



# Social Work BA (Hons)

## Interview advice





# Social Work BA (Hons)

We are very proud of our 30 year history delivering social work education at De Montfort University (DMU), and look forward to giving you a deeper insight into the course during your interview.

On the following pages you will find lots of useful information and advice to enable you to prepare for your interview to help make the experience as useful and positive as it can be.

## Your **interview**

**University interviews are often a new experience for applicants and we want to ensure that when you apply to De Montfort University (DMU) you are given the most useful information to make the experience an enjoyable one.**

### Why do we interview?

Our interviews are designed not only for us to assess your suitability for the course, but also for you to make sure you are choosing the right course for you. Universities interview in particular for courses where a specific skill set is required, or where the course leads to a regulated profession.

**Your interview will be used as part of the selection process to determine whether you will be made an offer.**

### What will happen on the day?

You will receive information ahead of your interview on how to connect with us on Microsoft Teams (MS Teams), and will then be supported through the process by our academics. The interview will consist of a set of interview questions that will assess your experience and suitability, along with your attitudes, beliefs and values. It will also provide you with an opportunity to demonstrate your interest and commitment to the course. The interview will take no longer than 30 minutes.

Scores will be combined at the end of the interview and are a values-based means of recruitment to assess your attitudes, beliefs and academic ability.

### Visit us to find out more

To find out more about the course and have the opportunity to view our facilities, and speak with academics and current students, join us at an Open Day. Visit: **[dmu.ac.uk/opendays](https://dmu.ac.uk/opendays)**



# Interview Advice

## What can I do to prepare for the interview?

- Before your interview you will be emailed a MS Teams interview invitation. Please accept this and make note of the date and time
- We advise that you familiarise yourself with MS Teams before your interview to avoid any last minute panics on the day
- Think about some basic questions that may be asked at the beginning of an interview and how you might answer them. For example, tutors may ask why you have chosen social work and why you want to study it at DMU
- Read widely around the subjects of social work including newspaper articles, websites, journals and any other publications that are relevant for your course
- Take a critical view of ideas and arguments that you have encountered at work and in the media. Try to think about arguments from different angles and practise giving more than one opinion in a debate.

You need to be able to demonstrate that you understand what the course/career entails, but you will not be expected to have a detailed understanding of technical topics. The discussions will give you the opportunity to reflect on your work experience and demonstrate the skills needed by an undergraduate Social Work student. Some of these skills might be:

- The ability to use information to construct your own opinion
- Willingness and ability to analyse
- Problem solving skills
- Good communication and interpersonal skills.

## Aside from course specific preparation you can also:

- Review your personal statement; if you have spoken about work experience or further reading, think about how you might expand on this if asked to discuss in more detail
- Organise a practice interview for yourself; preferably not with someone who knows you very well. This will help you to get experience talking about yourself and your work in an unfamiliar environment.



## What happens if I am running late on the day?

We know that delays are sometimes unavoidable so if you are running late on the day, please contact us at **[applicantevents@dmu.ac.uk](mailto:applicantevents@dmu.ac.uk)** as soon as you are able to and let us know. In some instances, if you expect to be significantly late, we may be able to offer an alternative date. However, due to limited dates and the popularity of the course this may not always be possible.

## When will I hear if I have been successful?

We aim to make decisions as soon as possible after the interview. In most cases these are communicated to you via email and an update on UCAS Track within a week of you attending the event. We will also be in touch within a week if we are unable to make a decision straight away.

## Non-academic requirements

If you are successful after your interview, you will be made an offer, which will be conditional based on you satisfying all academic and non academic requirements as follows:

- Prior to the interview you must complete a Suitability Declaration
- DBS Application and Clearance
- Suitability Clearance

**You must meet and fulfil all non-academic requirements before 15 July 2024.** Failure to meet this deadline may result in your offer being withdrawn.

**Due to high demand for this course once the course is full, offers will be made for the next available cohort.**

## Further information and advice

For lots more information and advice about the interview, including help to prepare for the interview go to: **[dmu.ac.uk/interviews](https://dmu.ac.uk/interviews)**



## Don't forget...

- To conduct yourself professionally and dress smartly
- To ensure that your laptop/computer and phone are fully charged and you have access to a power supply
- To make sure you have tested your equipment to ensure it works and that you have a quiet space for your MS Teams interview to take place
- To have a read of our course pages to help you prepare for and anticipate interview questions.

### During the interview...

- Remember that you have been invited to the interview as you have already shown potential so try to relax, smile and be confident
- Listen and consider your responses, try to ensure that you are not just giving yes/no answers
- If you don't understand a question, don't guess, politely ask the interviewer to rephrase or clarify
- Be enthusiastic – admissions tutors will be looking for applicants who share their enthusiasm for the subject.

## Interview checklist

### You will need to:

- Have a pen and paper with you
- Have one form of photo identification to show during your interview (for example passport or driving license).

### Additional support

We endeavour to make all our events completely accessible. However, if you have any specific requirements or require additional support, please inform the Applicant Events Team via email: [applicantevents@dmu.ac.uk](mailto:applicantevents@dmu.ac.uk)



For further information about your interview event, please contact the Applicant Events Team:

T: +44 (0) 116 207 8443

 07970 655 800

E: [applicantevents@dmu.ac.uk](mailto:applicantevents@dmu.ac.uk)

W: [dmu.ac.uk/interviews](https://dmu.ac.uk/interviews)  
[dmu.ac.uk/socialwork](https://dmu.ac.uk/socialwork)



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The content of this document is correct at the time of going to press. You are advised to check our website in case there are any changes to the course you are interested in, as the contents of the website will always take precedence. October 2023.

