



Glasgow School of
Social Work

PgCert/PgDip/MSc/ Continuing Professional Development

in COMMUNITY CARE

in the Glasgow School of Social Work

at the Universities of Strathclyde and Glasgow

Prospectus 2010



The University of Glasgow, charity no. SC004401

The University of Strathclyde is a charitable body, registered in Scotland, no. SC015263.

BACKGROUND

This multi-disciplinary Postgraduate Programme has been delivered for over fifteen years, at both Glasgow and Strathclyde Universities, and has developed in recent years to allow participants greater flexibility of access and exit points. It is designed to meet the needs of those working in any aspect of community care, with all major user groups, whether in the statutory, voluntary or private sectors, in direct contact with users, or as managers and policy-makers.

It is assumed that course participants will have some understanding of the community care framework but want to develop their knowledge base in light of the continuing evolution of policy and practice.

The course aims to provide a student-centred education designed to encourage application to practice.

The content is relevant, up to date and located against the backdrop of increasingly integrated ways of working. Past participants have commented very positively on how useful the application of the course material is to community care practice.

The inter-disciplinary nature of the course is emphasized in the teaching approach and in the course design which draws on a variety of relevant disciplines and specialties, such as social work, social policy, health and the social and behavioural sciences.

One of the aims of the course is to explore the role of these professional demarcations and their value bases in light of the 'integrated working' agenda.

Central to the course rationale is the breadth of coverage across different disciplines, depth of knowledge in particular aspects of community care, application of a range of skills and the synthesis of information towards originality of approach in problem solving.

The course can be completed to Postgraduate Certificate (PgCert), Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip) and Masters (MSc) Level. Single modules can be undertaken as part of continuing professional development.

Both general and specialist modules are offered to meet different educational and professional development needs.

Demarcations associated with professional specialties or academic disciplines are avoided in favour of intellectual synthesis. The interdisciplinary nature of the course is emphasised in the teaching approach and in the course design.

The programme encourages students to acquire cross-disciplinary skills, including the collection and collation of information, the critical evaluation of research evidence, the understanding of arguments, the capacity for independent thought and study and the communication of ideas and information.

COURSE MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Course Director	Andrew Eccles (Email : andrew.eccles@strath.ac.uk)
Course Secretary	Lynn Stewart (Email : lynn.stewart.ccw@strath.ac.uk)
Contact Details for all Correspondence	Glasgow School of Social Work University of Strathclyde, Jordanhill Campus Sir Henry Wood Building (R411) 76 Southbrae Drive, Glasgow G13 1PP
Telephone Number :	0141 950 3088
Fax Number :	0141 950 3474
Website :	www.strath.ac.uk/gssw/gsswcourses/ postgraduate_community_care_programme/

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE COURSE

The main responsibility for teaching and supervising students lies with the Glasgow School of Social Work, which is located on the Jordanhill Campus of Strathclyde University.

Guest lecturers come from a wide variety of service based organisations, including Social Work and Housing Departments, NHS bodies, the Scottish Government and a range of voluntary sector organisations.

THE COURSE

The course is delivered on a modular basis :

Pg Certificate	four modules (from a limited menu) should be completed within a minimum six month or maximum twelve month period.
Pg Diploma	eight modules should be completed within a minimum twelve month or maximum twenty four month period.
MSc	a Diploma and 15,000 word dissertation should be completed within a minimum twenty four month or maximum thirty six month period.

BACKGROUND

The PgCert/PgDip/MSc is a multi-disciplinary Postgraduate Degree Programme taught one day a week (Wednesday) during term time, with additional work to be completed outwith class time and during the vacations.

It is designed to meet the needs of those working in any aspect of community care; in the statutory, voluntary or private sectors; whether in direct contact with service users, or as managers or policy makers, and with all major user groups.

Students are expected to be currently working in a suitable post, or to have had recent experience of such a post. This would include :

- ✓ Social Workers
- ✓ Nurses
- ✓ Housing Officers
- ✓ Occupational Therapists
- ✓ Medical Practitioners
- ✓ Project Leaders
- ✓ Managers from Social Services, Nursing And Health Care
- ✓ Voluntary Organizations

A degree programme for such a broad-based group of students is by definition multi-disciplinary and draws on a variety of disciplines and specialties, not least social work, social policy, medicine, nursing, housing and the social and behavioural sciences.

