



NUI Galway
OÉ Gaillimh

NEVER STOP
LEARNING

RESEARCH
POLICY
POLICY
FAMILY
COMMUNITY
PRACTICE
PRACTICE
YOUTH

COMMUNITY EDUCATION
COMMUNITY, YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAMMES



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02 COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants for the programmes should meet the University's requirements for mature students. Formal academic qualifications are not required to commence any of the community education programmes listed in the brochure.

Applicants whose first language is not English, or who have not been educated through the medium of the English language during their two most recent years of study, must present one of the following qualifications in the English language: IELTS: 6.5 or TOEFL (IBT): 92.

Applicants should have good reading and writing skills, as well as basic IT skills, as independent home study is required. Ideally, applicants would have experience of working in a community or voluntary organisation.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Application by itself does not guarantee participation on the programmes. Selection of students will be made on the basis of completion of an application form. Numbers accepted onto these programmes will be limited.

Apply online at <http://www.nuigalway.ie/apply/>

STUDENT SUPPORT

A system of support for course work and adjustment to part-time study requirements is provided to participants by course co-ordinators and tutors. These include:

- Study skills
- Writing skills
- Academic referencing
- The online learning environment

Such supports are designed to bridge the gap between your last educational experience and returning to education as an adult learner.

TUITION / SCHOLARSHIP

Payment is expected once a programme place has been accepted. Fees may be paid by instalments.

Fees Scholarships may also be available, which will reduce fees by up to 30% for certain categories of students – eligibility criteria apply. Please contact us for further information.

In the event that tuition fees are being sponsored on behalf of a student (e.g. by an employer) appropriate payment arrangements will be agreed with the student involved. Please be advised that students whose tuition fees are paid either in full or in part by a sponsor/employer or funding organisation cannot also avail of the Fees Scholarship Scheme. Those who are approved for exemptions on the BA cannot also avail of the Fees Scholarship Scheme.

Under existing legislation, students in employment may be eligible for income tax relief at the standard tax rate. For specific details on this scheme, students are encouraged to contact their local tax office.

EXPLANATION OF AWARDS / CREDIT SYSTEMS

All Community Education Programmes carry a certain number of ECTS. A Certificate programme carries 15 ECTS, a Diploma programme carries 30 ECTS, and the BA programme carries 180 ECTS. Both the Certificate/ Diploma in Arts exit options at the end of year 1 of the BA, and at the end of year 2 of the BA carry 45 and 90 ECTS respectively.

All programmes correspond to NFAQ level awards. The BA in Community, Youth and Family Studies is awarded an NFAQ level 8, with all other Community Education Programmes placed at NFAQ Level 7 awards.

NFAQ: The National Framework of Qualifications

ECTS: European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System



WHO CAN I CONTACT?

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PROGRAMME TITLE*	LEVEL/AWARD	CREDIT	FURTHER INFORMATION
BA in Community, Youth and Family Studies	8	180	See page 04
Diploma in Arts: Community, Youth and Family Studies	7	90	See page 06
Certificate in Arts: Community, Youth and Family Studies	7	45	See page 06
Cert/Diploma in Community Development Practice	7	15/30	See page 09
Certificate in Youth Work Practice	7	15	See page 11

* Formal academic qualifications are not required to commence any of the above named programmes. However, specific University entry requirements do apply. Please see page 2 of brochure.



04 BA IN COMMUNITY, YOUTH AND FAMILY STUDIES

INTRODUCTION

This blended learning programme is a 4-year, part-time programme in Community, Youth and Family Studies. Students are awarded a Certificate in Arts: Community, Youth and Family Studies upon the successful completion of year 1 of the programme, a Diploma in Arts: Community, Youth and Family Studies upon successful completion of year 2 of the programme and a Bachelor of Arts: Community, Youth and Family Studies on completion of the 4-year cycle. This programme is designed to enable participants to further develop and enhance their understanding, knowledge and skills relevant to Family, Youth and Community work practice and policy in Ireland or abroad. The main focus of the degree programme will be on Community, Youth and Family studies but will broadly incorporate community development, youth work, community based family support, adolescence, health, political and general socio-economic studies.

INTENDED FOR

This programme was developed in response to the continuing education needs of personnel working in the community/voluntary and state sectors actively supporting community, youth and family life in a rapidly changing society. Graduates of this programme will acquire sufficient knowledge and competencies to be prepared for the changing demands of the work-place and the required background for a career in research, either within the community/statutory sector or academia. As a part-time programme, using blended learning methods of delivery,

involving a combination of class based, online, and flexible learning provision, this programme is innovative in its approach promoting active learning in the work place (paid/unpaid) with assessments based on real life situations in a practice environment. The weekend based workshop delivery is a key benefit of the programme, facilitating adult learners to sustain all other personal, family and work based commitments throughout the week.

