

## Programme Specification 2025-26

<b>1.</b>	<b>Programme title</b>	MA Social Work (Top up)
<b>2.</b>	<b>Awarding institution</b>	Middlesex University
<b>3a</b>	<b>Teaching institution</b>	Middlesex University London
<b>3b</b>	<b>Language of study</b>	English

<b>4a</b>	<b>Valid intake dates and mode of study</b>
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<b>Mode of Study</b>	<b>Cohort</b>	<b>Delivery Location</b>	<b>Duration</b>
Part-time (PT)	Semester 1	Hendon	1 Years
Part-time (PT)	March	Hendon	1 Years

<b>4b</b>	<b>Delivery method</b>	On Campus/Blended Learning
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<b>5. Professional/Statutory/Regulatory body</b> (if applicable)
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<b>6.</b>	<b>Apprenticeship Standard</b> (if applicable)	N/A
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<b>7. Final qualification(s) available</b>
<b>Target Award Title(s)</b>
MA Social Work (Top up)

<b>8. Academic year effective from</b>	2025-26
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<b>9. Criteria for admission to the programme</b>
<p>We require applicants to have a PGDip Social Work and be registered with Social Work England.</p> <p>Principle of fair admission</p> <p>The University aims to ensure that its admissions processes are fair, open and transparent</p>

and aims to admit students who, regardless of their background, demonstrate potential to successfully complete their chosen programme of study where a suitable place exists and where entry criteria are met. The University values diversity and is committed to equality in education and students are selected on the basis of their individual merits, abilities and aptitudes. The University ensures that the operation of admissions processes and application of entry criteria are undertaken in compliance with the Equality Act.

We take a personalised but fair approach to how we make offers. We feel it's important that our applicants continue to aspire to achieving great results and make offers which take into account pieces of information provided to us on the application form.

This includes recognition of previous learning and experience. If you have been working, or you have other learning experience that is relevant to your course, then we can count this towards your entry requirements and even certain modules once you start studying.

## **10. Aims of the programme**

The programme aims to:

This course has been designed for Social Work England registered social workers who have a PGDip in Social Work and who wish to achieve a masters level award. The programme consists of one dissertation module open to qualified social workers and nurses. It aims to:

Enhance the skills of professionals enabling them to develop their capacities in critical reflection, resilience and effectiveness, so that they can practice at masters level and improve outcomes for users of services.

Critically evaluate the implications of their independent research for the profession, managers and/or policy makers.

## **11. Programme learning outcomes**

### **Programme - Knowledge and Understanding**

On completion of this programme the successful student will have a knowledge and understanding of:

1. Knowledge that helps practitioners to understand the lives and experiences of people who need social work services.
2. Thorough knowledge of processes involved in data gathering and analysis to assure research quality.

### **Programme - Skills**

On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:

3. Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems.
4. Refine project management skills through the implementation of a research project.

## **12. Teaching/learning methods**

Students will benefit from live online teaching sessions alongside professionals from other disciplines such as nursing.

Teaching and learning methods are based on assessment and feedback using teacher-student and student-student interaction. Key lectures and guided reading of specified literature are utilised to promote teacher student interaction and conversation and debate with peers. A series of five workshops will support the student during the learning process from conception to completion of their research project alongside individual tutorials to develop the research proposal and supervisory support. Reading and writing are essential interactive learning activities which complement the interaction of peer group conversation and feedback alongside one to one tutorial work.

1Approx. number of timetabled hours per week (at each level of study, as appropriate), including on-campus and online hours

Average 15 hours per teaching week

Approx. number of hours of independent study per week (at each level of study, as appropriate)

Minimum 5 hours per week.

### **13. Employability**

#### **13a Development of graduate competencies**

#### **13b Employability development**

On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:

Collect, collate and analyse materials for specific academic and practice purposes.

Effectively make use of ICT for both academic study and in practice.

Demonstrate a capacity to be reflective and evaluative of their own work.

Candidates on this programme will generally already be employed in a social work or related role. The course equips learners with advanced skills and knowledge in social work practice, including leadership, management, and specialised areas.

Learners will have opportunities to engage in research, demonstrating to employers that they can contribute to evidence-based practice and drive innovation within an organisation. The course enhances candidates' ability to apply for higher-paying and more influential positions within social work.

#### **13c Placement and work experience opportunities (if applicable)**

N/A

#### **13d Future careers / progression**

Graduates from this programme will have developed knowledge and skills to enable them to apply for specialist practitioner roles and/or more advanced social work/ welfare positions such as those within leadership and practice management.

#### 14. Assessment methods

Semester 1

Module : Developing Research Capability Class presentation

Credit: 60

Learning Week : 24 (end module)

Method of assessment: 10,000 word Dissertation

#### 15. Programme Structure (level of study, modules, credits and progression requirements)

Structure is indicative for Part-time routes.

Students must take all of the compulsory modules and choose following programme requirements from the optional modules.

Non-compensatable modules are noted below.

#### Available Pathways

Not Applicable

#### Year 1

Students can use their PG Diploma in Social Work to apply for RPL, allowing them to be given credit (120) toward the MA.

#### Year 1 Level 7 PT

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
NSA4050	Compulsory	Developing Research Capability 2025-26	60 at Level 7

\*Please refer to your programme page on the website re availability of option modules

#### 16. Programme-specific support for learning

Students have an allocated Programme Leader throughout the programme, who oversees their academic and professional development. We recognise that students on the postgraduate qualifying programmes may be returning to study after an extended period off, so learners will be connected with University Student Support Services and the Information and Learning Resource Services.

#### 17. HECos code(s)

100503: Social Work

#### 18. Relevant QAA subject benchmark(s)

Social Work 2019

#### 19. University Regulations

This programme will run in line with general University Regulations: [Policies | Middlesex University](#)

This programme abides by the assessment regulations outlined in Middlesex University's Guide and Regulations. However, owing to the professional aspect of some of the modules on this programme, there are several additional regulations that should be considered:

Students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the University's 'Rules on Student Conduct and Discipline', alongside Social Work England's (SWE) 'Professional Standards'.

In line with the above, a student's training will be ended if their behaviour:

is confirmed to be damaging or dangerous to other people who use services, other students or programme providers;

creates unacceptable risk for themselves or others; or

shows a serious failure to follow any relevant Code of Practice and/ or SWE's 'Professional Standards'.

#### 20. Reference points

British Association of Social Work, The Code of Ethics for Social Work (2021)

British Association of Social Work, The Professional Capabilities Framework (2018).

The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education Subject Benchmark Statement for Social Work (2019).

Social Work England Professional Standards (2019)

Social Work England Qualifying Education and Training Standards Guidance (2021)

Social Work England Guidance on Practice Placements (2023)

Social Work England (2024) Best Interest Assessor standards

**21. Other information** *(if applicable)*

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.