Course Aims

1. The course provides a broad-based education in community care, defined to include those working with all user groups and in the statutory, voluntary and private sectors.
2. The course offers both general and specialist modules (as outlined later) to meet the different educational and professional needs of students.
3. The course aims to provide a student-centred education designed to encourage breadth, depth, application, synthesis and originality of approach.

Key Objectives

1. To provide critical analysis of current community care principles, policy and practice.
2. To explore policy developments in assessment, care management and planning.
3. To develop a greater awareness of the need for critical evaluation and reflection in community care practice.

COURSE STRUCTURE (1) : PgCert and PgDip Level

The PgCert/PgDip in Community Care currently offers four core modules (one of which is a double module) and five optional modules. Levels are completed as follows :

Certificate level : four modules, consisting of 3 core modules and 1 optional module (from a limited menu), amounting to 60 credits.

Diploma level : eight modules, consisting of 4 core modules and 4 optional modules, amounting to 120 credits.

The Course Director reserves the right to alter the optional modules on offer in any given session to take account of student numbers and demand.

A module consists of 20 hours of class-contact time made up of lectures, seminars or other similar activity. To complete a module a student must attend classes and successfully complete the assessment for that module. Significant additional private study in addition to class contact is also part of the workload of students.

The Academic Year

Teaching within the PgCert/PgDip is based on three ten week sessions, covered by two semesters. Three modules are taught each session and teaching usually takes place between 9.00am and 4.30pm each Wednesday during term time. Teaching in each session will commence on the following dates (provisional):

	Session Starts	Session Ends
Semester One		
Session One	6 October 2010	8 December 2010
Semester Two		
Session Two	19 January 2011	23 March 2010
Session Three	20 April 2010	22 June 2010

Modules

Core Modules:

Principles of Community Care
Research Methods in Community Care
Practice of Community Care (Double module)

Optional Modules:

Values and Ethics in Community Care
Interprofessional Working in Community Care
Community Care and Older People
Community Care and People with Mental Health Problems
Community Care and People with Learning Disabilities

COURSE STRUCTURE (2) : MSc Level

Students who have satisfactorily completed the Diploma may, subject to the advice of the Course Director, progress to MSc. Students undertake an independent piece of research and complete a 15,000 word dissertation. Students are expected to have one day per week for 12 months released from their jobs to complete their research and be available for supervision meetings.

Candidates will be required to undertake an approved research study on an aspect of community care under the direction of a designated academic supervisor.

Only in exceptional circumstances will an extension be allowed. Applications for extensions must be made to the Course Director in the first instance and require the approval of the Higher Degrees Committee of the Universities of Strathclyde. An additional fee may be payable for the extension.

The possible outcomes for a submitted thesis are:

- a) pass;
- b) pass subject to changing minor typographical or other errors corrected to the satisfaction of the Internal Examiners
- c) fail with one opportunity to re-write, re-submit and be re-examined;

A Candidate who fails (and is not resubmitting) receives the award of Diploma in Community Care as s/he has already satisfied the examiners in the taught part of the course.

A time limit will be set in each case for resubmission or for changes to be made.

COURSE STRUCTURE (3) : Continuing Professional Development

The course was successfully reviewed by the University in 2008. The proposals of the review included the provision of individual modules – as per the modular outline – to be offered on a CPD basis.

Enquiries about undertaking individual modules for the purposes of CPD can be made direct to the Course Director.

MODULE DESCRIPTORS (1 of 3)

Principles in Community Care (GW916)

This module provides a conceptual framework for understanding community care. It does this by linking community care to its historical context, the historical development of community care; the political and policy frameworks of community care; considering the idea of community; considering the idea of care; conceptualizing needs and wants; welfare reform and public attitudes; risks; rights and responsibilities, introducing the notion of the social construction of key elements of the community care debate and offers a grounding in social science enquiry. In this sense the module underpins the community care course and allows students to develop the necessary conceptual toolkit to be better able to unpack the material in subsequent modules.

Values and Ethics in Community Care (GW919)

The primary purpose of this module is to provide students with the opportunity to sharpen their critical faculties related to ethical decision making. Students will have the opportunity to explore their own value base, their construction of moral worth, how this has been influenced by historic and current thinking related to ethics, and how this informs their own practice. Significant focus is dedicated to developing student capacity to identify and analyse the ethical dimensions of events and situations, particularly practice situations that typically arise in community care. Students are also encouraged to locate changes in issues, such as ethical thinking and notions of consent, in a wider political and historical context, thus noting how the ethical guidelines surrounding community care practice have changed over time and are essentially socially constructed.

