

ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION - SOCIAL WORK (ONLINE)

Thank you for choosing to study with East Sussex College Hastings

Not only do we have over 25 years' experience of delivering education and training to over 5,000 new students each year, we have built a reputation of providing quality ELearning too! This means you can still benefit from our excellent education, even if you can't fit your lifestyle or schedule around our college timetable. All our ELearning courses are accredited by established institutes and have national recognition.



Aims of the course

The Access to Higher Education (HE) Diploma is a qualification, equivalent to A-Level, which allows learners to go on and study at University when they did not have the relevant qualifications needed to do so. Access to HE courses are available in a wide range of different subjects and are widely recognised by UK Universities.

Benefits for individuals

There are a wide range of career opportunities for you if you study the Social Work Access to HE Diploma. When you have finished studying your course, you will be able to apply to university. After successfully completing this Access to Higher Education Diploma, you'll have a good understanding of social theory and the skills needed to study a social work related undergraduate courses. Once you have chosen and completed your degree programme, you will be ready to begin your chosen career. Many graduates go on to work in the NHS or even private practice.

Careers open to graduates include:

- Senior Social Worker
- Mediator
- Research Social Worker

Key details about this Diploma

Course Fee:	£3,022	Recommended study per week:	15 hours*
Course length:	10 months	Total units:	21

You should allow a total of around of around 15 study hours per week to complete the whole qualification, over 10 months. If you study more hours each week, you may finish the course more quickly.

Support provided

A qualified Assessor will mark your work and provide written feedback via the VLE. Your appointed Assessor will confirm contact hours once you start your learning and will be able to offer support via email correspondence. During Induction you will be provided with a Study Plan including the expected assessment schedule for your course.

Pass criteria

Each unit includes specific Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria.

To achieve a Pass in any assessment you must meet all criteria.

The list of detailed Assessment Criteria for each Unit is made available to you on the VLE.

Course content

The course consists of 21 Units of Study. The course covers:

- Unit 1 (Induction Unit): Preparing for Success

- Unit 2: Academic Writing Skills

On completion of this unit you will:

- Be able to write with relevance in responding to an academic task.
- Know how to interpret and discuss ideas in responding to a set, academic writing task.
- Be able to summarise for academic purposes, selecting key points, information or central ideas.

- Unit 3: Preparing a Written Assignment

On completion of this unit you will:

- Understand how to use key information sources.
- Understand why sources are acknowledged and referenced.
- Understand a range of reading strategies.
- Understand note-making methods.
- Understand how to plan draft and produce a written assignment.

- Unit 4: Health & Wellbeing

On completion of this unit you will:

- Understand the relationship between resilience and mental wellbeing
- Understand the expression of feelings and emotions and how these could be managed.
- Understand how mental wellbeing can be supported and managed.

- Unit 5: Introduction to Psychology

On completion of this unit you will:

- Understand the importance of research in psychology.
- Understand the main approaches in psychology.
- Understand ethical issues in psychological research.

- Unit 6: Understanding Crime & Deviance

On completion of this unit you will:

- Understand explanations of crime and deviance.
- Understand theories of crime and deviance.
- Understand perceptions of crime and deviance.

- Unit 7: Introduction to Social Work

On completion of this unit you will:

- Understand the historical development of social work.
- Understand the role of the social worker.

- Understand how social work services are organised in the statutory, voluntary and independent sector.
- Understand the main purposes and values of social work.

- Unit 8: Introduction to Cognitive Psychology

On completion of this unit you will:

- Understand research in an area of cognitive psychology.
- Understand how the findings of research into cognitive processes can be applied to real-life issues.

- Unit 9: Sociology of the Family

On completion of this unit you will:

- Understand changes in family structure.
- Understand sociological explanations of the family to include Functionalist, Marxist, feminist and interactionist views.

- Unit 10: Contemporary Issues in Social Policy

On completion of this unit you will:

- Understand current issues in social policy.
- Understand current legislation in relation to current issues in social policy.
- Understand the economic context of a contemporary issue.

- Unit 11: Morals and Ethics in Social Work

On completion of this unit you will:

- Understand ethics and ethical issues in social work practice.
- Understand moral dilemmas and social work practice.

- Unit 12: Sociology of Health

On completion of this unit you will:

- Understand concepts and models of health.
- Understand the social construction of health and ill-health.
- Understand alternative approaches to health.

- Unit 13: Combating Prejudice & Discrimination

On completion of this unit you will:

- Understand theoretical explanations for prejudice and discrimination.
- Understand legislative responses to discrimination and prejudice.
- Understand community initiatives in combating discrimination and prejudice.

- Unit 14: Abnormal Psychology

- Understand the difficulties faced by psychologists in the definition and diagnosis of abnormal behaviour.
- Understand a psychological disorder.
- Understand possible treatments used to treat people with psychological disorder.

- Unit 15: Understanding Poverty

On completion of this unit you will:

- Understand definitions of poverty.
- Understand ways of measuring poverty.
- Understand the extent of poverty in contemporary Britain.
- Understand explanations of poverty.

