Presentation pattern: October to June

Module description
This module considers how social work can make use of the law in a positive way. It examines the value of law from the perspectives of service users and professionals. The module deals with a range of legal issues related to social care and social work practice.

Person specification
The person specification for this module should be read in conjunction with the generic person specification for an associate lecturer at The Open University.

As well as meeting all the requirements set out in the generic person specification, you should have:

- a first degree in the social sciences or a relevant discipline (including law)
- a professional social work qualification or considerable experience in a related field of work (e.g. you might be a lawyer with extensive up to date knowledge and experience of working in a social welfare field)
- familiarity with the law, policies and research in relation to the application of social work practice
- current knowledge of social work services.
- appreciation of the different legal frameworks that operate across the nations of the UK.
- the ability to teach in the online environment (e.g. online rooms)

It would be an advantage to have:
- Experience of online rooms and/or the VLE
- Experience of collaborative/team based teaching.

Additional information (only occasionally required)

- Students studying K271 will either be registered on The Open University's qualifying social work degree programme, or they will be 'open' students electing to study this subject independently.
- Students will choose a study route through the module depending on their preferred UK nation. The study materials are then made visible accordingly. This allows for coherent student access, and for the teaching of relevant UK nation-specific law and practice in association with more general and UK-wide applications of the law and legal principles
- The default tuition method for K271 will be online, and in accordance with The Open University's Group Tuition Policy. Tuition will include written feedback on assessed work, and group tutorial sessions in Online Rooms. Face to face tutorials may be arranged depending on local circumstances and preferences, but these will be the exception rather than the rule, to avoid complex and inconvenient travel arrangements for students and tutors.
- You will be required to access K271 online tutor group forum(s) at least twice a week to check for new messages and respond to student queries as appropriate.
- You will be expected to engage in the K271 tutors’ online forum which has been set up to promote the sharing of information, ideas and good practice
- You will be required to work in close collaboration with other teaching colleagues. This will involve a shared approach to ongoing student and peer support through collaborative teaching in the context of combining individual students across tutor groups.
- This module requires an AL to hold nation-specific knowledge associated with policy, practice or legislation and so appointments will be aligned to a specific geographical location.

Module related details - a full explanation can be found on the website

| Credits awarded to the student for the successful completion of a module: | 60 |
| Number of assignments submitted by the student: | 3 |
| Method of submission for assignments: | 1a |
| Level of ICT requirements: | 3 |
| Number of students likely to be in a standard group: | 20 |
| Salary band: | 7 |
| Estimated number of hours per teaching week: | 6 |

The teaching and assessment strategy for this module has not yet been approved and therefore the information is subject to change.