Electronic Assistive Technology

Electronic assistive technology has the potential to support the independent autonomous living of people with complex disabilities in a community setting and support carers. There are a wide range of devices and services that can be integrated into the care environment which may be used in a range of applications, for example to manage risk, support self management of chronic disease, and enable independence in the home environment. The clinical application of electronic assistive technology is broad for example including children with autism or physical disability, adults with complex physical needs, people living with chronic disease, or older adults living with dementia.

This course offers participants the opportunity to explore the wide range of devices and services currently available, to develop an understanding of the classification of both, and develop clinical skills to implement technology as a healthcare intervention within practice. The issues of clinical governance, ethical challenges, and aspects of security and privacy will also be considered. Participants in this module will gain exposure to a wide range of resources, which will be invaluable to future clinical developments.

Dates: This module is delivered in Semester 1
Credits: 30 credit points at level 7 - (masters level)

School of Health Sciences
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 (Wednesday 21 October and Thursday 22 October 2015). 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 will increase knowledge and understanding of the integration of commercially available information and communication technologies into health and social care. Consideration of the design, procurement, installation and maintenance of systems for a range of service users will be explored. From a practice perspective assessment tools, outcome measures and ethical aspects of service delivery will also be investigated.

The aim of this module is to provide students with the knowledge, understanding, skills and abilities to safely and effectively integrate technology as a practice intervention when supporting people in a community setting.

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 both enabling and supportive technologies for a range of service users. You will explore a range of device types and gain an awareness how to source devices. Following the introduction, the module content will be delivered online via Blackboard Learn, the University's online distance learning medium. The range of topics will include (subject to change and not full range):

- Defining and classification of the range of electronic assistive technologies
- Governance; ethics, consent, privacy and security issues
- Resources available to support clinicians with implementation of technology into health and social care
- Establishing impact of technology within practice
- Informatics for allied health professionals
- Research informed approaches to practice

Assessment
The assessment is based on 100% course work. The assignment offers the opportunity for the student to reflect upon their area of clinical practice and explore how a technology enriched service could be developed. This clinically orientated assessment enables you to apply your knowledge from the module into the clinical area.

- The submission date for the assessment is Thursday 7 January 2016 at 12:00pm into blackboard turnitin.

Further information
Module/Course Co-ordinator: Professor Suzanne Martin, s.martin@ulster.ac.uk
Module Code – OTH806 CRN-5900

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