

# MA Youth Work and Community Development



## Programme Overview

Youth Work and Community Development is a unique and value-based practice that seeks to support and foster the development of young people and the wider community to enable all to reach their full potential. Underpinned by strong values of social justice Youth Work and Community Development Workers seek to critically analyse the social world and nurture the development of others through collaborative and creative practice leading to social change.

The MA Youth Work and Community Development Programme is dual validated with the NYA for Youth Work and The Endorsement and Quality Standards Board for Community Development Learning (ESB) for Community Development. Students will gain the full-time JNC Qualification. The main aim of the MA in Youth and Community Development programme is to develop skilled, innovative and reflective practitioners, who are able to engage and build positive relationships within communities, which leads to education and discovery. Through practical work you will demonstrate a clear commitment to promoting social justice, utilising approaches to participation, empowerment and equality. Working alongside communities, in partnership with them practitioners will foster the personal, social and political development of those involved.

This MA Youth Work and Community Development programme has been designed in partnership with young people and community members and leading professionals employed in the field. This collaboration ensures teaching is current and reflective of today's youth and community development agenda preparing you effectively for a successful career.

## Why choose Liverpool Hope?

- Study within a School committed to innovative and participatory teaching methods.
- An experienced and researchactive teaching team with expertise in youth work and community development, participatory practice, childhood and youth studies, anti-oppressive practice, mental health, youth justice and radical community work.
- Opportunities to experience international perspectives through the School of Social Science field trips and overseas placements.
- This course has an intake limited to 25 students providing an encouraging environment to build positive peer group support and an opportunity to work closely with teaching staff.

## Key Information

**Award:** Youth and Community Development

**Study Mode:** Full-time; Part-time.

**Duration:** 16 months full-time; 27 months Part-time.

**Intake:** September

**Entry Criteria:** A minimum of a Second-Class Honours degree in a relevant discipline awarded by a UK university, or an equivalent higher education qualification.. GCSE Grade C or above in English (Grade 4 or above in the new grading system).

Appropriate and relevant experience.

Enhanced DBS Clearance.

All candidates subject to interview and satisfactory health check. For students whose first language is not English there is a language requirement of IELTS 6.0 overall (reading 5.5, writing 5.5). In addition to this, we also accept a wide range of International Qualifications.

**Fees and Funding:** For tuition fee information, please go to the Student Finance pages at [www.hope.ac.uk/postgraduate/feesandfunding](http://www.hope.ac.uk/postgraduate/feesandfunding)

**How to Apply:** For details on the application process visit: [www.hope.ac.uk/postgraduate/howtoapply](http://www.hope.ac.uk/postgraduate/howtoapply)

**School:** Social Sciences.

**Contact Details:**

Student Recruitment,  
[courses@hope.ac.uk](mailto:courses@hope.ac.uk)

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*Disclaimer: Information is correct at time of print, however programme details can change.*



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# Curriculum

This course is delivered through a full-time (16 months) or part time (27 months) route and will provide you with a blend of academic and practice-based learning to develop both your theoretical understanding and experience. Students will build a solid foundation in youth and community development through an exploration of the theoretical frameworks of informal education and community development, along with advanced studies examining key youth and community development principles, practice methods, settings, contemporary issues and social policy. Through two practice placements students will apply their knowledge, skills and understanding of youth and community development within the contemporary landscape.

- Youth Work Theory and Practice (20 Credits)
- Community Empowerment for Social Change (20 Credits)
- Managing Youth Work and Community Development (20 Credits)
- Critical Themes for Contemporary Practice (20 Credits)
- Practice Placement 1 (20 Credits)
- Practice Placement 2 (20 Credits)

- MA Research Methods & Project Preparation (60 Credits)
- Dissertation Preparation and Research Methods (20 Credits)
- Practice Placement 2 (20 Credits)
- Dissertation (60 Credits)

Students are required to successfully complete two practice placements during the programme, completing 450 hours in practice with young people and adult community members. The first placement takes place in January and is a part-time placement in a local youth and community development agency. The second placement runs between June and September, with students working full-time hours to support both face to face and managerial responsibilities within a local setting.



## Teaching and Research

Students will experience a range of teaching methods, including lectures, small group seminars and tutorials, which enable discussion and shared learning. Through the course students will benefit from working with young people, community members and professionals in the field who contribute to the taught programme and offer current and relevant experience to aid student learning.

The School of Social Science is research active, contributing regularly to the published research community and at conference, with expertise across youth and community development spheres. The ethos of the School is focused on radical perspectives and fosters critical questioning of the social world promoting social justice approaches. Students are encouraged to develop skills in critical analysis to understand inequality and oppression.

The School utilises a range of online resources to support students learning including a virtual learning environment Moodle encouraging connectivity between students and the programme content.

## Future Career Opportunities

Youth and community development is a diverse practice, which subsequently provides a variety of career opportunities. This dedicated practice is focused on supporting both young people and adults within the community and can include working within education, health and community or welfare services. Youth and Community Development Workers are employed within a range of organisations including voluntary and community associations, local authorities, schools, social work teams and within youth offending services.



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