

Course Specification

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Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	Institute of Education		
Course Code(s):	CF004F31CW	Part-time	3 Years
Course Title:	Foundation Degree (Arts) Early Years Services at City of Wolverhampton College		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Foundation Degree (Arts) Early Years Services Certificate of Higher Education Early Years Services University Statement of Credit Early Years Services		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:	12/Apr/2017		
Last Review:	2019/0		
Course Specification valid from:			
Course Specification valid to:	2025/6		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Mrs Jayne Daly
Head of Department:	Mrs Jenny Worsley

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	City of Wolverhampton College
Category of Partnership:	Supported Delivery of University Provision
Teaching Institution:	City of Wolverhampton College
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS)

You must be employed or have experience for one/two years of working with children and families, or in a long term voluntary placement

Hold a level three qualification (NVQ level three, NNEB diploma, BTEC National Diploma, Diploma in Child Care and Education)

Usually be over 21 years of age

Entry to this course requires a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, if you do not already have one through your employer or as an individual through the DBS update service.

If you have accepted a Conditional Offer made by the University of Wolverhampton and do not hold a valid DBS you will receive correspondence asking you to complete an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. The charge for this will be a DBS fee of £38.00 and a £6.00 ID check service fee. Please note: DBS charges can vary

We also offer the opportunity to accredit prior experiential and/or certificated learning at level 4 through our recognition of Prior Learning system therefore there is the opportunity for a fee reduction in the final year of study

Distinctive Features of the Course:

Starting degree level study can be a daunting prospect. The Foundation Degree in Early Years Services is designed to help you to develop the skills, knowledge and confidence to succeed in your studies with the University of Wolverhampton at degree level. We value and promote your individual engagement, progression and success as all of our staff will recognise and celebrate your unique learning needs. The curriculum in Early years Services will be relatable to you through our inclusive approaches to your teaching and learning experience.

The course at level 4 and 5 offers a unique blend of theories and practices in relation to early year's services. We recognise that you will have a unique learning journey and we will maximise your potential through optional assessment choices such as presentations, written assessments, reflective journals, reports and written plans.

Staff at the university are active researchers and these interests contribute to high quality teaching, curriculum development and innovation which underpin the teaching and learning that you will experience. You will benefit from the latest research in the areas of Early Childhood such as 'mental health and resilience,' 'early year's professionalism,' 'men in childcare' and 'pedagogy of play.' Your teaching team and university staff have a range of expertise and practice in Early Childhood, Special Educational Needs, Young People and Families and Education which will help you to make the link between your learning on the course and your experiences and practice.

This Foundation degree is taught on a flexible basis and allows you to undertake your studies around your working commitments.

You will have the opportunity to use your work-based experiences and complete tasks to accredit your learning in the workplace or use prior certificated learning at level 4 up to a maximum of 40 credits. This will shorten the time you spend studying for this degree.

Educational Aims of the Course:

The Foundation Degree in Early Years Services is designed for professionals currently working within early year's workforce but who lack a qualification at degree level. As a student on this course, you will develop the skills and knowledge required to work with children from conception to eight years, their families and the services that support them. As part of the course you will learn about the factors which affect children's lives and the complexities of family life and children's development.

The linking of theory to your own practice is integral throughout the degree and this will allow you to consider theory in relation to the implications for practice so you can evaluate and develop creative approaches to working with babies and young children. You will also develop the skills of critical reflection and appraisal which will enable you to understand and analyse ethical principles, health and wellbeing, child protection and safeguarding, multi-agency working and how children learn and communicate.

Your learning on this course will involve gaining knowledge about the multiple perspectives of babies, young children, families and communities by drawing on a range of subject areas, such as history, psychology, education, health, welfare, sociology and social policy, cultural studies, law, and political and economic perspectives. By drawing on these different perspectives you will understand and analyse the processes that shape childhood and babies and young children's lives.

Throughout the course there is an emphasis on developing your practical, personal and professional attributes. As you progress through your degree you will have opportunities to develop your critical capabilities through the selection, analysis and combining of relevant perspectives, and be able to justify different positions on matters relating to early years services.

Intakes:

September

Major Source of Funding:

Office for Students (OFS)

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2021/2	H	Part Time	£4110.00
2022/3	H	Part Time	£4110.00
2023/4	H	Part Time	£4110.00

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

September (Part-time)

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
4CF002	Child Development	20	SEM1	Core
4CF012	Role of Play in Childhood	20	SEM2	Core
4SN002	The Reflective Practitioner	20	SEM2	Core
4CF005	Safeguarding and Multi-Agency Perspectives	20	SEM1	Core

September (Part-time)

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
5CF013	Understanding Children's Worlds	20	SEM1	Core
5CF011	Communication, Language and Literacy in Early Childhood	20	SEM2	Core
5ED002	Becoming a Researcher	20	SEM2	Core
5CF016	Health in the Early Years	20	SEM1	Core

September (Part-time)

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
5CF004	Developing Critical Reflection and Practice	20	SEM1	Core
5CF017	Young Lives, Parenting and Families	20	SEM1	Core

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning experience.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Academic Regulations Exemption:

Section 4.4.3 - Exemption in accordance with the standards required for Early Years Teacher Status (granted by the Children's Workforce Development Council). Compensation will not be permitted for the following core module (repeats will be allowed);

4CF005 Safeguarding and Promoting Well-Being (20 credits).

APPROVED by AFRSC.

Reference Points:

[UK Quality Code for Higher Education](#)

[Qualifications and Credit Frameworks](#)

[Subject Benchmark Statements for Early Childhood Studies \(2019\)](#)

[University Policies and Regulations](#)

Equality Act (2010)

Overview of Assessment:

As part of the course approval process, the course learning outcomes were mapped to each of the modules forming the diet of the programme of study. This process confirmed that all course learning outcomes can be met through successful completion of the modules. This mapping applies to the final award as well as to all of the intermediate awards.

