

Professional Development Programmes

for practitioners working with communities and young people



MA Community and Youth Work
(with JNC-recognised professional qualification)

Postgraduate Certificate/Postgraduate Diploma/MA:
Managing Community Practice

Short courses & research degrees

NEW FLEXIBLE OPTIONS

for developing your career and improving your practice

Choose an individual module as a short Continuing Professional Development course:

Community Policy and Practice (15 credits):

Critically explore different meanings of 'community', the development of public policies relating to communities of interest, identity and neighbourhood, and how these relate to changing professional practices. This module will help you to understand your work in an historical context in order to consider how best to respond to the dilemmas arising in contemporary practice.

Management in Community Settings (30 credits):

Develop your ability to draw on a wide range of contemporary management theories and apply these to your work with children, young people and communities. Topics covered include organisational theory, managing resources, managing staff and volunteers, strategic planning, fundraising, change management, implementing policies/procedures and managing partnerships.

Supervision in Community Settings (15 credits):

Supervision sessions are increasingly used to enable workers and volunteers to reflect on their own practice and develop their work, as well as to support them and hold them accountable. This module will explore the skills, values, processes and theories that can enable you to make more effective use of supervision sessions and consider how to overcome common difficulties.

Professional and Personal Development (30 credits):

Deepen your understanding of professional practice and its relationship with personal values, skills, professional ethics and wider standards. A piece of group work then gives you the opportunity to apply this understanding to an area of professional interest, such as sport, faith or creativity.

Practitioner Research (15 credits):

Develop the knowledge and skills to carry out research in your own setting to inform your work and the wider practice context. Topics include reviewing existing literature, deciding on appropriate methods, collecting and analysing data, handling research ethics, considering methodological underpinnings and the implications of findings.

Policy-related and Evaluation Research (15 credits):

Improve your understanding of how and why evaluation research is commissioned, the multiple interests of those involved, the politics of evaluation, the use and abuse of research to inform policy making/professional decision-making and associated skills.

Youth Policy and Practice (15 credits):

Expand your critical and historical understanding of key theoretical approaches and models of practice in work with young people, taking into account the relationship between the political, organisational and practice environment.

Community Analysis (15 credits):

Undertake a supported independent study working with a local agency to critically consider the issues affecting the communities with whom the agency works, and the agency's response to these issues, in order to help improve practice in that context.

Or combine them in one of the following ways to achieve a full award:

For those who have already gained a professional qualification and wish to develop their career further, the following programmes in Managing Community Practice are available. These programmes may be of particular interest to those working in fields of community development, neighbourhood regeneration, community health, youth justice, community arts and community enterprise. They may also appeal to professionals in a range of statutory and voluntary sector posts that include an element of community involvement and engagement - for example, economic development, planning, policing, transport, and voluntary sector development.

Postgraduate Certificate Managing Community Practice:

Community Policy and Practice	15 credits
Management in Community Settings	30 credits

+ one 15 credit module from the list of optional modules below

Postgraduate Diploma Managing Community Practice:

Take the modules required for the Postgraduate Certificate above, plus:

Professional and Personal Development	30 credits
Practitioner Research	15 credits

+ another 15 credit module from the list of optional modules below

MA Managing Community Practice:

Take the modules required for the Postgraduate Diploma above, plus write a dissertation of up to 15,000 words. This is worth 60 credits and will usually be based on a piece of research on a topic related to practice. Support will be offered to students throughout the process by experienced university supervisors.

Optional modules (all 15 or 20 credits):

Supervision in Community Settings, Youth Policy and Practice, Community Analysis, Policy-Related and Evaluation Research, or another module approved by the programme director. These could include modules in 'Safeguarding and Promoting the Well-Being of Children and Young People' or 'Multi-Agency Working', which can also be taken as short courses.



MA Community and Youth Work (with professional qualification)

For those who are not yet professionally qualified, Durham University offers the MA Community and Youth Work Programme. This can be taken part time over two years or full time over one year, and leads to a JNC-recognised professional qualification endorsed by The National Youth Agency.

The part-time programme is arranged so that you can study and complete the required Fieldwork Practice placements on a day-release basis alongside your current work. At present, this alternates each year between a Monday and a Tuesday. (Additional study time of at least another half day per week is necessary to meet the academic demands of the part time programme).

