

# BA (Children and Youth Studies)

NUI Galway offers three exciting programme options dedicated to Children and Youth Studies:

- Arts with Children's Studies
- Arts in Children's Studies
- Arts in Child, Youth and Family: Policy and Practice

Children and Youth studies is an interdisciplinary area, which examines the social, cultural, legal, psychological and historical discourses shaping the lives of children and youth today. NUI Galway has an international reputation in child and youth research, and thus is ideally placed to offer these unique programmes.

## Why Choose Children and Youth Studies at NUI Galway?

- NUI Galway allows you to work with internationally leading experts to improve the lives of children in Ireland
- NUI Galway is a Centre of Excellence in Children's Research and Practice
- NUI Galway offers three unique and exclusive programme options in Children and Youth Studies: Arts with Children's Studies; Arts in Children's Studies and Arts in Child, Youth and Family: Policy and Practice.

## Course Facts

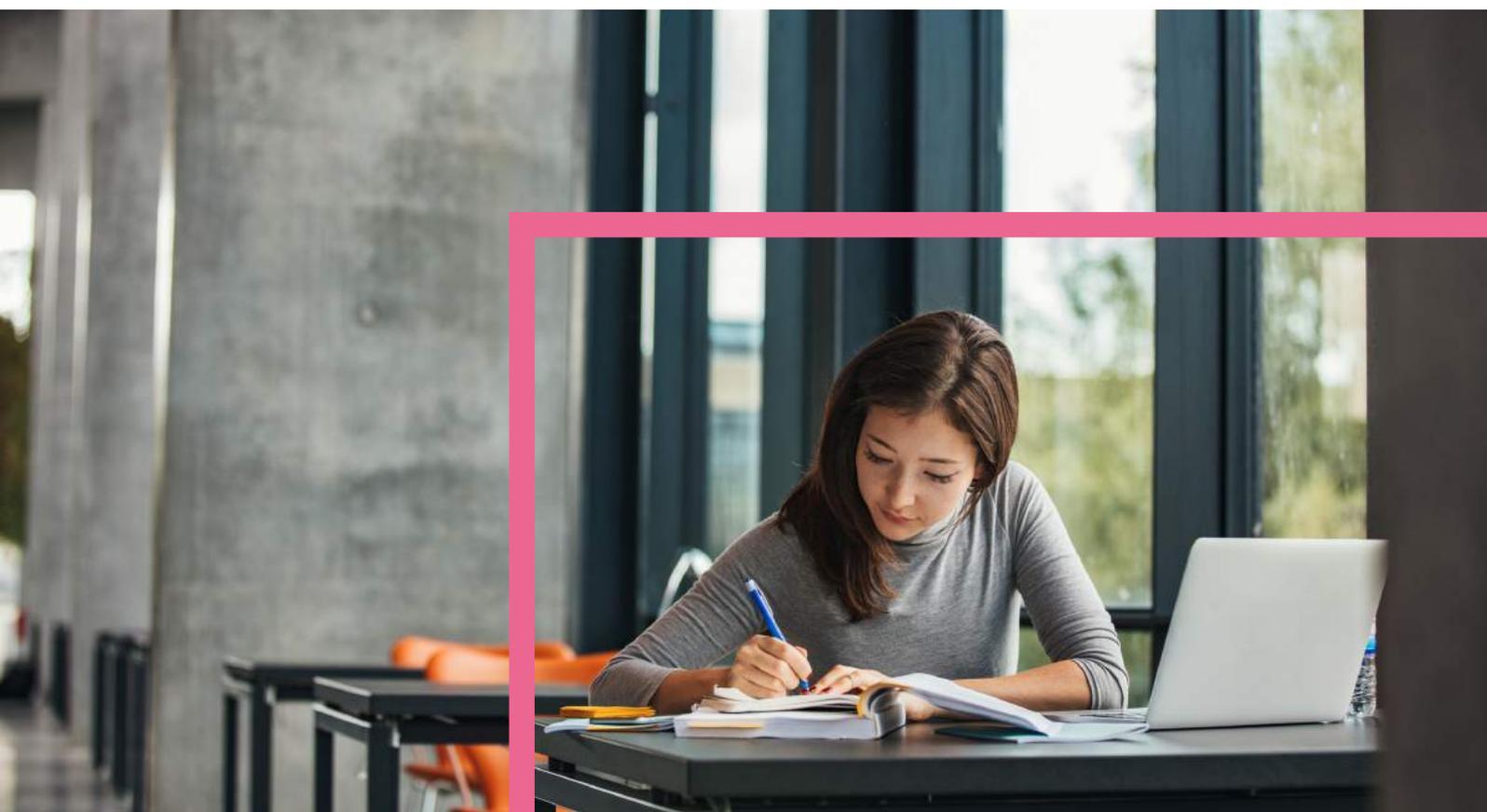
Course Name:	BA (Children and Youth Studies) - Including the three distinct BA programme options as listed above
Course Level:	CAO Code: GY110 (please indicate on your CAO application which one of the three programme options that you wish to study)
Entry Requirements:	Minimum Grade H5 in two subjects and passes in four other subjects at O6/H7 level in the Leaving Certificate, including Irish, English, another language, and three other subjects recognised for entry purposes. Students must satisfy the Garda/police vetting requirements.

