

Master of Arts in Child & Youth Studies

Athlone Institute of Technology



Master of Arts in Child & Youth Studies

The MA in Child and Youth Studies aims to equip highly competent and motivated child and youth care workers and graduates of cognate disciplines with the knowledge and skills necessary to become leaders in the profession and to advance the field to internationally accepted standards of best practice. The programme has both a theoretical and practice-based focus.

Graduates of the programme will:

- have a specialised knowledge of best practice models in the area.
- have advanced knowledge of the legislative framework affecting children and youth.
- appreciate and advocate the rights approach to the practice of child and youth work.
- have specific training in management of child and youth settings.
- be prepared to conduct, and to evaluate, research in relation to children and youth.

Duration: 1 year (full-time)
2 years (part-time)
Level: 9
Apply to: Admissions Office
Fees: €5,500 full-time
€2,950 part-time

Minimum Entry Requirements

Students are expected to have a minimum of an honours Bachelor degree (level 8) at grade 2.2 in

child/youth studies, social care or cognate discipline. Candidates with qualifications in social disciplines and relevant work experience will be eligible for the programme.

Modules

Research Methods

Students will gain a comprehensive knowledge of research methods appropriate for children and young people.

Models of Care

Students will critically evaluate current models of care affecting children and young people.

Child and Youth Law

Students will gain advanced knowledge of, and critically evaluate, the legislative framework affecting children and young people.

Therapeutic Approaches and Interventions

Students will examine best practice models in interventions with children and young people.

Children's Rights

Students will gain a thorough and critical understanding of the rights-based approach to children and young people.

Management in Child and Youth Care

Students will assess the development of management practices within a multidisciplinary environment.

Research Dissertation

Students will complete a research dissertation on a specialised topic relating to children and/or young people. Where possible, students will be encouraged to relate their research to their own work environment.

Career Opportunities

Graduates of the programme can reasonably expect to rise to advanced positions within the child and youth sector and to be in a position to consider a more diverse range of career opportunities than those available to Bachelor degree level graduates. For example, in addition to the traditional roles of child and youth workers, graduates of the programme will be well equipped to take on professional roles in child and youth advocacy, in developing intervention based programmes, in conducting research and evaluating the effectiveness of programmes and in managerial, advisory and policy-development roles within the sector. It is expected that graduates of the programme will be at the forefront of the development of the child and youth sector, in particular, in the context of its increasingly rights-based, legislative and research-based framework.

Contact

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