

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 Comparative and International Social Policy ● MA in Global Crime and Justice ● MA in Global Social Policy ● MA in Social Policy ● MRes in Social Policy ● MPA in Comparative Applied Social & Public Policy, Evaluation & Research
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Summary of Overall Plans

Students on these programmes 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 Yorkshire, 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 students for weekly face-to-face teaching which will include weekly classes for the core modules 'Social Policy Analysis' and 'Policy Analysis: Crime and Justice'. Students will be offered a range of online and face-to-face teaching activities that are appropriate to the content of their module choices. 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. Students will also be offered online one-to-one supervision by their academic supervisors.

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. For our modules that focus on quantitative and qualitative research methods training we will use a mix of face to face and online learning materials that will enable students to develop and practise their data management and analysis skills effectively. Methods classes will be run face-to-face in computer labs with additional support for students who will need to access the materials online.

Because of very high student numbers and the range of student learning needs on the module 'Research Design', we have planned to offer this module as an online only module with a full structured learning programme of lectures, guided study activities, discussion groups and further audio-visual support materials. All students on this module will have the opportunity for face-to-face teaching in their other module option choices.

Further changes or information of note

Students on all programmes will continue to benefit from direct contact with the Department of Social Policy & Social Work's world leading researchers. York is ranked in the world top 10 for Social Policy and Administration in the QS World University Rankings. Of particular relevance to this cluster of programmes is the work undertaken in the Department's Centre for Research in Comparative and Global Social Policy, which feeds directly into core modules on these programmes, including the opportunity to engage in small group discussions and hands-on workshops led by staff associated with the research centre. Their expertise in comparing social problems across countries is key in facilitating

the exchange of ideas and experiences between students whose varied backgrounds add to the richness of our postgraduate social and public policy programmes.