Practice of Community Care (GW928)

This double module is a key part of the community care course, in providing a deeper understanding of the theoretical and policy framework underpinning current community care practice. This is a core module that links well with the Principles module and provides a good introduction to some of the key themes which are explored in the optional modules. The modules will use practice examples. The sessions will include: the planning process - community care plans; the framework for involvement of the service user; assessment of individual need - simple and complex; the role of the care manager - alternative models; design and implementation of the care plan; working with a devolved budget; the role of the independent sector; the nature of the service contract; issues of choice and empowerment; monitoring and review; maintaining standards - inspection and complaints procedures; aggregating unmet need.

MODULE DESCRIPTORS (2 of 3)

Interprofessional Working in Community Care (GW929)

This module examines the potential and problems of interprofessional working. Community care practice is covered by a range of professions across health, social work and housing: much recent legislation has focused on closer, often integrated, working relationships between agencies. Much of this push towards integrated working is speculative: the module offers a critical take on the policy drivers, research evidence of sustainable interprofessional working and problems of implementation. The module starts by looking at the policy drivers behind interprofessional working, before considering professions, roles and power; drivers and barriers to inter-professional working, managing interprofessional change and delivering interprofessional working through teams.

Community Care and Older People (GW922)

The aim of this module is for students to develop a deeper understanding of the main issues in community support for older people. Community care and older people is a key area of community care practice. The module will provide an outline of the demographic background underpinning community provision to older people, including the incidence and characteristics of dementia. Against this background the sociological and psychological features of later life will be explored. Details of assessment and care management specific to older people will be highlighted. The continuum of services from independent living to hospital bed will be examined, including case studies of more innovative ways of responding to individual assessed need.

Community Care and People with Mental Health Problems (GW923)

Community care and people with mental health problems is a key area of community care practice. The module will outline the demography and epidemiology of mental illness and relate this to provision of services. Assumptions regarding need and outcomes will be challenged from a variety of perspectives, including different critical and social models and will consider the role of mental health improvement and inequalities, including stigma and recovery, in how services are designed and delivered.

MODULE DESCRIPTORS (3 of 3)

Community Care and People with Learning Disabilities (GW924)

Services to people with learning disabilities are a significant part of the community landscape in Scotland. Spend on services for people with learning disabilities is second only to those for older people with a significant number percentage of the community care workforce employed to work with this group of service users. The module provides an outline of the theories and values underpinning various approaches to the needs of people with learning disabilities. Within this framework participants will develop an understanding of how community care policy and practice can respond effectively to the needs of people with learning disabilities. A range of services and the policy framework within which they are provided will be examined with a view to understanding their potential contribution to the inclusion of people with learning disabilities in our society.

Research Methods in Community Care (GW927)

The aim of this module is to introduce students to the key components of the research process and to provide students with an overview of the range of different methods and the criteria for selection. This knowledge is designed both to enhance students' ability to critically appraise research undertaken by others and to provide them with the basis for developing a research protocol for a piece of research. This core module is essential in terms of developing students' ability to undertake their practice in a way that is informed by the best available evidence base as well as equipping them with the skills necessary for undertaking research as part of the Masters dissertation or within their own practice.

The module will include the following:

- an outline of the role of research and evaluation in community care
- a review of basic principles and concepts employed in research and evaluation including the role of objectives and outcomes measures
- pluralistic evaluation
- specification of a research project - devising research questions, selecting appropriate methodologies and developing a research protocol
- the key components of quantitative and qualitative research
- designing interviews, questionnaires and observations
- analysing data.

ASSESSMENT

Students are expected to attend all teaching sessions for each module they have selected. A minimum of two thirds attendance for each module is required to be eligible for assessment. Assessment will usually be by coursework.

Candidates will be allowed up to two attempts to pass an assessment. An extension of a course work deadline will only be granted in exceptional circumstances, and must be agreed in advance with the module co-ordinator.

Failure to submit a coursework assignment on time, without the prior agreement of the module co-ordinator, will be deemed a Fail. If a candidate's submitted coursework is of an unsatisfactory standard s/he may (a) be asked to rewrite it or (b) be asked to undertake a new assessment.

Final Assessment

The meeting of examiners to make recommendations for the award of PgCert/PgDip and progress to the MSc will take place in October.

