

Motion 1: Cut to contact hours on BA (Hons) Applied Social Science, Community Development and Youth Work (BACD&YW)

Proposer: Lara Pereira

Secunder: James Macgregor

Union notes:

1. We as students note that contact hours on the above course were cut by STACS DMT from over 200 hours per year to 120 hours without consultation with programme staff or students.
2. From our research we have established that the BACD&YW students now receive less contact hours than nearly all other students, on courses at Goldsmiths and on other CD&YW courses across the country.
3. The university has not delivered the contact hours, which were advertised and offered to students when they applied for the course and agreed to pay their fees.
4. The course is both a degree and a professional course, which is commended by external and internal review bodies, with a large percentage of BME students.
5. After many attempts to negotiate with the Head of Department and Head of Area and get our views heard, we submitted a complaint about the cut to contact hours in July 2017, but the complaint was put on hold as the Head of Department stated that he was still negotiating with the students. No meaningful negotiation took place and so we re-submitted the complaint in May 2018 and to date, there has been no outcome.

Union believes:

1. That the cut has had a hugely negative impact on the teaching and learning of the students on this course, the majority of whom are BME students
2. We are concerned that there has been no meaningful consultation with students and that the student voice and student experience is not being taken seriously
3. This cut has been targeted at a very successful programme
4. We are concerned that other programmes could also be targeted in this way as managers become more interested in making money than providing a good education

Union resolves:

1. The contact hours should be reinstated with immediate effect
2. We mandate that the Education and the Campaigns officers support the BA CD&YW students in a campaign to get the contact hours reinstated.