

Youth & Community Placement Structure 2 Routes to qualification

1) BA (Hons) in Youth & Community Work with JNC Professional Qualification

The Undergraduate Course has 3 Placements Modules, one for each level of study. As these modules are all assessed through fieldwork practice, the placement agency is asked to demonstrate that it is able to provide students with a range of experiences which include opportunities to:

- a) Build relationships with people which enable them to explore and make sense of their experiences and plan and take action;
- b) Facilitate people's learning, and their personal and social development;
- c) Enable people to organise and take co-responsibility for activities, events and projects;
- d) Work with people in accordance with the core values of youth and community development work;
- e) Plan, manage and develop youth and community development work;
- f) Support and develop effective, efficient and ethical practice in work with individuals and groups.

(Adapted from the National Occupational Standards for Youth Work)

A JNC Supervisor is required for the supervision which ideally takes place weekly for First and Second Years and Monthly for Third Years. The Supervisor also needs to write a report on the student utilising the University's '10 Element' Assessment Process. More information is provided in the Supervisor's Handbook at each level.

FIRST YEAR: – A Concentration Upon 'Face to Face' activities with young people and community groups. 4 days a week placement between February and April (minimum 29 hours each week) - 300 hours

This placement is intended to provide students who have limited prior experience with an opportunity to undertake a short, introductory placement which examines the nature of youth and community development work, individual students' skills in this area of work and an initial assessment of their level of competence.

On completion of this module, the students will have:

- Identified their personal skills repertoire in relation to the expectations of a future youth and community development work placement;
- Had an opportunity to observe youth and community development work in more than one setting;
- Negotiated and undertaken a full-time placement in a youth or community development work setting that provides an opportunity to work with individuals and groups;
- Examined the links between University-based theory and skills development modules in relation to working with individuals and groups;
- Reflected on their learning from this introductory placement and identified future learning needs to be met through the degree programme.

SECOND YEAR: – A Concentration upon 'Curriculum/Programme Development'. Block placement between March and May equivalent of 5 days a week - 330 hours

This placement aims to build upon experience gained through the first year and will focus on working with young people and community groups. In Year 2 (Level 5) the module encourages students to critically apply their learning from across the programme to their professional youth and community development placement, consistent with an anti-oppressive approach to practice and constructed in relation to the National Occupational Standards for Youth Work, National Occupational Standards for Community Development Work and the JNC Grading Report

By the end of the Level 2 placement students will be able to:

- Demonstrate competence in face-to-face work with young people and other individuals and groups in the wider community;
- Demonstrate the integration of theoretical and skills-based modules in the "work setting";
- Identify the outcomes of learning within the placement setting and provide evidence of this against appropriate professional benchmarks;
- Locate their practice within an anti-oppressive value-base, explaining decisions and actions in relation to this;
- Reflect on learning undertaken and have identified learning needs for their final year placement

THIRD YEAR - – A Concentration upon Youth & Community Worker as 'Manager' with a focus upon Resourcing of Work, Staff Supervision and Strategic Management of policy. Placement between October and April (2 days a week - average 16 hours each week) – 280 hours

This placement provides an opportunity to complete the professional requirements of a JNC qualification, building upon students' prior experience of working with young people and community groups undertaken in years 1 and 2. It requires students to critically apply their learning from the course to a specific setting, consistent with an anti-oppressive approach and the values which underpin youth and community development work as expressed in the National Occupational Standards for Youth Work, National Occupational Standards for Community Development Work and the JNC Grading Matrix. It has a specific focus on the knowledge, skills and values required by workers who are about to qualify.

By the end of the placement, students will be able to:

- Critically reflect on their skills in face-to-face work with individuals and groups in a community development setting;
- Demonstrate the integration of theoretical and skills-based modules related to the management role and / or community development work;
- Identify the outcomes of learning within the placement setting and provide evidence of this against appropriate professional benchmarks;
- Reflect on their work as an anti-oppressive practitioner/manager in relation to youth work and community development work, explaining decisions and actions in relation to this value-base;
- Reflect on learning undertaken and evidence their autonomy as a professional worker.

2) Post Graduate and Graduate Diploma in Youth & Community Development with JNC Professional Qualification

The Post Graduate/Graduate Diploma Course has 2 Placements Modules. As these modules are all assessed through fieldwork practice, the placement agency is

asked to demonstrate that it is able to provide students with a range of experiences which include opportunities to:

- a) Build relationships with people which enable them to explore and make sense of their experiences and plan and take action;
- b) Facilitate people's learning, and their personal and social development;
- c) Enable people to organise and take co-responsibility for activities, events and projects;
- d) Work with people in accordance with the core values of youth and community development work;
- e) Plan, manage and develop youth and community development work;
- f) Support and develop effective, efficient and ethical practice in work with individuals and groups.

A JNC Supervisor is required for the supervision which ideally takes place weekly for First and Second Years and Monthly for Third Years. The Supervisor also needs to write a report on the student utilising the University's '10 Element' Assessment Process. More Information is provided in the Supervisor's Handbook at each level.

1) Substantive Placement – This is taught at level 6 or 7 and therefore as above has an emphasis on Youth & Community Work as 'Manager'. Full time placement between February and June (minimum 36 hours each week) Graduate Diploma students are expected to undertake a full-time / block placement during Semester 2/3, usually with a focus on management or project development. (444 hrs)

Alternative placement between September and February

2) Graduate Diploma students are required to undertake an 'alternative placement' totalling 148 hours, to gain experience through a small scale project in a completely new work situation / setting.

This placement provides an opportunity to complete the professional requirements of a JNC qualification, building upon students' prior experience of working with young people and community groups undertaken. It requires students to critically apply their learning from the course to a specific setting, consistent with an anti-oppressive approach and the values which underpin youth and community development work as expressed in the National Occupational Standards for Youth Work, National Occupational Standards for Community Development Work and the JNC Grading Matrix. It has a specific focus on the knowledge, skills and values required by workers who are about to qualify.

By the end of the placement, students will be able to:

- Critically reflect on their skills in face-to-face work with individuals and groups in a community development setting;
- Demonstrate the integration of theoretical and skills-based modules related to the management role and / or community development work;
- Identify the outcomes of learning within the placement setting and provide evidence of this against appropriate professional benchmarks;
- Reflect on their work as an anti-oppressive practitioner/manager in relation to youth work and community development work, explaining decisions and actions in relation to this value-base;
- Reflect on learning undertaken and evidence their autonomy as a professional worker.

For Further Information please contact:

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