

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Practitioner Research

A 15 credit Masters level module for social work, social care, health, police and education practitioners.

Who is this module aimed at?

Experienced social work, social care, health, police and education practitioners will find this 15-credit module a welcome opportunity to develop their role through practice-based research. You will look more deeply into the ideas and practices of your everyday work, and develop your critical reflective research skills to shape best practice.

What and how will I learn?

You will identify an issue, challenge, knowledge gap or service need relevant to your professional role for which you, your organisation and/or service users would benefit from further exploration or development. You will learn how to critically examine what is already known (through a literature review) and to apply this knowledge through research informed practice, enabling you to develop your professional role and improve your practice.

You will participate in research methodology seminars and a virtual learning environment for additional learning support and resources. You will be able to discuss your plans, present your work – issues, dilemmas, critical incidents - and share your learning in conversation with your peer group. You also will be expected to engage in self-directed learning, critical self-reflection, and practice development through research.

On completion of the course, you should feel equipped to develop your own projects, inform policy developments and/or make significant changes to your practice, improving outcomes for individuals, families, groups or communities.

An opportunity to develop your practice through research

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Learn how to critically examine practice through literature review

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Engage in active learning through research methodology seminars, peer discussion and additional learning resources

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Develop your role and improve your practice and outcomes for families, groups or communities

Teaching Dates: 2026

DATE	TIME
Tuesday 13 January 2026	10am-1pm [Private study 2-5pm]
Tuesday 10 February 2026	10am-1pm [Private study 2-5pm]
Tuesday 10 March 2026	10am-1pm [Private study 2-5pm]
Tuesday 14 April 2026	10am-1pm [Private study 2-5pm]

Applying

For more information - including fees - and applications forms, visit www.sussex.ac.uk/schools/education-and-social-work/study/social-work/cpd.

Completed application forms must be received by 5 December 2025

Local authority funded applications must be authorised by a line manager and sent to the University via an Agency Training Manager to confirm funding.

Self-funded applications can be emailed directly to pqcoord@sussex.ac.uk

Contact

Susana Vazquez, Social Work CPD Coordinator
Department of Social Work and Social Care
School of Education and Social Work, Essex House, University of Sussex
Falmer, Brighton, BN1 9QQ
E pqcoord@sussex.ac.uk
T +44 (0)1273 872733