PROGRAMME CONTENT

The programme will be conducted on a modular basis over 4 years through blended learning methods of delivery involving a combination of online, flexible and face-to-face learning provisions. The dynamic nature of this area of study places particular importance on the skills of inquiry and investigation and on this basis, research is an integral component of this programme.

A complete listing of the relevant modules is available on www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/courses/community-education

On completion of the programme graduates will be able to:

- Analyse the social, economic, and cultural context of Family, Youth and Community work in Ireland and internationally
- Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the core theoretical concepts underpinning Community, Youth and Family work

PROGRAMME FACTS

ECTS: 180

NFQ Level: 8

Duration: 4 years, part-time

Fees: (per annum)

EU: €2,900

Non-EU: €3,400





- Demonstrate a critical understanding of the main themes and developments that characterise Community, Youth and Family work at the beginning of the twenty-first century
- Apply a range of skills and knowledge necessary to carry out effectively their functions within Community, Youth and Family work settings (both policy and practice)
- Demonstrate and be able to apply a range of interventions in Community, Youth and Family work-based settings
- Apply a comprehensive knowledge of research methodologies, skills and report writing
- Define the principles of project planning, development and evaluation and the application of same in addressing Community, Youth and Family policy and practice concerns and issues

DURATION / ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

Workshop attendance is mandatory in order to successfully complete the programme. The modular structure of the programme allows students to proceed at their own pace. A series of 1 to 2 day workshops are scheduled throughout the academic year (September to April) which students must attend – this equates to approximately one workshop per month. A 1 day workshop is held on Saturday, a 2 day workshop is held on Friday and Saturday.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants for the programme should meet the University's requirements for mature students.

Formal academic qualifications are not required to commence the BA in Community, Youth and Family Studies. Students should have appropriate experience in Youth, Family or Community work and must be in a position to undertake course assignments and projects relating to practical aspects of Community, Youth and Family Studies.

For entry to the Degree level cycle, the participant must successfully complete (by achieving 40%) the Certificate and Diploma courses, which form years 1 and 2 respectively of the degree programme.

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR ACCREDITED LEARNING

Students who have previously undertaken approved programmes may be granted credit for their qualifications. Such credit, where

06 BA IN COMMUNITY, YOUTH AND FAMILY STUDIES (CONT.)

granted, will be at first year University level 7 only and will be limited to a maximum exemption of 30 credits in the first two years of a part-time degree. Applicants wishing to apply for exemptions must complete the exemption form available from the Programme Administrator, and supporting documentation must be submitted.

ASSESSMENT

Students must attend workshops. Learning achievements will be assessed through written assignments, examinations, group projects, online discussions, e-activities and learning journal reflections.

FURTHER STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

As this BA programme provides a broad basis within the social sciences discipline, graduates have progressed onto a very wide range of postgraduate programmes, both taught and research based. The majority of graduates are interested in progressing to postgraduate study, but are particularly interested in availing of part-time postgraduate programmes. Within NUI Galway postgraduate programmes available on a part-time basis to which graduates have progressed include: MA in Family Support Studies and the MA in Early Childhood Studies and Practice in addition to a range of full-time MA programmes, eg. MA in Social Work. Graduates have also progressed onto an extensive listing of other, mainly part-time postgraduate programmes outside of NUI Galway.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATES

There are many career opportunities open to graduates of the BA in Community, Youth and Family Studies. As noted above many have progressed onto postgraduate study. Other graduates have gained employment within the field of community development, youth work, and family support work. Graduates are employed across a range of agencies, both public and private, within the community/voluntary and statutory sectors dealing with practice, research and policy considerations of the sector as a whole.

REMEMBER THERE ARE EXIT OPTIONS...

You can exit at the end of year one with a programme award:

Certificate in Arts in Community, Youth and Family Studies

ECTS: 45

NFQ: Level 7

Duration: 1 year, part-time

You may also choose to exit at the end of year two with a programme award:

Diploma in Arts in Community, Youth and Family Studies

ECTS: 90

NFQ: Level 7

Duration: 2 years, part-time

DID YOU KNOW?

If you are interested in full-time study, check out our sister programme the BA in Child, Youth and Family: Policy and Practice delivered over four years full-time:

www.nuigalway.ie/colleges-and-schools/arts-social-sciences-and-celtic-studies/political-science-and-sociology/undergraduate-courses/youthandfamilystudies/

‘The things that you learn are compelling and have a way to make a connection with something in your own life. The support you the student will have is second to none; you are not a number here, you are a person and the tutors want nothing but progression and success for you.’

