****

**Would you like the opportunity to gain a third level qualification supported by UNISON and Western Health & Social Care Trust?**

**Are you interested in improving your practice and potentially pursuing a career in nursing, social work, allied health professions or management in the health sector?**

**If Yes,**

**The Open University module *K101* *Introduction to Health & Social Care,* (level 4) might be for you**

**Applications must be returned by**

**Monday 20th May**

**Places will be offered subject to funding being available**

**Application and information packs available from**

**from UNISON website**

[**http://www.unison-ni.org.uk/education-and-training**](http://www.unison-ni.org.uk/education-and-training)

**or**

**Carolyn McColgan, Vocational Training Team, Lime Villa, Gransha**

[**carolyn.mccolgan@westerntrust.hscni.net**](mailto:carolyn.mccolgan@westerntrust.hscni.net)

**If you would like information on the course contact Fidelma Carolan, UNISON 07796675826** [**f.carolan@unison.co.uk**](mailto:f.carolan@unison.co.uk)





Thank you for your interest in applying for the Open University module Introduction to Health & Social Care (K101) run through Western Health & Social Care Trust in partnership with UNISON.

In order to be eligible to be considered for a place you must meet the following criteria;

* have worked within health and social care (f/t or p/t) for at least two years
* present evidence of completion of a course lasting at least 4 months
* have completed any present relevant training within the Trust by October 2019

Your line manager must be prepared to release you to attend tutorials for up to 36 hours over ten months (plus travel time), and they must sign your application to formally authorise this release. All of those selected will get release from the Western Trust to attend tutorials and to access to the UNISON Study Skills programme and UNISON sponsored project preparation day.

Service delivery is paramount and places will be offered to those who meet the criteria and whose release can be facilitated by line managers.

Course fee is £1008. Funding is limited. Places on this course are funded directly by UNISON (members only), by the Trusts via the Dept of Health and through the Student Finance NI (SFNI) grant programme.

All those who are eligible for a full Student Finance grant and meet the criteria above will automatically get a place. To be eligible you must have

* a household income below £20k for 18/19 (calculated as earnings of you and a partner, if applicable, as evidenced on your March payslip or P60). If your income is up to £25k, you may be eligible for a partial grant
* not already hold a qualification above Level 3 – this includes degree, HNC, HND

All other applicants will be competing for funding from the UNISON/Trust pot. Please complete and return the enclosed application form and the Open University form. If you have questions about eligibility, please contact Fidelma Carolan 077966 75826 or [f.carolan@unison.co.uk](mailto:f.carolan@unison.co.uk)

Further information on the course can also be found at Open University site <http://www.open.ac.uk/courses/modules/k101>



**K101 Introduction to Health & Social Care Course**

**Information for Managers**

**What is the course about?**

This is an Open University course which is being run in partnership with the Western Trust and UNISON. It offers a broad foundation in health and social care and awards 60 university credits at Level 4. It provides underpinning knowledge for QCF modules and is mapped to the Knowledge & Skills Framework. It is also a compulsory module in a number of OU diploma and degree programmes including Nursing (Adult, Mental Health & Learning Disability), Social Work, BSc in Health & Social Care and BSc in Healthcare & Health Sciences. It is open to staff working in any department and from any discipline. The cost of the course is £1008 and places are limited. Places are funded directly by UNISON (members only), by the Trust (subject to securing funding from Dept of Health) and through a means tested grant via Student Finance NI.

**There are four modules**

***Block 1****:* paints a broad picture of care in the UK, ranging from the caring within families, to primary health care, acute care in hospitals and social care in the community.

***Block 2:***explores the impact of care needs and care services on people’s sense of identity and self-worth. Care can make deep inroads into personal lives and life narratives, so it is essential that care workers are sensitive to this and provide appropriate support

***Block 3:***explores the settings in which care takes place and is managed. You visit a wide variety of care environments, from domestic homes, to residential and hospital settings, exploring their physical, social and psychological impact and the extent to which they are enabling or disabling

***Block 4****:*examines how care can go wrong and what individuals can do to try to prevent this. You explore the crucial role of record keeping and the challenges of preserving confidentiality in a busy workplace

**What release is required**? Late September 2019 to June 2020

Study Skills for K101 6 x 3hrs - 18

K101 tutorials 5 x 2hrs - 10

Project Prep Day 1 day - 8

Study Time (as per Trust study leave policy)

Total 36 hours over ten months (plus travel time)

In real terms it breaks down as

First 8 weeks - one session per week, either Study Skills or K101

Next 6 months - less than one session per month - K101

Project prep day - May

**As this is a first year university level programme, students will be expected to do between 10-14 hours per week of personal study in their own time. They have to complete five essay assignments, 4 computer based assignments and one final project.**

UNISON & Western Trust

# K101 – Introduction to Health & Social Care - FAQ

UNISON and the Western Trust are committed to promoting opportunities for development and progression for members/staff.

