

Master of Arts in Advanced Social Care Practice/ Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Social Care Practice

“Everything I did was applicable to work. I really enjoyed the learning experience here with all the other students. It was so interesting meeting so many different people from so many different organisations”, Linda-Jo Quinn, Westmeath Community Development.

Why take this course?

The Social Care profession is dedicated to protecting and assisting the most vulnerable in our society. Social Care Workers are on the front line in attempting to address pertinent social issues, such as child protection and welfare, domestic violence, mental health, promoting equality of opportunity for those with special needs, as well as rights and social inclusion for those experiencing marginalisation in our society. Such a profession requires highly competent, confident and qualified persons with specialised training and knowledge of national and international best practice. The MA/PgD. in Advanced Social Care Practice is designed to support Social Care Workers in extending their knowledge and skills to a higher level, drawing

Postgraduate Steps

Social Studies

on unique and emerging techniques linked to evidence-based practice. It will facilitate Social Care Workers to keep themselves well-informed on current policy, strategy and quality considerations that impact on their work. This innovative programme was designed after extensive consultation with relevant stakeholders to identify needs of the sector. Modules are developed on an ongoing basis in consultation with the Social Care sector i.e. Social Care Workers, agencies and organisations to meet current and emerging needs.

What will I study?

The following modules are currently available:

- Behaviours that Challenge (10 credits);
- Contemporary Approaches in Intellectual Disability Practice (10 credits);
- Mental Health, Law and Policy (10 credits);
- Approaches to Supporting Families (10 credits);
- Interpersonal Conflict: Prevention and Resolution (10 credits);
- Approaches to Care with Older People (10 credits);
- Managing for Professional Social Care Practice (10 credits);
- Contemporary Developments in Social Care Practice (5 credits);
- Academic Writing for Postgraduate Study (5 credits);
- Research Methods (10 credits);
- Dissertation (20 credits).

Study pathways

A student will have three study pathways open to them as follows:

- Master of Arts in Advanced Social Care Practice (Level 9): Completion of designed modules worth 40 credits plus Research Methods and Dissertation (total 70 credits);
- Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Social Care Practice (Level 9): Completion of designed modules (total 60 credits) of choice, excluding Research Methods and Dissertation;
- Minor Award (Level 9) associated with the Master of Arts in Advanced Social Care Practice: Completion of one designed module.

Application process

Students may join the programme in September or January in any given year. Applications and expressions of interest in particular modules should be submitted in the semester prior to the module(s) commencing e.g. semester one (Sept-Dec) for a January start date, semester two (Jan-June) for a September start date. Modules will be offered subject to demand.

Modules will run one evening per week (6pm-9pm) over the course of each semester.

Fee per module: €750.

Progression

The MA/PgD. in Advanced Social Care Practice will facilitate the continuing professional development (CPD) of Social Care Workers through the pedagogies of continued professional education (CPE).

Graduates of this course may be eligible to pursue postgraduate training and research leading to a PhD (Level 10) qualification.

Entry Requirements

Applicants should hold an honours degree (Level 8) in Social Care.

Applicants with an honours degree (Level 8) in a cognate discipline may complete a Minor Award in a single module.

Contact Us

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