory and legislative framework for health or social care pertinent to their role
- To provide opportunities for students to develop key skills to prepare for further study and / or employment and life-long learning
- To encourage students to become active learners, thus learning through practice, rather than learning to practice
- To provide the students with the opportunity to explore methods of research relevant and appropriate to care settings
- To enhance the students' communication and interpersonal skills
- To develop students' enthusiasm for higher education
- To provide opportunities for reflection and development of personal and professional skills whilst working within the health and social care sectors
- To provide students with a recognised higher education qualification which provides the opportunity to access an honours degree and / or a professional qualification

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the FdA Social Care Practice 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 5 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)⁶.

Knowledge

1. Understand national and local policies and legislative framework pertinent to their role
2. Demonstrate knowledge of principles and theories underpinning the study of care for service users in care sectors
3. Demonstrate the knowledge and skills relevant to their particular work setting
4. Understand the research process and its application to practice

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

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5. Understand the holistic nature of the person

Cognitive

6. Appreciate how their own values, beliefs and attitudes influence their practice
7. Empower service users and their families/carers to be active participants in decision making and planning delivery of care
8. Develop strategies to improve their practice through critical reflection
9. Apply rationales for care based upon current theory
10. Recognise the ethical and legal implications as applied to the care of the service user

Practical

11. Contribute to the well-being of service users as part of a team and in partnership with other agencies
12. Work at an appropriate level both individually and as a team member
13. Use a range of techniques to plan, monitor and evaluate individual skills to improve performance
14. Explore appropriate values and beliefs for working in health and social care work forces
15. Transfer and apply previous knowledge, skills and understanding to new situations and contexts relevant to the care of service users

Key Skills

16. Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of effective verbal and written communication
17. Demonstrate appropriate use of information technology and numeracy skills
18. Demonstrate reflection and development of personal professional knowledge and skills whilst working in own setting
19. Work inclusively with others to achieve negotiated goals
20. Utilise time management skills to problem solve and prioritise workload
21. Communicate effectively using appropriate verbal and non-verbal skills

Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following Professional Standards

- Social Work Professional Competency Framework (2012)
- National Occupational Standards Health & Social Care (2012)

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QAA subject benchmarks

- Foundation Degree Benchmarks

Course Structure

The FdA Social Care Practice comprises modules at levels 4 and 5.

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

	Module	Credits	Module Type ⁷
Level 4			
	Human Growth and Development	20	R
	Personal Professional Development	20	M
	Safeguarding	20	R
	Health and Social Care in Society	20	R
	Communication and Teamwork	20	R
	Work-based Learning A	20	R
Level 5			
	The Appearance of Mental Health and Mental Illness	20	R
	Application of Research to Professional Practice	20	M
	Social Care Values and Dilemmas	20	R
	Personal Development and Leadership skills	20	R
	Work-based Learning B	20	R
	Plus one of the following:		
	Collaborative Working in Dementia Care	20	O
	Counselling Skills	20	O

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a FdA Social Care Practice.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at the University of Suffolk at East Coast College (Great Yarmouth). Students studying full-time on FdA Social Care Practice are likely to have approximately 9-12 contact hours per week. The contact hours will be a mix of lectures, presentations and tutorials. Students are expected to already be working in the sector. Students should expect to do at least 10 hours per week of work either in employment or a voluntary role. Support can be provided in finding work placements when necessary. Students will normally be expected to undertake approximately 20 hours of independent study per week.

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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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. Assessment on the course overall will be 100% coursework (including essays, presentations and work-based project tasks). Filmed evidence will be required for Counselling Skills at level 5 and work-based observations will take place within Communication and Teamwork at level 4.

Course Team

The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute.

Course Costs

Students undertaking FdA Social Care Practice will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK/EU	£8,220 per year
Part-time UK/EU	£1,370 per 20 credit module
Full-time International	£10,080 per year
Part-time International	£1,680 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](#).