

Diploma and Higher Diploma in Health Sciences (Clinical Teaching)

Diploma: Full-time one year | Places available—20 | Closing date for applications: 30 June, 2006 | Commences: 2 October, 2006

Higher Diploma: Full-time one year | Places available—20 | Closing date for applications: 30 June, 2006 | Commences: 2 October, 2006

The purpose of this course is to provide health professionals with the knowledge and skills required for effective clinical teaching and to become successful clinical supervisors and motivators of student learning.



Programme description

In the health professions, much of the undergraduate teaching and most of the postgraduate teaching takes place in clinical settings. Most clinical teachers have little background knowledge of adult learning and have received no formal training in clinical teaching techniques. The purpose of this interdisciplinary course is to provide health professionals with the knowledge and skills required for effective clinical teaching and to become successful clinical supervisors and motivators of student learning. The course is delivered by distance learning and face to face experiential workshops. The Diploma in Clinical Teaching is designed for qualified health professionals for whom clinical teaching forms part of their role or work plan. The higher diploma in clinical teaching incorporates the diploma and adds modules designed to build higher level knowledge and skills in assessment, professional development and learning design.

Programme aims and objectives

1. Demonstrate an awareness of the key relevant theories of learning and how they relate to clinical teaching.
2. Construct learning events or courses based on an understanding of the principles of adult learning and course design.
3. Demonstrate proficiency in key teaching skills such as small, large group teaching, giving feedback, using questions, appropriately and learner appraisal.
4. Implement and evaluate effective clinical teaching using appropriate theory based techniques.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the purposes and effects of assessment.
6. Design and implement assessments of clinical competence and performance.
7. Demonstrate an understanding of individual and group supervision techniques.
8. Demonstrate an understanding of how to design and oversee effective continuing professional development.

ECTS Weighting:

Dip.—60 ECTS. H.Dip.—90 ECTS.

Programme fees and funding

Academic year 2006–2007—Diploma.

E.U. students: €2,600

Programme Content (Subject to Change)

Course title	ECTS
Diploma in Health Sciences (Clinical Teaching)	
Learning Theory in Clinical Settings	15
Clinical Teaching Course Design & Evaluation	15
Clinical Teaching Methodologies	15
Assessment of Clinical Teaching	15
Higher Diploma in Health Sciences (Clinical Teaching)	
Assessing competence and performance	5
Professional Development	5
Clinical Teaching Project	20

Academic year 2006–2007—Higher Diploma

E.U. students: €3,900

(Fees for non-E.U. students will be posted online: www.nuigalway.ie/postgrad/fees.)

Minimum entry requirements

The course will be offered to health professionals who have completed their undergraduate degrees and have achieved full registration status, or equivalent. Applicants must be currently registered with their relevant professional body and actively involved in clinical practice. The course will also be open to registered health professionals (who qualified prior to the modern degree route) and who have a minimum of two years post-registration experience in their clinical profession.

Selection criteria

Applicants will be selected on the basis of the quality of their application measured against publicised criteria.

Examination arrangements

The Diploma will be assessed using (a) problem based assignments and (b) a learning portfolio. In order to progress to the higher diploma participants must pass all modules of the diploma. The assessment of the higher diploma is by (a) problem based assignment, and (b) a clinical teaching project proposal based on existing or planned teaching, including rationale, course design, teaching methods, assessment, and evaluation strategies.

Career opportunities

The programme is designed to contribute to career enhancement and to the professionalisation of clinical teaching.

Programme Director

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