MSc / PG Dip in Advanced Practice (with Advanced Award in Social Work) Children and families / Leadership and management

Royal Holloway
University of London

The Masters in Advanced Practice (with Advanced Award in Social Work - Children and families or Leadership and management) builds upon the long-standing partnerships that the Department has with employer agencies and service user groups.

This programme is delivered via a part-time, modular approach which offers flexibility to suit the needs of social workers wishing to continue their professional development.

It provides professionally and academically rigorous postgraduate training for experienced workers in social care and health services, and will lead to academic and professional qualifications at Masters and Advanced levels.

Students are able to exit at different stages through the programme. Students successfully completing Stage 1 can achieve a Postgraduate Certificate, and those also completing Stage 2 can achieve a Postgraduate Diploma (with Higher Specialist Award in Social Work).

The programme provides:

- High quality training that enables students to critically evaluate theory and utilise research findings in relation to advanced practice and leadership.
- Enhanced skills and the ability to provide ethically-sound and effective practice and leadership within an anti-oppressive practice framework.
- The opportunity for students to undertake independent, critical analysis and thinking, and enhance professional development through reflective learning and practitioner-led research.
- A critical and reflexive approach, using adult learning models. Students are encouraged throughout to make use of learning opportunities in their workplace and demonstrate their integration of learning in their current practice as practitioners or managers.

Programme structure

The programme consists of a range of mandatory and optional courses as detailed below.

Stage 1:

- Values and Ethics for Advanced Practitioners, Leaders and Managers (15 credits). Mandatory course, Summer term
- Work-based Learning: Advanced Practice & Leadership (30 credits). Mandatory course, Autumn and Spring terms
- 1 optional course (see list opposite), Spring term

Stage 2:

- Inter-professional Working: Power, Identity and Organisational Culture (15 credits). Mandatory course, Summer term
- Risk and Decision-Making (30 credits). Mandatory course, Autumn and Spring terms
- 1 optional course (see list opposite), Spring term

Stage 3:

- Research Methods & Dissertation (60 credits)

Optional courses (all 15 credits)

- Advanced Practice in Public Law Family Court Proceedings
- Advanced Practice in Child Protection & Family Support
- Work with Children with Sexually Harmful Behaviours (run in partnership with the NSPCC)
- Development and Assessment of Professional Practice (including Stage 2 of the Practice Educator Framework)
- Supervision of Professional Practice

Courses in development:

- Development and Quality Assurance of Services
- Resource Management
- Advanced Practice with Looked After Children
- Advanced Practice in working with Domestic Violence
- Advanced Practice in working with Parental Mental Health Difficulties

All courses (excluding Research Methods and Dissertation) are available to be taken on a stand alone basis for academic or PRTL requirements.

Assessment

A range of assessment methods are used within the programme, and vary for each course. They include essays, case study analysis, oral presentations, direct observation and use of video material, reflective commentaries, practice evidence (and a dissertation for those completing the full MSc).

Location

The programme will take place at Royal Holloway's central London teaching venue: 11 Bedford Square, London, WC1B 3RF.

Recruitment

Candidates will normally be nominated to the programme by their agency Training Manager and complete the required application form. Self-funding candidates must have employer permission for the practice elements of the programme.

Admission requirements

Students would normally have a social work or other professional qualification in a relevant discipline at degree or Masters level. However, students with a DipHE (e.g. DipSW) and at least two years practice experience are able to apply. All students must be currently involved in practice or management work in a social care or health setting.

For further information and an application form, please contact Liz Hudson at l.hudson@rhul.ac.uk or 01784 443379, or your training manager

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