

Foundation Degree in Drug and Alcohol Counselling

September 2012 - July 2016 (4 years)

(Delayed intake possible in January 2012)

Thursday evening, 6.30 - 9.30 pm

**Mode of study: Part-time
Credits: 240 at HE Levels 1 & 2**

Centre: Vaughan College, Leicester

Course outline

The Foundation Degree in Drug and Alcohol Counselling provides an introduction to drug and alcohol counselling for a broad range of people. Many students will not previously have had a role in one of the helping professions or will have limited experience as a volunteer. The course will provide the skills, knowledge base and expertise needed to use counselling within the drug and alcohol field. The Degree provides an opportunity for people to train as drug and alcohol workers and build a career in this profession. The course provides an opportunity for personal and professional career development and will enable people to develop sufficient competence and confidence to access employment in the drug and alcohol field.

The degree programme carries 120 credits at HE Level 1 and 120 credits at HE Level 2 (equivalent to NVQ levels 4 and 5). The course contains 360 teaching hours in total.

Entry requirements

Prospective students will be interviewed prior to commencing the course, to ensure they are aware of the demands that will be made of them and to assess their ability to meet the academic and practice requirements. Prospective students must be 18 months free of any substance use problem before they start the course. Applicants must have access to a personal computer and the internet.

Applicants who have already met the learning objectives for one or more modules, by prior study at University level or by work experience, may apply for exemption from these modules.

Modules

All modules are compulsory. Students are required to attend at least 80 percent of each module.

HE Level 1:

- Introduction to Counselling Skills (20 credits)
- Introduction to Substance Use (20 Credits)
- Assessment and Treatment (20 Credits)
- Modalities of Treatment (20 Credits)
- Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (20 Credits)
- Counselling Issues and the Legislative Environment (20 Credits)

HE Level 2:

- Counselling and the Criminal Justice System (20 Credits)
- Issues in Addiction Counselling (10 Credits)
- Group Process – Year I (10 Credits)
- Drug and Alcohol Counselling Placement – Year I (20 Credits)
- Dual Diagnosis (10 Credits)
- Dissertation (20 Credits)
- Group Process – Year I (10 Credits)
- Drug and Alcohol Counselling Placement – Year II (20 Credits)

Assessment

Students will be required to keep a reflective learning journal throughout the programme and part of the assessment of some modules will be a reflective learning journal statement.

Assessment will be both formative and summative. The formative assessment will take place during course time and will include feedback to students on written work, group work, oral presentations, observations and role-play sessions.

What skills will I gain?

The aims of the programme are:

- To provide students with a broad overview of the theory and practice of substance misuse counselling.
- To prepare them to use counselling skills in the workplace and to undertake a placement working with clients in a contained and professional environment.
- To provide students with an in-depth understanding of the theory and practice of working with substance misusers in the drug and alcohol field.
- To provide a learning environment in which students will feel safe and secure enough to explore aspects of their own personal development, that will relate to the practice of using counselling by building relationships with substance misusers in workplace settings.
- To provide opportunities in a learning environment for students to explore their own values, beliefs, attitudes and prejudices that may have an impact on their relationships with others in a personal or employment context.
- To introduce students to ethical frameworks that underpin and contain good practice in drug and alcohol counselling and interventions.
- To enable students to develop academic skills that can be applied to discussing the complexities of counselling and intervention theory and practice with substance mis users.
- To develop the skills to critically evaluate research and academic texts in order to inform their practice and support their professional development.

How much will it cost?

[Fees for September 2012 entry](#)

Please note that from September 2012 students will have to apply for a loan to cover their course fees. You will start to pay this loan back after 3 years, but only if you are earning over £21,000. You will only have to pay back 9% of your earnings over £21,000. For example: if you were earning £25,000 per year your monthly repayments would be £30 per month.

The following website is useful in explaining the new loan system:
<http://studentfinance-yourfuture.direct.gov.uk/part-time-students>

You can also contact the University of Leicester's, Welfare Service to discuss financial support.
Tel: 0116 223 1185
Email: welfare@le.ac.uk

Payable for each year of course.

- **£2675** per annum

Course fees to be advised, for students entering the course at a later date.

Fees will be increased for ensuing courses in line with Institute and government policy on tuition fees for part-time students.

Students may be required to make a contribution towards the costs of their supervision when on placement. The contribution towards supervision at the moment is £250 per annum, and is currently met for students on placement in Leicestershire or Northamptonshire by the local DAAT.

Where and when does the course take place?

The course commencing September 2012 will be held one evening per week 6.30 - 9.30 pm, at Vaughan College, Leicester. Modules will be offered in the evening and on one Saturday workshop per term. Day, times and venue to be confirmed.

Students will be required to spend time in private study related to each module of the programme, preparing for taught sessions and assignments. Approximately 110 hours of private study are expected for each module. Students will also need to have a placement with a drug/and or alcohol agency during the third and fourth years of the programme.

Further information

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