Year 1 (part-time) / Day 1 (full time):

Community Policy and Practice	15 credits
Youth Policy and Practice	15 credits
Professional and Personal Development	30 credits
Fieldwork Practice Development 1	15 credits

Year 2 (part-time) / Day 2 (full time):

Management in Community Settings	30 credits
Research in Community and Youth Work	45 credits
Fieldwork Practice Development 2	30 credits

The Fieldwork Practice Development elements of the programme involve undertaking specific pieces of community/youth work as part of placements that develop your professional skills. Fieldwork Practice Development 2 can be completed in your own place of work, but Fieldwork Practice Development 1 must be undertaken in another agency or project.

The 'Research in Community and Youth Work' module involves a taught introduction to research, followed by a research project culminating in the production of a 10,000 word research report on a topic of your choice.

Module descriptions for the other modules are the same as those listed on page 2 of this leaflet.



Why study Community and Youth Work at Durham University?

Internationally-recognised expertise:

Durham University offers a thriving centre for professional development in Community and Youth Work that is nationally and internationally recognised for the quality of its teaching and research.

Multi-disciplinary connections:

Outstanding professional development opportunities are on offer for the full range of related professions working with children, young people, their families and surrounding communities. By working alongside Social Work, Social Policy, Criminology and Sport in the School of Applied Social Sciences, teaching is informed by research from a diverse range of related academic disciplines. Past students have come from and progressed into a wide variety of roles, including working as Youth Service Managers, Youth Offending Team Officers, Community Development Workers, Teenage Pregnancy Workers, Connexions Advisors, Children's Services Managers, Youth Policy Advisors and Voluntary Sector Managers. As a result, students have particularly valued the excellent opportunities provided by our programmes for developing and exchanging learning across these related professional settings.

Research-based practice development:

In a changing policy context, with increased attention on continuing professional development and integrated service provision, Durham University's programmes offer an ideal way to reflect on developing theory and practice against a critical backdrop of longstanding professional value commitments. Lectures and seminars enable you to access the latest research findings and explore the implications for your own practice. Programmes also include optional opportunities to specialise in sport or faith-related work, and/or to undertake your own research into your own context.

Supporting your career development:

Many of our previous students have found that a postgraduate qualification from Durham University has enhanced their careers, helping them to get promotions or move into new fields with confidence and improved skills.

Other important information:

Teaching

The modules use a range of teaching methods, including independent study and research, lectures, group discussion, seminars and (for the MA Community and Youth Work only) supervised fieldwork practice. Taught sessions for short courses/modules are typically a series of 2 hour sessions undertaken over consecutive weeks, on either a Monday or a Tuesday during the daytime.

Assessment

Forms of assessment may include 3,000 word essays, fieldwork reports, self-assessment, oral presentation and research reports. There are no examinations. To gain a full qualification, you must accumulate the required number of credits by passing the assignments linked to each module (pass mark 50%).

Entry requirements

As the full programmes are taught at postgraduate level, a degree level qualification or equivalent (e.g. another approved professional qualification) is normally required. Where applicants have substantial experience, lower qualifications may be accepted, subject to submission of a written assignment to give evidence of their ability to study at this level. Alternatively, we may suggest you register for an individual module as a short course in the first instance, and use any assignment submitted for that short course to assess your ability to proceed onto a full programme.

For the MA Community and Youth Work, at least one year's full-time practice experience in community and youth work or a related field (or part-time equivalent) is also required. A Criminal Records Bureau Enhanced Disclosure will also be required on admission to this programme to assess whether applicants have any previous convictions that prevent them working with vulnerable people. This currently costs £36.

Specialisms

There are opportunities for students to undertake specialist study on the themes of creativity, faith or sport. Specialisms are pursued within the Professional and Personal Development module, the research project and (for the MA Community and Youth Work only) within fieldwork practice. Specialist staff are available to provide supervision and support in these areas.

Costs:

If you wish to undertake individual modules as short courses, and you are a UK student, a 15 credit module costs £385 and a 30 credit module costs £770.*

In total, taken part-time by UK students, the Postgraduate Certificate will cost £1465.20, the Postgraduate Diploma £3080, and the MA £4620.*

A 10% reduction on these costs is available for students who take any of these programmes full time (i.e. where the student completes all the required modules within one academic year).

