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Level 3 Access to HE Diploma (Social Sciences)

Location	Stockport College
Course Type	University level
Department	Access to Higher Education
Start Date	Monday 20th September 2027
Duration	Full-time, 37 Weeks
Time	09:20:00 - 15:00:00
Fee	£ 3022.00 You may be eligible for support with your tuition fees - please visit the college website - funding and finance page for further information
Course Code	SFP-AH3D-1400

Course Overview

If you are curious about people, society and the issues that shape the world around us, this course could be the beginning of a rewarding new future. Explore human behaviour, inequality, crime and social change while building the academic skills and confidence needed to progress to university.

The Access to HE Diploma is designed for students who want to make a difference through careers in areas such as social work, law, social policy, psychology, primary school teaching, the charity and voluntary sector, and health and social care.

This is a QAA-compliant Access to HE course that prepares mature students for university-level study in social science-related fields. The course comprises 60 credits: 45 credits from graded units and 15 credits from ungraded units.

The course runs for one academic year, over three days a week for 32 weeks. There are 13 hours of lessons each week, consisting of 12 hours of taught lessons and one hour of tutorial support. Students will also need to allow at least 12 hours per week for private study and assignment completion.

Approximate times: 9.20am-3pm (exact times to be confirmed)

Course Requirements

GCSE English Language and Mathematics at grade C/4 or above are required before enrolling on the Access Diploma. Please note that some degree courses may also require GCSE Science at grade C/4 or above. For this course, preference will be given to applicants offering GCSE Science or an acceptable equivalent.

Functional Skills Mathematics at Level 2 may be accepted instead of GCSE Mathematics on a case-by-case basis.

For this diploma, Functional Skills English at Level 2 is not accepted instead of GCSE English due to the advanced level of reading and extended writing required.

Students who do not meet these entry requirements can apply for the Level 2 Pre-Access course, including GCSEs in English and/or Mathematics, to prepare for the Access to Higher Education Diploma.

What You Will Learn

The course includes units in Psychology worth 15 credits, Sociology worth 15 credits and Criminology worth 15 credits. All units are delivered at an advanced level, building upon the skills and knowledge gained from GCSE-level studies in English.

The course includes 45 credits from graded units, with titles such as Biopsychology of Stress, Social Stratification and Inequality, Stereotyping, Prejudice and Discrimination, and Theories of Crime Causation.

There are also 15 credits from ungraded units focusing on the development of transferable skills, such as presentation skills and essay writing.

Assessment

Assessment methods include essays, practical reports, case studies, open- or closed-book examinations, and verbal, visual or IT-based presentations. Modules may include an element of time-constrained assessment that will contribute towards the final module grade.

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be awarded an Access to Higher Education Diploma from Open Awards.

Progression

Upon successful completion of the course, students can progress to a range of social science and humanities courses in higher education.

Potential degree subjects include Psychology, Sociology, Social Work, Primary Education, Education Studies, Criminology, Law, History and Philosophy.

Career Options

Potential career options include social worker, lawyer, educational psychologist, human resources officer, mental health support worker, charity worker, primary school teacher and probation officer.

Mandatory Units

There are no mandatory units

Contact Details

For further information please contact T: 0161 886 7070 or E: info@trafford.ac.uk

Disclaimer

Although every care has been taken to ensure that the information contained within this document is accurate, there may be changes to this programme and provision. We will endeavour to keep prospective and current students updated where appropriate and when the information becomes available.