

M.A./Higher Diploma in Health Promotion

M.A.: Full-time one year; Part-time two years | H.Dip.: Full-time one year; Part-time two years; Part-time two years (Marino Institute of Education, Dublin) | Places available: M.A.—18–19; H.Dip.—18–19 | Closing date for applications: 7 April, 2006 | Commences: 4 September 2006

The programme aims to provide students with a professional education and training in the principles and practice of health promotion.



Programme description

Established in 1990, the Department of Health Promotion is the only one of its kind in the Republic of Ireland and is the national centre for professional training and education in Health Promotion.

Both the Higher Diploma and Masters programmes are based on the European Masters in Health Promotion core curriculum and offers students the opportunity of pursuing European based study as an optional module. Attached to the department is the Centre for Health Promotion Studies which has an active multidisciplinary research programme in place.

The Higher Diploma is a taught programme with students having to complete four core modules and four optional modules. The course is taught in NUI, Galway over one full-time academic year or two years part-time attending one full day per week. The course is also delivered over two years part-time attending two evenings per week at the Marino Institute for Education, Dublin. A range of teaching and assessment methods are used, including interactive workshops, workplacements, small group teaching, skills development and contributions from practitioners in the field.

The M.A. course incorporates the taught component of the Higher Diploma programme together with a minor dissertation based on original research which must be submitted not less than four months from completion of the taught course.

Programme aims and objectives

The programme aims to provide students with a professional education and training in the principles and practice of health promotion. Students will acquire knowledge and skills in the following:

- Theoretical background to the concepts and principles of health promotion and the application of theory to practice
- Determinants of physical, mental and social well being
- Key factors influencing the promotion of positive health
- Application of a range of different health promotion approaches and strategies across diverse population groups, topics and settings
- Critical role of the research process and its application in the development of knowledge and best practice in health promotion.

Programme Content (Subject to Change)

Course title

Core Courses	ECTS		Examined
Foundations of Health Promotion	10	Core	Semester 2
Research Methods	10	Core	c/a
Health Promotion Practice	10	Core	Semester 2
Determinants of Health	10	Core	Semester 2
Dissertation (for M.A. students only)	30	Core	Winter
Optional Courses			
Promoting Healthy Behaviours	5	Option	c/a*
Promoting Health and Well being	5	Option	c/a
Re-orienting Health Services	5	Option	c/a
Supportive Environments for Health	5	Option	c/a
European Dimension of Health Promotion	5	Option	c/a
Specialism in Health Promotion	5	Option	c/a

Full course description on departmental web-site:

www.nuigalway.ie/hpr

*c/a = continuous assessment

ECTS weighting

M.A.—90 ECTS. H.Dip.—60 ECTS.

Programme fee and funding

Academic year 2006–2007—M.A.

E.U. students: €7,205 (full-time)

Non-E.U. students: €10,500 (full-time)

E.U. students: €4,240 (part-time)

Academic year 2006–2007—Higher Diploma.

E.U. students: €4,945 (full-time).

Non-E.U. students: €10,500 (full-time)

E.U. students: €2,525 (part-time).

Minimum entry requirements

The Masters is open to those who hold an honours primary degree. The Higher Diploma is open to those who hold a primary degree or professional qualification deemed suitable by the Faculty of Arts.

Selection criteria

Selection is based on the candidate's academic record, relevant professional experience and aptitude for the course. Applications from candidates working in the field wishing to pursue the programme on a part-time basis are particularly welcome.

Examination arrangements

Assessment shall be by means of written papers, continuous assessment and an oral examination. M.A. students must complete the taught programme to second class honours standard and must submit a dissertation not less than four months from completion of the taught course.

Professional Experience Programme (PEP)

The programme includes a core practice module delivered over two semesters. This module incorporates a work placement with supporting skills and practice development tuition. This module is examined by completion of a work placement portfolio and oral examination at the end of Semester Two.

Career opportunities

A wide variety of career opportunities exist for graduates of this programme in Ireland and abroad. Graduates of the Masters and Higher Diploma programmes are qualified to pursue a full-time career in health promotion or to incorporate health promotion principles into their work, especially those in the health and education sectors. Past graduates are employed in statutory, voluntary, community and academic organisations in a number of roles, including dedicated Health Promotion Officers.

Course Co-ordinator (Galway)

Dr. Margaret Hodgins,
Department of Health Promotion, NUIG
Tel.: 00 353 91 49 33 49
Fax: 00 353 91 49 45 47
E-mail: margaret.hodgins@nuigalway.ie

Course Co-ordinators (Dublin)

Dr. Margaret Hodgins/Dr. Claire Connolly,
Department of Health Promotion, NUIG
Tel.: 00 353 91 49 31 86 | Fax: 00 353 91 49 45 77
E-mail: margaret.hodgins@nuigalway.ie
claire.connolly@nuigalway.ie