Professional Doctorate Programme

St George
University of London

Kingston University
London

Royal Holloway
University of London
Aims and philosophy

The Professional Doctorate will equip practising health and social care professionals with leadership skills appropriate to their particular field. It will enable them to advance professionally by undertaking and supporting original research and implementing advanced practice.

The approach is critical and reflexive. It uses adult learning models and is underpinned by social science perspectives.

Target group

The programme is suitable for:

- Professionals in health and social care e.g. nurses, medical practitioners and social workers
- Allied health who may be working in a variety of clinical, educational, development or managerial roles.

The focus of the programme is interprofessional. It aims to provide transferable knowledge and skills which underpin health and social care professions broadly.
Course structure

6 one year long units of 30 CP each plus 360 CP thesis
PT: 6 yrs (taught component yrs 1-2, thesis yrs 3-6)
FT: 3 yrs (taught component yrs 1-2, thesis yrs 2-3)

Possibility of exit award after taught component completed satisfactorily.

Curriculum outline

Six taught units organised into three streams:

- Research for practitioners (includes intro. to social research; research design; qualitative and quantitative methods; innovative methods for the research of practice) – 2 units
- Professional and interprofessional practice (includes global and national contexts of professions; policy contexts; major issues facing professions; professionalism and reflexivity; professional expertise) – 2 units
- Portfolio (may include electives, personal learning plans, application of research learning to specific topics) – equivalent of 2 units

Plus

- 50,000 word thesis.
Unit assignments
Each unit will require the equivalent of one major assignment, but this may be made up of a series of smaller assignments/exercises. Where possible, assignments will be related to the current workplace or professional concerns of the student. The assignments for each unit will be designed to dovetail with each other, and to feed directly into work required for the thesis. In most instances the work required for each assignment may be used as a basis for other assignments.

The Thesis
The thesis will be based on original research of direct relevance to the practice or workplace of the student concerned. Academic supervisors with specific expertise will be appointed, and consideration will also be given to the appointment of practitioner mentors where appropriate. Separate assignments required for other units may constitute the basis of literature reviews or methodological chapters of the thesis.
For further information please visit:
www.rhul.ac.uk/socialwork/home.aspx

In the meantime, if you have a specific query on the course, please contact:

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