Environmental Design

This module will increase knowledge and understanding of environmental design as a facilitator of health within the context of community based health and social care. Consideration of a range of design principles and practice will be provided in parallel with building regulations and legislative context impacting on the built environment.

Dates: This module is delivered in Semester 2
Credits: 30 credit points at level 7 - (masters level)
Programme outline
The module will be delivered both via Blackboard Learn, the University's online distance learning medium and two days on the Jordanstown campus (9th, 10th and 11th February 2016). The programme will involve screencast lectures, resources and activities supported by blackboard tools. The total number of student effort hours for the module is 300. Students, therefore, are required to study for at least two evenings, or a full day, each week.

Professional body accreditation
The following professional body has endorsed the module: College of Occupational Therapists.

Introduction
This module aims to provide you with the knowledge, understanding, skills and abilities to safely and effectively contribute to the development of adaptations of the physical environment to supporting people in a community setting and the range of other potential housing and assistive technology solutions which may be available.

In addition you will enhance knowledge in a range of design principles for example Universal and user centred Design and of accessible housing forms such as, mobility standard housing, Lifetime Homes, Wheelchair accessible homes.

Alongside this, you will increase understanding of interagency partnership working required to deliver heterogeneity of housing stock and a range of housing options for specific client groups for example people with dementia or people with acquired brain injury.

Who should attend?
Occupational Therapists are currently working in community-based health and social care or those who are interested in transitioning into community care.

Course content
The topic areas covered will within this module are broad in scope and will develop your understanding of housing option appraisal, interagency working. Following the introduction, the module content will be delivered online via Blackboard Learn and the planned face to face sessions. The range of topics will include (subject to change and not full range):

- Diversity of provision within various housing sectors and for particular client groups, will be explored and subsequent funding issues impacting on provision. i.e. Public agencies NHS provision, non-government organisations.
- Legislation, policy and regulations impacting on provision of housing and adaptations for example Disability Discrimination Act.
- To enhance knowledge in a range of design principles for example Universal Design, Accessible Housing, Lifetime Homes, Wheelchair accessible homes.

Assessment
The assessment is based on 100% course work. Students will undertake an assignment that will be based on a case study. The assignment will focus on decision making in terms of housing option appraisal and the optimal intervention for the client. The intervention must be justified in terms of current social policy and legislation.

As part of the assessment strategy throughout the MSc in Advancing Practice the students will be expected to produce a short piece of work reflecting on the learning achieved and how this has impacted on their patient/client interaction.

This piece will be a maximum of 500 words and be assessed on a pass/fail basis. This is an intrinsic part of the assessment and as such must be passed in order to pass the module.

The submission date for the assessment is week 12 semester 2 (TBC) into Blackboard Turnitin.

Further information
Module/Course Co-ordinator: Professor Suzanne Martin, s.martin@ulster.ac.uk
Module Code: OTH810 CRN: 5906

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