Deane Connolly, Adult Learner

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CERT/DIPLOMA IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE

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INTRODUCTION

This Cert/Diploma in Community Development Practice is a part-time programme, designed to enable community activists gain a thorough understanding of community development combined with the practical skills necessary to work effectively in development work. The programme offers an opportunity to participants to explore community development in detail and to learn from the experiences of development initiatives elsewhere. The Cert/Diploma combines programme modules, seminars and learning events in order to provide a comprehensive educational experience for participants.

INTENDED FOR

The Cert/Diploma in Community Development Practice programmes are suitable for participants who are actively involved in community development work and who wish to obtain formal skills in this area.

DURATION / ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

Classes take place once a week for 3 hours (demand will determine the timing of programme provision i.e. morning/afternoon/evening). There are also two Saturdays per term when attendance at workshops or organized learning events are required. A minimum of 75% attendance per term/overall is mandatory in order to successfully complete the programme.

PROGRAMME CONTENT

A complete listing of the relevant modules is available on <http://www.nuigalway.ie/adult-learning/courses/community-education>

ASSESSMENT

Each aspect of the course will be monitored by the programme board. Participants' work will be examined by means of continuous assessment. A written assessment must be completed for each course module. Participants will be required to reach a pass standard in each assessment.

CERTIFICATION / AWARD

NUI Galway will award participants who successfully complete the relevant course with a Cert/Diploma in Community Development Practice. The Certificate in Community Development Practice carries an academic credit rating of 15 ECTS and the Diploma in Community Development Practice carries an academic credit rating of 30 ECTS within the European Credit Transfer System and corresponds to Level 7 on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ).

WHY CHOOSE THIS PROGRAMME?

There are many career opportunities open to graduates of the Cert/Diploma in Community Development Practice programme, as it offers a solid practical and theoretical understanding of the community development sector. Some graduates have progressed onto further studies such as the B.A. in Community, Youth and Family Studies while other graduates of the Cert/Diploma in Community Development Practice have improved their employment prospects in the field of community development.

CERTIFICATE FACTS

ECTS: 15

NFQ Level: 7

Duration: 8 months

Mode of study: classroom-based

Fees: (per annum)

EU: €500

Non EU: €1,000

DIPLOMA FACTS

ECTS: 30

NFQ Level: 7

Duration: 1 year, part-time

Mode of study: classroom-based

Fees: Fees: (per annum)

EU: €800

Non EU: €1,300





CERTIFICATE IN YOUTH WORK PRACTICE

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INTRODUCTION

This part-time Level 7 Certificate programme (15 ECTS) provides a high quality youth work course. It seeks to enable people working within the youth work sector, whether private, voluntary or statutory, to acquire access to additional skills or knowledge, in response to the rapidly changing youth work context. The programme has been designed in collaboration with organizations/ employers in the wider youth work sector to ensure that students are equipped to work in a variety of settings. As a part-time programme, using blended learning methods; students can structure their learning and study time whilst working (paid/unpaid) in a youth work environment.

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The Certificate programme is devised on a modular, credit basis. Each module carries a specific number of credits. The Certificate in Youth Work Practice carries a credit weighting of 15 ECTS. The programme will be delivered through blended learning methods involving a combination of online, flexible and face-to-face learning provision. Class and workshop attendance forms an integral part of the Certificate. The programme is innovative in its approach, promoting active learning in the work place (paid/unpaid) with assessments based on real life situations in a youth work environment.

PROGRAMME CONTENT

A complete listing of the relevant modules is available on www.nuigalway.ie/courses/adult-and-continuing-education-courses/youthworkpracticecertificate/

AWARDS AND CREDITS

The Certificate in Youth Work Practice carries an academic credit rating of 15 ECTS within the European Credit Transfer System and corresponds to Level 7 on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ).

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Formal academic qualifications are not required to commence the Certificate in Youth Work Practice. Ideally, applicants should have appropriate experience in youth work and must be in a position to undertake course assignments and projects relating to practical aspects of youth work.

DURATION / ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

This is a part-time course of 8 months duration. Classes take place once a week for 3 hours (demand will determine the timing of programme provision i.e. morning/afternoon/ evening). There are also two Saturdays per term when attendance at workshops or organized learning events are required, and a minimum of 75% attendance per term/overall is mandatory in order to successfully complete the programme.

PROGRAMME FACTS

ECTS: 15

NFQ Level: 7

Duration: 8 months, part-time

Fees: (per annum)

EU: €500

Non EU: €1,000







National University of Ireland, Galway
Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh



United Nations
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- UNESCO Chair in
- Children, Youth and Civic Engagement
- Ireland
- CHILD AND FAMILY RESEARCH CENTRE