1. **Title of the module**

SOCI6030 (SO603): Health Policy, Power and Politics

1. **School or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**

School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research

1. **The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

6

1. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**

15 credits (7.5 ECTS)

1. **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)**

Autumn term (term 1)

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

None

1. **The programmes of study to which the module contributes**

BA Health & Social Care

BA Social Policy

The module is open to other students within the School and Faculty who have an interest in health policy.

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

8.1 have an understanding of recent developments and contemporary debates in health and health policy in the UK

8.2 have an understanding of the influence of the state, professional medicine, the pharmaceutical industry and patient groups in shaping these policies

8.3 apply different theories to the analysis of policy development in this field

8.4 evaluate and criticise research evidence, engaging directly with research materials (both quantitative and qualitative) and official data and statistics.

1. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
2. Show their verbal and written skills through essay writing and debate.
3. Demonstrate their critical and analytic thinking.
4. Show their research skills through library based investigation and through essay writing.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of contemporary research evidence and debates.
6. Evaluate empirical material both quantitative and qualitative and apply theoretical ideas to it.
7. Study independently.
8. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

This module will introduce students to the analysis of health policy focusing on recent policy changes in the UK and identifying the major influences which have shaped these policies. There have been considerable changes in health service policy and health policy in the UK over the last decade involving changes to existing policies and the development of new policy themes. The latter have included the rise and fall of policies aimed at social inequalities and the decline in life expectancy in some areas; the increasing emphasis on ‘nudging’ lifestyle change and on wellbeing in public health policy; a continued focus on the views and/or the voice of the user and the public and increasing emphasis on democratizing the health service and co-production; the re-emergence of the importance of environmental health policy; the marketisation and privatisation of health care in the context of a reduction in public funding; the introduction of managerialism and the attempts to regulate the medical profession and the effectiveness of priority setting agencies such as NICE with their emphasis on evidence based decision making . This module provides an analysis of these recent policy developments. It is theoretically informed and the approach taken lays emphasis on the interplay of powerful structural interests such as the influence of professional medicine and other occupational groups, the media (including the social media), the pharmaceutical industry, the food industry, commercial health care companies, the State and the socio-political values associated with the government in power, patient’s groups, the third sector and the wider global environment.

1. **Reading list (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)**

Alaszewski A and Brown P (2012) *Making Health Policy: A Critical Introduction*, Polity, Cambridge

Annandale E (2014) *The Sociology of Health and Medicine*, 2nd Edition, Polity Cambridge, (chapter 7 and chapter 8)

Baggott R (2015) *Understanding Health Policy*, 2nd edition, Policy Press, Bristol

Bambra C (2016) *Health Divides; Where you live can kill you*, Policy Press, Bristol

Calnan M (2020) *Health Policy, Power and Politics: Sociological Insights*, Emerald Press, Bingley

Crinson I (2009) Health Policy: A critical perspective, Sage, London

Exworthy M et al (eds) (2016) *Shaping Health Policy – Case Study methods and a*nalysis Policy Press, Bristol

Gabe J and Calnan M (eds) (2009) *The New Sociology of the Health Service*, Routledge, Abingdon

Gabe J and Monaghan L (2013) *Key concepts in Medical Sociology*, Sage, Los Angeles

Hunter D (2016) The Health Debate, 2nd edition, Policy Press, Bristol

Klein R (2017) *The New Politics of the NHS: From Creation to Reinvention* 7th Edition, Ratcliffe Publishing, London

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total contact time: 22 hours.

Private study: 128 hours

Total Study hours: 150 hours

1. **Assessment methods**
   1. Main assessment methods

Coursework – essay (2500 words) – 50%

Examination (2 hours) – 50%

* 1. Reassessment methods

100% Coursework

1. **Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section 12) and methods of assessment (section 13)**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 | 9.5 | 9.6 |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Private Study | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Lectures | X | X | X | X | X | X |  | X | X |  |
| Seminars | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Essay (2,500 words) | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Exam (2 hours) | X | X | X |  |  | X |  | X |  | X |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The School recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/ declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

1. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered**

Canterbury

1. **Internationalisation**

The module content is primarily focused on health policy in the UK. However, the concepts discussed (for example a renewed focus on social inequalities and inequities in health) are internationally relevant.

**FACULTIES SUPPORT OFFICE USE ONLY**

**Revision record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of the delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
| 19/02/2018 | Major | September 2019 | 1, 8, 10, 13 | No |
|  |  |  |  |  |