- Unit 16: Social Work Methods

On completion of this unit you will:

- Understand the concept of planned intervention.
- Understand the purpose and principles of social work assessments.
- Understand the range of methods used in social work assessments.
- Understand social work intervention methods.

- Unit 17: The Brain & Nervous System

On completion of this unit you will:

- Understand the major subdivisions of the nervous system.

- Understand the structure and function of glial cells and neurones.

- **Unit 18: Study Skills Portfolio Building**

- **Unit 19: Personal Social Services**

- Understand the varying nature of social work provision for children and adults.
- Understand the roles of the voluntary and private sector in the provision of welfare.
- Understand the welfare needs of various groups.

- **Unit 20: Psychobiological Stress**

- Understand common physiological and psychological responses to stress.
- Understand the relationships between stress and illness.
- Understand methods used to reduce stress.

- **Unit 21: Equality of Opportunities in Practice**

- Understand the main aspects of the legal framework which identify rights and responsibilities about equality of opportunities.
- Understand how to promote equality of opportunities, inclusiveness and diversity in the workplace.

Assessment method

The assessment method for this course is via a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).

The Access to HE Diploma (Social Work) will be made up of a number of units and assignments. Once you have completed your first assignment to the best of your ability, you should send it back to one of the assessors for marking. Once they have graded the work and offered feedback, you should begin your next piece, drawing on feedback from the past paper. Once all of the assignments have been handed in and marked, the college will have sufficient evidence to award you with a number of credits. The Access to HE Diploma is a nationally recognised Level 3 qualification, regulated by the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA). In order to achieve this Access to HE Diploma in Social Work, you must achieve 60 credits in total. You should note that 45 of these credits are taken from graded units which are concerned with academic subject content. The remaining 15 credits are earned via taking ungraded units which are included to help you to develop your study skills.

Entry requirements

Learners must have a GCSE in maths and English (or an equivalent) grade A* - C or Level 4 - 8 (or equivalent) and aspire to study a healthcare related degree at university.

Access to Higher Education Diplomas are widely accepted as an alternative to 'A Levels' for University admission. The programmes have a track record of success in helping students to gain admission to University.

Learners should, however, be aware that Universities each apply their own admissions criteria, and these vary broadly depending on the reputation and popularity of the university and of the degree programme that relates to your area of interest.

These 'variable' admission criteria may include but are not limited to:

- Achievement of a certain amount of Access to HE Diploma units at Merit or above.
- Successful completion of a face-to-face interview at the University.
- Successful completion of literacy and numeracy assessments by the University.
- Completion of specific unpaid 'work experience' or a previous 'job role'.
- Prior attainment of GCSE English and/or Maths Science – Or equivalents, such as Functional/Key Skills at Level 2.

It is vitally important that each student investigates the entry requirements of a range of universities that they could practically attend to determine if the diploma and unit choices within meet each set of entry requirements.

Students should complete this exercise as early as possible so that they can plan for which establishment they will be applying to, and start to work towards it.

Whilst we have the fullest confidence that the Access to Higher Education Diplomas are compliant and perfectly sufficient to form part of a University application, East Sussex College will not be able to accept any liability for the inability of any Access to Higher Education learner to secure an offer from a Higher Education establishment due to the 'variables' involved.

Study time

Study time includes:

- working through the interactive content
- completing the assignments for each unit
- reading assessor feedback and reviewing course material or other resources as directed
- resubmitting your assignment where requested

Assessor Support

Your course is fully supported by a dedicated assessor in each subject area. These assessors will guide you through the course providing assistance and a tailored course experience for you. Online learning is not taught by the assessors, and you should expect to self-study.

How do I know if this is the right course for me?

East Sussex College Hastings offer a 14-day Induction Period for this course which enables you to assess whether both the course and the online mode of study is suitable for you. It also allows the college to assess your suitability, in particular whether you can produce work to meet the standards set by Open College Network West Midlands, the awarding body.

How does the Induction Period work?

The induction is conducted online so you don't have to travel to our campus. During the week you will receive your login details to the VLE and a welcome e-mail with guidance on how to attempt the induction unit.

You will be sent a deadline/due date by e-mail which allows you two weeks to submit answers to the induction assessment.

If you don't meet the pass criteria for the induction assessment you won't be enrolled onto the course and you won't have any fee liability. You will not incur any fees during the induction period, or have any outstanding loans to re-pay.

Enrolment onto the qualification will take place once you have passed the induction assessment and have funding in place for the course fees.

If you wish to withdraw, you may cancel your enrolment by notifying the Administration Team in writing (by e-mail) prior to day 14 and you will owe nothing. After 14 days, you will owe the full course fee plus an administration charge, in line with the Tuition Fee Policy.

System requirements

Processor

1 gigahertz (GHz), 2 GB RAM

Operating System

Windows 7, 8 or 10, Mac OS

Browsers

Internet Explorer 8 or above,
Google Chrome Safari 6 or
above Mozilla Firefox

Compatibility

Windows, Mac

Contact information

If you have any questions, after reading the course summary, please contact the ELearning Team.

Our office opening times are:

Monday – Thursday

8.30am – 5.00pm

Friday

8.30am – 4.30pm

01424 458491 - grasp@escg.ac.uk

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