**Below is a short description of the three programme options, to help you make an informed decision about the option that suits you most.**

All three programme options are four years in duration and are at level 8 on the National framework of qualifications. The three programme options have been designed to provide graduates with different skill-sets and academic knowledge. Therefore, it is important to familiarise yourself with the differences between these programme options and make an informed choice about which one best suits your aspirations as you will be asked to select ONE of the three programme options in your CAO application. However, it is important to note that it would be possible to transfer between the programme options in the first month, in line with University regulations.

### **Arts with Children's Studies (AWC)**

Based in the School of Education, Arts with Children's Studies (AWC) is the only degree in Ireland and Europe that enables students to combine an Arts degree with a specialism in Children's Studies by taking two traditional Arts subjects alongside Children's Studies to degree Level. This is a versatile degree that students can tailor to their individual interests and ambitions, through their selection of Arts subjects. Depending on the subject combination taken, graduates may be eligible for postgraduate study in law, psychology, speech and language therapy, play therapy, social work, or public policy. The expertise acquired through Arts with Children's Studies (AWC) will assist students in identifying the career path that best suits their particular talents and ambitions. It is the perfect platform from which to pursue careers in social work, advocacy, the creative arts, education and community development and includes a semester-long work placement where students can gain practical experience working with or on behalf of children in the sector of their choice. Students on this programme can pursue an international study exchange or placement even if they are not taking a language as part of their degree. This programme is excellent for students who would like to pursue a career in secondary school teaching by taking Children's Studies with two other subjects recognised by the Teaching Council.



## Arts in Children's Studies (ACS)

Based in the School of Education, Arts in Children's Studies (ACS) provides unique and applied training that is not available anywhere else in Europe. This programme provides students with the knowledge, confidence and transferable skills to identify their preferred career path. Students may choose a language pathway, studying a modern language alongside Children's Studies and undertaking a work placement or study abroad, or a social sciences pathway, opening opportunities for postgraduate study in social work. Students on this programme can pursue an international study exchange or placement even if they are not taking a language as part of their degree. Students on this programme are expected to work with children from the very first semester and throughout the four years, including a semester long placement, thus mixing the academic experience with practice work. Graduates will be well-placed to pursue careers in Education, Community Development Work, and Research, as well as to gain entry to postgraduate degrees in teaching, play therapy, social work, health promotion, arts administration, special education needs and public advocacy. This programme is excellent for students who would like to pursue a career in primary school teaching

## Arts in Child, Youth and Family: Policy and Practice (APP)

The BA in Child, Youth and Family: Policy and Practice is a programme of the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre within the Discipline of Applied Social Science at the School of Political Science and Sociology. The programme is ideal for students who wish to pursue a career working directly for positive change and support in the lives of children, young people and families, whether through frontline practice or shaping effective policy response. It examines the impact of societal developments on children, young people and families over the life course, nationally and internationally. Students learn about the latest policy and practice approaches in the field and gain in-depth understanding of topics relating to the advancement of social justice, social inclusion, and protection of vulnerable cohorts, as well as addressing issues such as poverty, trauma, and conflict. Students benefit from small group teaching and learning strategies with dedicated modules to support personal and professional development. The programme offers exceptional professional placement opportunities that ensure students will acquire both the theoretical grounding and practical knowledge required to work in the sector. Graduates are well prepared to pursue career opportunities and/or further studies relating to youth work, child welfare and family support, educational settings, community development practice, disability services, social work, social policy, civil or public service or research-based opportunities. Related postgraduate opportunities at NUI Galway include the MA in Social Work, MA in Family Support Studies and the MA in Child, Youth and Community.



## Helping you make an informed choice:

- If you want to study two traditional Arts subjects with a specialism in Children's Studies over four years and progress to secondary school teaching or a career in child psychology or law, for example, maybe the BA with Children's Studies is for you (AWC)
- If you want to study 'children' at an in-depth level over four years in a degree that is practice based, and pursue a career in primary school teaching for example, among other careers, maybe the BA (Children's Studies) is for you (ACS).
- The BA Child, Youth and Family: Policy & Practice will be your choice if you want to: study policy and practice relating to children, young people and families in-depth over four years; gain exceptionally strong competencies in applied social science research; and undertake a tailored, nine-month work placement, which prepares you for employment in youth work, child welfare, family support or related areas.

## Find Out More

Prof Michal Molcho and Dr Kate Harvey  
Programme Directors BA (Children's Studies) and BA(Arts with Children's Studies)  
e. [michal.molcho@nuigalway.ie](mailto:michal.molcho@nuigalway.ie) and [Kate.harvey@nuigalway.ie](mailto:Kate.harvey@nuigalway.ie)

Dr Helen Casey and Dr Deirdre Hardiman  
Programme Directors BA(Child, Youth and Family; Policy and Practise)  
e. [helen.casey@nuigalway.ie](mailto:helen.casey@nuigalway.ie) and [deirdre.hardiman@nuigalway.ie](mailto:deirdre.hardiman@nuigalway.ie)

w. [www.nuigalway.ie/gy110](http://www.nuigalway.ie/gy110)

