

Programme change proposals

At York each degree programme has its own, tailored set of distinctive learning outcomes. These won't change, no matter what your location or mode of delivery, and our academics are working hard to ensure your programmes and modules next year continue to inspire and motivate you.

Your health and safety is our number one priority and in light of the Covid-19 pandemic we have needed to make changes to some of your programmes of study for the coming academic year. This document summarises the changes that are proposed.

Programme(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MA in Social Work 2019-20
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Summary of Overall Plans

Students on this programme will be invited to engage in learning in a variety of ways, with flexibility built in to allow us to maximise face-to-face teaching in line with any shifts in the government guidance on physical distancing. Lectures will be pre-recorded and made available through Yorkshare, our Virtual Learning Environment, and small tutorial group teaching will be offered to all students in classrooms and online. Online teaching will also include structured seminar activities and materials to complement tutorial group work.

We'll timetable all Year One students for weekly face-to-face teaching which will include weekly two hour workshops shared between the core modules 'Communication Skills' and 'Social Work Across the Lifecourse'. Year Two students will receive face-to-face teaching every other week for all core modules. This is to accommodate the demands of being on placement while still meeting the academic learning outcomes for the programme.

Students will be offered a range of online and face-to-face teaching activities that are appropriate to the content of their programme and the professional accreditation requirements. With experience drawn from our existing suite of online Masters programmes we will provide all students (including those who aren't able to attend campus as well as those who might be self-isolating) with access to a full programme of

structured learning materials to accompany the lecture material for every module with guided study activities and further audio-visual support materials. Online discussion groups led by teaching staff will also form part of our teaching and this will facilitate further group interactions, meet the learning outcomes for our programmes, and enable students to develop close ties within their learning community throughout their studies.

We'll be continuing to assess students through coursework, and have ensured that presentation and group work elements are retained in key modules so that students have the opportunity to work and learn together, and develop a full range of academic skills.

Programme Structures

We won't need to make any major changes to the choice or sequencing of subject specific modules we offer. We have already begun assisting our Year One students in preparing for their dissertation module next academic year. For our modules that require skills days to deliver academic content we will use a mix of face to face and online learning materials that will enable students to develop and practise the necessary competencies effectively. We have planned to timetable these skills days differently to ensure that they can be delivered to all students. Where we plan to deliver these days entirely face-to-face, this may require attendance outside of usual working hours and we will consult with affected students in making these arrangements.

Further changes or information of note

We have worked with Social Work England to ensure that students will be able to meet professional accreditation requirements. For placements, students entering Year Two in 2020/21 now have to complete a minimum of 140 days and a maximum of 170 days across the whole two years of the programme. For students starting in Year One in 2020/21 the requirement to complete 200 days of placement has not changed.

We are continuing to work with our placement providers and have ensured that your placements will go ahead but there may be a delay in the start date and they may begin online moving to face-to-face activity as soon as possible.

For the Year One module 'Communication Skills', we are planning to assess this module using our face-to-face role play model in the usual way. If social distancing requirements change and we aren't able to do this then we will arrange for this assessment to take

place in an online format instead. We will let affected students know in advance if this is the case.