There are a range of ways to make these costs more affordable. Please see the separate leaflet on 'Financing Postgraduate Study' which is available from the Admissions Tutor (details on the back page) or available to download from <http://www.dur.ac.uk/resources/sass/FundinganMA.pdf>.

If you just want to take an individual module as a short course, please note:

Successful completion of standalone modules leads to the award of credit. These short courses stand outside the University's credit and qualifications framework for major awards – i.e. Bachelors and Masters programmes and related certificates and diplomas. Successful completion of an individual short course confers no particular privileges in respect of admission to such a major award and may not be used for credit accumulation towards such an award. However, we do have procedures to accredit prior learning which might be applicable if you later register for a major award. As a short course student, you will be given access to the University facilities required to undertake study on the modules concerned but will not have access to any other University facilities.

As a result, if you are considering building up modules towards a full qualification, it is better to apply for and register for a full qualification (Certificate, Diploma or MA) at the beginning.

If you subsequently decide not to complete the full qualification, the university will issue you with a transcript of the credits gained for the modules you have completed, and you will only be invoiced for the modules that you have registered for in that academic year. If you wish, the cost of the modules that you register for in any particular academic year can usually be paid by direct debit in 8 instalments over the academic year.

Research degrees & other programmes

The School of Applied Social Sciences also offers a variety of other options for people primarily wishing to pursue independent supervised research: Master of Professional Practice (one year full-time or two years part-time); MA (one year full-time or two years part-time); MPhil (two years full-time or four years part-time); PhD (three years full-time or five to six years part-time). Current postgraduate researchers are working on: youth work in the context of changing policy agendas, faith-based community development and youth work, contemporary community development in Britain and in Korea, professionals working with asylum seekers and refugees, and the Southern African diaspora community.

For details of other taught programmes offered by the School of Applied Social Sciences, including those on sociology, criminology, social work & sport, see www.dur.ac.uk/sass.

The staff team:

Sarah Banks - teaches community development, research methods and professional development. Research interests: professional ethics, neighbourhood regeneration, rural youth and community work, European comparative research. Recent books include: *Managing Community Practice*; *Critical Community Practice*; *Ethics, Accountability and the Social Professions*; *Ethics and Values in Social Work*; *Ethical Issues in Youth Work*.

Anne Marron - co-ordinates fieldwork practice and teaches professional development and theory and practice of supervision. She has practice interests in: group work, anti-oppressive practice, young people's rights and responsibilities, single gender work, and domestic and sexual violence.

Jean Spence - teaches youth work, research methods and community and culture. Research interests: youth work (contemporary and historical), gender issues and mining community. Her recent research is published as: *Youth Work: Voices of Practice*. Other publications focus on contemporary youth work policy and practice, gender in youth work, and the history of informal educational practice. She is an editor of the journal *Youth and Policy*.

Other contributing staff include **Tony Jeffs**, **Andrew Orton**, **Leon Mexter** and **Ivan Wintringham**.



If you would like to know more about our short courses, full programmes, entry requirements or sources of financial support during studying, please contact:

**The Admissions Tutor
Community and Youth Work
School of Applied Social Sciences
Durham University
Elvet Riverside 2
Durham
DH1 3JT
Phone: + 44 (0)191 334 1505
E-mail: community.youth@durham.ac.uk
Web: <http://www.dur.ac.uk/sass/cayw/>**

The information in this booklet is also available in large type and in a format suitable for audio reader software on this website.

**A copy of the Durham University postgraduate prospectus is available online:
<http://www.dur.ac.uk/studying/>
To apply on-line, go to: <http://www.dur.ac.uk/postgraduate/apply/>
For general information about postgraduate study at Durham University:
Phone: +44 (0)191 334 4565
E-mail: pg.admissions@durham.ac.uk
Web: <http://www.dur.ac.uk/postgraduate/>**

*Fee information is correct at the time of going to press. Please check the web for up to date fee information. Every effort has been made to ensure that all information is accurate at the time of going to press in January 2009. However, changes may occur and Durham University reserves the right to amend or change any information contained in this programme at any time.

Copyright © Durham University 2009

Durham University and the Durham University Logo are registered trade marks of the University of Durham trading as Durham University. All rights reserved. ®

Produced by the Institute of Advanced Study, Durham University with **hpm**group.