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Supporting You

Support will be available online on the subject microsite. Visit the Health and Social Care microsite by logging on to www.ccea.org.uk and selecting it from the dropdown menu. The site will contain:

- the latest version of the specification;
- schemes of work for each unit;
- teacher guidance for each unit;
- student guidance for internally assessed units;
- fact files for students;
- e-book for each unit;
- specimen assessment materials for examined units
- chief and principal examiners' reports for examined units; and
- chief and principal moderators' reports for internally assessed and CCEA moderated units.

There will be a programme of free teacher support events, including:

- launch events for the new specification;
- exemplification of standards (after the first examination series); and
- agreement trials for internally assessed units.

Personalised support to address your specific queries is also available from our CCEA Subject Officer, including a visit to your centre upon request.

Contact Us

If you have a query or require advice or guidance, please contact:

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CCEA'S REVISED GCE

Health and Social Care Double Award

Specification Snapshot



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THE REVISION

For first teaching from September 2016

For first award of AS level in summer 2017

For first award of A level in summer 2018

Health and Social Care Double Award

Specification Snapshot



Overview

Students study an eclectic range of subjects relevant to employment in the health, social care and early years sectors of the economy.

In the AS units students develop an understanding of good quality care and effective communication and learn about the health and well-being of the population. They learn more about safeguarding children, holistic therapies and either physiology or adult service users.

At A2 students learn about how health and social care and early years services are tailored to meet the needs of specific service user groups. They have the opportunity to study physiology, psychology or nutrition and can develop research skills in topics relevant to health and social care, including health promotion.



Specification Summary

There are three compulsory units at AS. Units 1 and 2 are internally assessed, that is, they are marked by the teacher and moderated by CCEA. Unit 3 is externally assessed by a 2 hour examination. The six-unit AS award is completed by choosing three of the four AS units, one of which must be an external written examination.

At A2, Unit 3 is compulsory and is externally assessed by a 2 hour examination based on pre-release material. The award is completed by achieving the other four internal assessment A2 units and one other external written examination.



Benefits to Students

We have developed this specification to help students to:

- develop knowledge, understanding, values and skills relevant to employment in the health, social care and early years sectors and to a range of degrees including nursing, allied health professions, social sciences, social policy, social work and early years;
- progress in the development of their thinking skills, including independent learning, creative thinking and problem-solving; and
- develop a range of work-related skills including carrying out research using a variety of sources and presenting their findings in different formats, using technology and working with others.

Content	Content Summary	Assessment	Weightings	
AS 1: Promoting Quality Care (Compulsory)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Values of care • Legislation that promotes quality care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and safety • Policies • The impact of poor practice 	Internal assessment: students produce a written report on a health, social care or early years setting that they have experienced. They also research an example of poor practice in a health, social care or early years setting in the UK.	12.5% of AS 5% of A level
AS 2: Communication in Health, Social Care and Early Years Settings (Compulsory)	Communication in health, social care and early years settings Factors that support effective communication Recognising and overcoming barriers in communication with service users The importance of communication when working in teams Critical evaluation of an interaction in the chosen setting		Internal assessment: students produce a written report based on communication in a health, social care or early years setting. They also produce a critical appraisal of their own communication skills in a one to one or group interaction.	12.5% of AS 5% of A level
AS 3: Health and Well-being (Compulsory)	Concepts of health and well-being Factors affecting health and well-being Health promotion The roles of organisations responsible for health and well-being Discrimination and anti-discriminatory practice in health, social care and early years settings		External written examination: 2 hours Students answer three compulsory questions.	25% of AS 10% of A level
AS 4: Safeguarding Children (Compulsory)	Promoting positive development in early years settings The influence of theories in early years settings Understanding abuse Implementing safeguarding policies in early years Factors that could put children at risk of abuse		Internal assessment: students produce a written report on promoting children's development and an information resource on child abuse.	12.5% of AS 5% of A level
AS 5: Adult Service Users	Concepts relevant to adult service users Identifying and meeting the needs of service users Planning and providing for adult service users		External written examination: 2 hours Students answer three compulsory questions.	25% of AS 10% of A level
AS 6: Holistic Therapies (Compulsory)	Holistic therapies Management and treatment of medical conditions Evidence on using holistic therapies Use of holistic therapies in health and social care settings		Internal assessment: students produce a written report on the use of holistic therapies in the management of a medical condition and in a health or social care setting.	12.5% of AS 5% of A level
AS 7: Understanding the Physiology of Health and Illness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cells and tissues • The nervous system • The endocrine system • The digestive system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The urinary system • Water balance • Impact of disorders on individuals 	External written examination: 2 hours Students answer three compulsory questions.	25% of AS 10% of A level
A2 1: Applied Research (Compulsory)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select a research topic • Literature review • Primary research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyse research results • Evaluation and recommendations 	Internal assessment: students produce a research report on a health, social care or early years topic of their own choosing.	7.5% of A level
A2 2: Body Systems and Physiological Disorders (Compulsory)	Circulatory and respiratory systems Monitoring physiological status Physiological disorders Effects of the disorder and illness on individuals		Internal assessment: students carry out a practical investigation of the physiological status of individuals and research the diagnosis and treatment of a disorder.	7.5% of A level
A2 3: Providing Services (Compulsory)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The effects of legislation and policy on service provision • Meeting individual needs • Overcoming barriers to service provision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The differing roles and responsibilities of practitioners • Working effectively in teams • Quality assurance 	External written examination based on pre-release material: 2 hours Students answer three compulsory questions.	15% of A level
A2 4: Health Promotion (Compulsory)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local health improvement priorities • Planning a health promotion activity • Preparing to evaluate the activity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carrying out the activity • Evaluating the activity 	Internal assessment: students produce a report on health improvement priorities and health promotion and they carry out and evaluate a small scale health promotion activity	7.5% of A level
A2 5: Supporting the Family (Compulsory)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family structures • How families meet the needs of vulnerable members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support provided for individuals and their families • Family issues 	Internal assessment: students produce a review of changes to family structures, a case study of a family, and a report on services for families experiencing issues.	7.5% of A level
A2 6: Understanding Human Behaviour	Psychological perspectives on behaviour and personality The application of perspectives to understanding and treating individuals The influence of socio-economic factors		External written examination: 2 hours Students answer three compulsory questions.	15% of A level
A2 7: Human Nutrition and Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutrients in food • Current dietary guidelines • Exploring dietary health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diet related conditions/ disorders • Factors influencing dietary intake • Food preparation and handling 	External written examination: 2 hours Students answer three compulsory questions.	15% of A level