Learning Outcomes**Modules**

CERTHE01 Demonstrate knowledge of the underlying concepts and principles associated with your area(s) of study, and an ability to evaluate and interpret these within the context of that area of study

CERTHE02 Demonstrate an ability to present, evaluate and interpret qualitative and quantitative data, in order to develop lines of argument and make sound judgements in accordance with basic theories and concepts of your subject(s) of study.

CERTHE03 Assess the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems related to your area(s) of study and/or work

CERTHE04 Communicate the results of your study/work accurately and reliably, and with structured and coherent arguments

CERTHE05 Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of some personal responsibility

FD01 To demonstrate knowledge and critical understanding of the well-established principles of your area(s) of study, and of the way in which those principles have developed importance in relation to developing high quality early years practice to meet the needs of children and families.

FD02 Demonstrate the ability to apply underlying concepts and principles outside the context in which they were first studied, including, the expected pattern of children's development from conception, play, pedagogical approaches, creative planning of learning opportunities, the curriculum, the learning environment, assessment and where appropriate, the application of those principles in an employment context

FD03 Demonstrate knowledge of the main methods of enquiry in the early years and the ability to evaluate critically the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems in relation to rights, diversity, equity and inclusion when working with young children and families across cultures and societies.

FD04 Use a range of established techniques to initiate and undertake critical analysis of information, key theories, principles and issues of early year's policy and to propose solutions to problems arising from that analysis through development as a reflective practitioner

FD05 Effectively communicate information, arguments and analysis in a variety of forms to specialist and non-specialist audiences, and deploy key techniques of the discipline effectively to be able to reflect critically on their own value systems.

FD06 Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills for employment in the field of early years, requiring the exercise of personal responsibility and decision-making and the development of existing skills and acquire new competences that will enable them to assume significant responsibility within organisations

Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

At the University of Wolverhampton there are a range of teaching and learning activities to help you achieve

successfully on your course. Your sessions will have formative learning opportunities and formative assessment which will help you prepare for your final marked assessment (summative assessment). These include

Active contribution to lectures, group activities, including critical debate and discussion in seminars.

Individual and group tutorials

Individual and group research activities using a range of sources, reading of the literature relating to issues raised in lectures and through independent research

Participation in online tasks and discussions

Problem solving activities and work-related learning and research

There are also a variety of assessment types are used to support and test your learning and progress and to help you develop capabilities that are valued beyond your University studies and into your working life. Your course will include a variety of assessment activity, which may include:

Coursework (for example, essays, reports, project proposals, and case study analysis)

Practical (for example, oral presentations)

An integral part of the philosophy of a Foundation degree is the use of Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). At level four there is the opportunity to use your current workplace experience to claim for up to 40 credits through the completion of a range of work-related tasks. If you do not wish to apply for recognition of prior learning you have the opportunity to undertake taught modules level four modules, namely, Growing up in the 21st Century and Power, Inclusion and Diversity.

Assessment Methods:

At the University of Wolverhampton, a variety of modes of assessment will be used to support and test your learning and progress and to help you develop capabilities that are valued beyond your University studies and into your working life. Your course may include a variety of assessment activities:

Written examinations (including online examinations, open and closed book examinations and quizzes)

Coursework (for example, essays, reports, portfolios, project proposals and briefs, CVs, poster presentation)

Practical (for example, oral and video presentations, laboratory work, performances, practical skills assessment)

In the final year of your undergraduate degree, and at the end of your postgraduate degree, you are likely to be expected to write an extended piece of work or research, such as a dissertation or a practice-based piece of research.

Student Support:

General University support:

Resources for modules will be provided by your college; in addition you are eligible to access University resources. [University Libraries](#) are the key source of academic information for students, providing access to a wide range of books, journal, DVDs etc. Each library offers a range of study areas to allow students to study in the environment that suit them best, including group and quiet areas with access to PCs. In addition the Library enables access to wide range of online information sources, including eBooks, e-Journals and subject databases. See support for [Students Based Off-Campus](#) .

The Library also provides students with academic skills support via the [Skills for Learning programme](#) . Students on campus can attend workshops or ask for one-to-one help on a range of skills such as academic writing and referencing. Students can access a range of online skills material at: www.wlv.ac.uk/lib/skills

The [University Student Support website](#) offers advice on a variety of matters (careers, counselling, student

union advice, etc.) Students can also access these services by booking appointment with the SU, careers, counselling services, etc.

Course Specific Support

- You will be allocated a Personal Tutor
- Specific assessment support will be factored into each module.
- If you have disabilities and/or specific learning difficulties you can gain a wide range of support from Student Support and Well Being team at the university.

Higher Education academic skills will be embedded throughout the curriculum.

Employability in the Curriculum:

A range of employability skills is built into this programme in order that you develop and refine attributes that will be beneficial to you in the workplace, such as sharing information with others, working in groups, literacy and oral skills, leadership, using critical thinking, and becoming a reflective practitioner.

Successful completion of this course can lead to progression onto the BA (Hons) Early Childhood Studies at level 6. You may also choose to apply for Graduate Employment Based Early Years Teacher Training with the University of Wolverhampton. Additionally, successful completion of this course, following further study to achieve your BA (Hons) Early Childhood Studies which could lead to primary teaching, social work, health education, early year's management, children's information services, play services and community family support work.

Also after successful completion on this course If you want to become a teacher you may choose to undertake a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE). You could also choose to apply for a Master's Degree in Social Work or Education or undertake a Post Graduate teaching Certificate in Adult Education.



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