

Health & Social Care BA (Hons)

UCAS Code: L510 | Duration: 3 years | Full-time | Hope Park | 2026/2027

Placement year opportunities available



Course Overview

The Health & Social Care degree lets you explore many issues and debates in the field. You'll look at factors that affect health and social care, focusing on social issues and experiences. This degree is perfect for those interested in improving the health and well-being of individuals, families, and communities.

Throughout the programme, students consider key questions like: What factors influence health and well-being? Why do different social groups experience health differently? How can we address health inequalities? How does policy impact health and social care? How can we work with communities to promote well-being? How do we safeguard vulnerable groups?

Studying this degree helps you gain a solid understanding of health and social care policy, theory, and practice. You'll develop practical skills alongside academic knowledge. The program includes input from frontline workers in various sectors, allowing you to gain hands-on experience through work-based learning, case studies, and community projects.

Graduates leave with a deep understanding of the root causes of social inequalities that lead to health care needs. They are driven to create services sensitive to these needs. We aim to develop responsible health and social care practitioners ready to work with diverse service user groups.

Entry Requirements

This course follows the standard University entry requirements. Please see the website for further information.

Fees and Additional Costs

The tuition fees for 2026/2027 are £9,535 for full-time undergraduate courses.

You will also need to consider the cost of your accommodation each year whilst you study at university.

Visit our accommodation webpages for further details about our Halls of Residence: www.hope.ac.uk/halls

Applicants will need access to a computer if course delivery is switched to online. The University has a laptop lending service if remote study is necessary.



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Health and Social Care BA (Hons) Curriculum

Year One

In Year One, you will spend half of your time studying Health and Wellbeing, exploring a broad range of issues, debates, and theoretical perspectives that underpin the subject.

Approaches to Health and Wellbeing

This module examines the different ways people understand health and wellbeing and how these perspectives shape responses to ill health.

Contemporary Issues in Health and Wellbeing

This module addresses key contemporary issues in health and wellbeing. You will apply your knowledge of approaches to health and social inequalities to examine complex issues such as obesity, mental health, and sexual health.

The other half of your time will be devoted to Social Care, providing a grounding in both the context and practice of social care.

Social Care in Context

This module explores the historical and social context of welfare and its influence on ideas about groups currently using social care services.

Social Care in Practice

This module investigates approaches to addressing social care needs at micro, meso, and macro levels. You will consider social and political changes necessary to reduce inequality and explore strategies to support individual needs.

Year Two

In Year Two, you will spend half of your time studying Explorations in Health and Wellbeing.

Public Health and Health Promotion: Theory and Practice

This module explores the history of Public Health and health promotion, examining how priorities and key drivers have evolved over time.

Researching Health and Wellbeing

This module develops your understanding of both quantitative and qualitative research methods in Health and Wellbeing.

The other half of your time is devoted to Explorations in Social Care, providing a deeper understanding of policy, legislation, and professional practice.

The Policy and Legislative Context of Social Care

This module examines relevant policies and legislation designed to support and protect social care users.

Professional Practice in Social Care

This module helps you develop the characteristics and skills required for professional practice. It includes 50 hours of placement experience in a social care setting.

Emancipatory Research

This module prepares you for undertaking research in Year Three while developing knowledge of how to work with communities in empowering ways.

Year Three

In Year Three, you will spend half of your time studying Advanced Studies in Health and Wellbeing.

Contemporary Issues in Global Health and Wellbeing

This module explores key debates in global health and wellbeing. You will extend your understanding of health inequalities beyond individual societies to inequalities between countries.

Health and Wellbeing Across the Life-Course

This module uses the life-course framework to understand Health and Wellbeing outcomes.

The other half of your time is devoted to Advanced Studies in Social Care, covering ethics, leadership, and contemporary issues.

Ethics in Health and Wellbeing

This module explores the moral and ethical implications of health interventions.

Leadership and Management in Health and Social Care

This module examines leadership and management theories relevant to health and social care services.

Contemporary Issues in Children's Social Care

This module explores the contemporary context of children's lives, including social and economic influences and modern family structures.

Contemporary Issues in Adult Social Care

This module critically examines key challenges in adult social care, considering the impact of austerity and the growing number of people requiring social care services.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Teaching on this degree is structured into lectures, where all students are taught together, seminars of smaller groups, and tutorials. You also have the opportunity to have a one-to-one meeting with your tutor each week, and in your second year, you will undertake a work placement.

In your first year, there are approximately 12 teaching hours each week, which reduces to approximately 10 hours in your second and third years. On top of teaching hours, you are also expected to spend a number of hours each week studying independently, as well as group study to prepare for any group assessments you may have.

ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK

Throughout your degree, you will have a number of assessments including portfolios, essays, case studies, community projects, and presentations. In your second year, you complete a work-based learning placement and in your final year, you will complete a dissertation on a topic of your choice, with guidance from your supervisor.

You will be given written feedback on your assessments, and you will have the opportunity to discuss this with your tutor in more detail.



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