

Learning and Teaching Activities 2010/2011

The International Centre for Guidance Studies (iCeGS) offers a comprehensive range of academic activities to support the continuing professional development needs of careers education, information, advice and guidance practitioners, managers and policy-makers. This is available at a range of levels from undergraduate through to Masters and PhD and professional doctorate study.

Academic Programmes

Masters Programme in Guidance Studies (e-learning)

The Masters in Guidance Studies (MA Education: Guidance Studies) provides opportunities for practitioners, managers, researchers and policy-makers to explore key issues relating to guidance theory and practice, with particular emphasis on action research. The overall aim of the programme is to support professionals to develop their practice by encouraging reflection on traditional and contemporary career perspectives.

Central to the programme is a commitment to link theory to practice and to explore ways in which new theories can be developed as a result of reflection on practice. Students gain an improved understanding of the policies and practices that underpin and influence guidance work at local, national and international levels. They are encouraged to develop a research portfolio relevant to their interests.

This innovative programme offers more than a traditionally taught Masters Programme in that it emphasises:

- practical applications of guidance theory in relation to current and future policy and practice;
- action-research techniques to develop experience, knowledge and skills of research approaches;
- links with a vibrant research community at national and international levels; and
- reflective practice related to personal, career and professional development.

The programme is available at three levels of award from September 2010:

- Postgraduate Certificate in Education: Guidance Studies (60 credits), and the Postgraduate Certificate in Telephone Guidance (60 credits). Further information is given below on this award
- Postgraduate Diploma in Education: Guidance Studies (120 credits)
- MA in Education: Guidance Studies (180 credits)

The MA Programme

The generic MA Guidance Studies programme (from September 2010) consists of two 30 credit guidance-focused modules: '**Guidance Theory and Professional Practice**' and '**Guidance in Context**'. It should be noted that students can commence with the specialist Postgraduate Certificate in Telephone Guidance – detailed below. A minimum of two of the guidance modules and a related 'Independent Study' and the core module Evidence-based Practice must be completed to be awarded the MA Education: Guidance Studies. Other modules available include; Advanced Professional Practice, Leadership and Management in Education and Negotiated modules which allow students to undertake a 'mini' research project in preparation for their 'Independent Studies'.

The benefits of e-learning are multiple; materials are up to date and often leading edge, and students are directed to new and emerging research which supports their intellectual engagement with their individual areas of interest. The programme is delivered through web-based materials, with supporting literature, a discussion forum and tutorial support through email and by telephone. It allows students the opportunity to study at a time and pace that suits them, allowing them to decide when and where they study. The programme should be completed within six years.

The programme provides a continuing professional development (CPD) opportunity for guidance professionals to engage with and contribute to the frontier of new knowledge.

Postgraduate Certificate in Telephone Guidance

This 60 credit programme was developed for The Careers Advice Service (formally Ufi learndirect) for guidance practitioners working with clients primarily at a distance. It is designed for guidance practitioners, Career Coaches and related staff who support clients via the telephone and web based technology. The programme addresses the development of advanced professional skills and provides appropriate underpinning professional theoretical knowledge and understanding at postgraduate level for practitioners working in this fast developing technological guidance field. The Certificate has two 30 credit modules, Approaches to Guidance at a Distance: Theory, and Approaches to Guidance at a Distance: Practice. After successful completion of the Postgraduate Certificate in Telephone Guidance students can progress, if they wish, to the Postgraduate Diploma stage of the MA programme.

Work based Learning Programmes

The Centre has increasingly become aware of the need for individuals to have more flexibility in how they manage and develop their professional knowledge, skills and capabilities. As a result of this we have worked in partnership with a number of organisations to develop bespoke CPD programmes.

The programmes have been developed to enable students to obtain accreditation for work-based activities. There are two types of programmes developed to date; one leading to a 30 credit award at undergraduate level, the second at

postgraduate level. Programmes are developed as two 15 credit modules; the first is a theory module and the second is a work-based project or applied professional practice module. These support the student in contextualising their learning and applying it to their workplace or their individual practice depending on the module. The programmes are accredited at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels and students successfully completing the programme will be awarded a University Certificate of Achievement at the appropriate level.

The programmes above are delivered through the University of Derby's Lifelong Learning scheme and the University of Derby Corporate (UDC). The programmes are not delivered in a traditional face to face style. Learning materials and resources are made available to learners electronically with possible face to face sessions, depending on the programme.

Programmes currently available include:

'Managing Careers Education and Guidance'

This accredited continuing professional development programme is aimed at Careers Education and Guidance Practitioners at varying levels including careers co-ordinators and paraprofessionals with a secondary role in providing CEG. The programme contains two modules; 'Managing Careers Education and Guidance', and 'The Work-based Project'. It is available to any CEG practitioner who feels they will benefit from engaging in the programme. The programme is a 30 credit module and is delivered at postgraduate level (level 7).

'Developing your Career Guidance Skills' (in partnership with CXL)

This programme has been developed as an undergraduate certificate of achievement, a 30 credit award at level 5. The programme will contribute to the organisations' CPD strategy and is developed to complement the e-portfolio.

'Professional Development for Guidance'

This 30 credit module has been developed to support the Advanced Guidance training programme which is delivered by iCeGS. The programme allows students to achieve 30 credits at postgraduate (level 7) to complement their skills development.

'The Certificate in Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance and the Advanced Diploma in Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG)'

These programmes have been developed in partnership with the East Midlands Consortium and are now available nationally. They have been developed in response to the increasing need for improved CEIAG to support young people with the decisions they make through and beyond the 11-19 phase of their learning. The programmes focus on leading, managing, coordinating and contributing to programmes of careers education, information, advice and guidance, enabling learners to obtain accreditation for work based activities.

The qualifications support individuals and organisations to evaluate, develop and implement systems and programmes to achieve the national *Quality Standards for Young People's IAG* and to implement the new *Statutory Guidance for Careers Education*. Built around the key themes of Management, Curriculum,

Information, Guidance and Learner Outcomes, these qualifications are designed to reflect the changing nature of CEIAG 11-19 and its links to the broader personal development curriculum. They comply with the *National Framework for Professional Qualifications in CEG in England*, published on CEGNET and revised in October 2008, and will reflect the outcomes of the current DCSF review of professional qualifications in careers work. The qualifications are constructed to be flexible and responsive to the needs of the participant, offering a programme that can be tailored to the needs of the individual. The Advanced Diploma programme is intended to be recognised as the equivalent of a subject leader qualification for careers work.

These CEIAG programmes can be tailored to specific groups for example;

- groups of tutors working in colleges of further education
- groups of staff working across special schools or short stay schools (PRU's)
- Connexions staff working in schools.

Progression

The programmes developed by the International Centre for Guidance Studies will normally include progression opportunities. All students will have 30 credits which may contribute to other programmes as appropriate within the University of Derby or another institution and postgraduate credits can contribute towards the MA Education: Guidance Studies.

Contact details

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