The Role of the External Examiner

Assessment methods and questions are agreed with an external examiner. The external examiner routinely sees a sample of course work.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

Before being admitted to study, leading to the qualifications of PgCert/PgDip/MSc in Community Care, a candidate must satisfy the following conditions:

- a) i) He or she must have obtained a degree in a university or college recognised for this purpose by the Court of the University of Strathclyde, or a degree awarded by the Council for National Academic Awards;
or
- ii) he or she must have obtained a diploma or certificate recognised as equivalent to a degree for this purpose by the Court of the University of Strathclyde;
or
- iii) in exceptional circumstances, he or she must have obtained other such qualification(s) and/or experience as may be recognised for this purpose by the Court of the University of Strathclyde;
and
- b) he or she must have fulfilled other such entry requirements as may be specified from time to time
and
- c) he or she must have satisfied the Course Director of his/her fitness to undertake advanced study.

Sources of Funding

The following websites offer information about funding opportunities :

www.strath.ac.uk/igo/

www.trustfunding.org.uk

Applications

Applicants may be invited to attend an interview before being offered a place on the course. Interviews will normally take place in July or August.

GUIDANCE ON THE COMPLETION OF THE APPLICATION FORM.

Applications should be completed online direct from the University website :

**[www.strath.ac.uk/gssw/gsswcourses/
postgraduate_community_care_programme/](http://www.strath.ac.uk/gssw/gsswcourses/postgraduate_community_care_programme/)**

Click on apply and follow the instructions as you are prompted. When you have completed the online application form you will be sent an email confirming receipt of your application and providing you with a unique user name and password. Keep this in a safe place as you will need to log into your application at various stages of the process.

If you are unable to electronically upload your qualifications, please send them to us by post quoting your admission number.

Referees

Your application will be processed only when both references have been received at the University. Please ensure you supply an email address for each referee when completing your online application so that we may write to them directly and allow them complete the online reference form.

Failure to supply references may delay your application and prevent your commencement on the Programme.

APPENDIX ONE

University of Strathclyde

Jordanhill Campus Car Parking

Procedure for Car Parking Permit Applications

Background:

Whilst travelling to the Jordanhill Campus by car may seem the easiest option, this is not actually the case. There are **500** student car parking spaces on campus for a total student population of **3,500**.

There is no charge for on-street parking outwith the campus grounds, however the neighbourhood of Jordanhill is comprised of narrow streets of terraced houses and flats. This means that the majority of residents park on the street outside their own home and parking may prove difficult. There is also the added restriction of school patrol crossings (there are 2 schools in the immediate area).

The 500 student campus parking spaces are controlled by issue of a permit and an application form and details of how to apply are to be found online at www.strathstudents.com. You can apply for a permit from July however please be aware that priority will be given to those with greatest need and then, should there be any permits still available, a draw will be held. If you don't have a parking permit you will not be allowed on campus with your car.

You are urged to consider using public transport where possible:

Bus

- The nearest bus stops are on Southbrae Drive (No.44A), Crow Road (No16) and Anniesland Road (No.66). There is also an inter-campus bus service which runs from the city centre campus to the Jordanhill campus and is free of charge. There is a bus stop on George Street outside the Royal College Building and on Cathedral Street near Montrose Street. A timetable is available online : www.strath.ac.uk/visiting/gettingaroundcampus/inter-campusbusservice/timetables/

Train

- There are two train stations – Jordanhill (10 min walk down Southbrae Drive) and Anniesland (20 min walk via Anniesland Cross and Anniesland Road). Timetables for trains via both stations are available online : <http://www.firstgroup.com/scotrail/index.php>

APPENDIX TWO



MSc/PgDip/PgCert in Community Care

PROGRAMME SELECTION

Please indicate at which level of the programme you wish to exit by ticking the appropriate box :

- MSc in Community Care
- Postgraduate Diploma in Community Care
- Postgraduate Certificate in Community Care
- Continuing Professional Development

MODULE SELECTION

Please indicate your module selection by ticking the appropriate box :

- GW916 : Principles (core)
- GW928 : Practice (core)
- GW927 : Research Methods (core)
- GW919 : Values and Ethics (option)
- GW929 : Interprofessional Roles (option)
- GW922 : Older People (option)
- GW923 : Mental Health (option)
- GW924 : Learning Disabilities (option)

(Please refer to page 5 of this Prospectus for information on module selection and module descriptors are provided on pages 7, 8 and 9.)

YOUR NAME : (please print)