**What is the course about?**

This course provides a broad foundation in health and social care. It gives a grounding in the knowledge, skills and understanding required in caring work of all kinds – paid or unpaid, voluntary or professional – and also explores the perspective of users of care services. At the same time it prepares you for further study towards a diploma or degree.

***Block 1****:*paints a broad picture of care in the UK, ranging from the caring within families, to primary health care, acute care in hospitals and social care in the community. You will explore the diversity and sensitivity of care situations, the wide variety of modern care services, the interconnections between them and what it is like to care and to receive care.

***Block 2****:*explores the impact of care needs and care services on people’s sense of identity and self-worth. Care can make deep inroads into personal lives and life narratives, so it is essential that care workers are sensitive to this and provide appropriate support. They need skills in communication and in ways of group working, so that lives are enhanced by care, rather than damaged. It also asks how a community can respond to the needs of different groups of people. An in-depth case study of a neighbourhood renewal programme enables you to assess whether such schemes can improve people’s health and wellbeing. You will also examine the work of services, agencies and carers against a background of rapid social change across the UK.

***Block 3****:*explores the settings in which care takes place and is managed. You visit a wide variety of care environments, from domestic homes, to residential and hospital settings, exploring their physical, social and psychological impact and the extent to which they are enabling or disabling. You also consider how people become attached to places and what happens when they have to leave them.

***Block 4****:*examines how care can go wrong and what individuals can do to try to prevent this. You explore the crucial role of record keeping and the challenges of preserving confidentiality in a busy workplace. You consider the pressure on care workers to be accountable, and you explore the roles of research evidence and protocols in ensuring high standards of care.

**Where can it lead?**

K101 is a stand-alone qualification, providing underpinning knowledge for QCF in Care and is mapped to the Knowledge & Skills Framework. It is also a compulsory module in a number of OU diploma and degree programmes including Nursing (Adult, Mental Health & Learning Disability), Social Work, BSc in Health & Social Care, BSc in Healthcare & Health Sciences. Pre-Reg Nurse training is available through the OU, QUB and UU. **Completion** **of the K101 does not** **guarantee a place on the programme.** However, evidence indicates that K101 improves candidates’ ability to reflect learning and practice at interviews for the nursing programme. They also get an exemption from that module in the first year of the OU course. Applicants for the OU Nursing programme must meet the core criteria of a Level 2 English & Maths eg GCSE A-C, Access course or Essential Skills as well as a substantive contract of at least 26 hours. Applicants to nursing in QUB or UU must have GCSE Maths A-C and will accept 120 OU credits of which K101 provides 60 credits in lieu of A Levels. QUB will accept 120 credits on relevant modules for their social work programme.

**How long does it last?**

It will run from late September 2019 to June 2020. There will be 5 two hour tutorials over that time, with additional support from your tutor by email and/or phone. In addition UNISON has developed a Study Skills programme for the K101 course over 6 three hour sessions which will run alongside the K101 tutorials to support your progress. We also host a project preparation day in May.

**Will I get release?**

This course is being run in partnership with the Trust, and release is at the discretion of your line manager. 36 hours of release (plus travel time) are required for the tutorials, study skills.

**Do I require access to a computer?**

Yes, this is essential as much of the tuition is delivered online and you will also have to complete a number of web based tasks, so you need access to a computer and the internet. Basic internet and email skills are sufficient.

**How much work will there be?**

This is a university level course and requires a high level of personal commitment. In addition to attending the tutorials, you must complete five essay assignments, four computer based assignments and a final project. The OU recommends that around 10-14 hours per week of personal home study will be required. All materials are provided.

**Will I get paid more?**

No, as this is an academic course, it will not change what you do within your job, though feedback from past participants has been very positive in terms of improving personal practice. It may also open up opportunities to progress within your job, or to a different job, which may result in increased pay.

**Do I have to be working in the field of Nursing or Care to do this course?**

No, unlike NVQ and QCFs, which reflect practice, this is an academic course. This means that you can work in administration, support services, security, estates, catering, labs or facilities and still apply.

**Is there a cost?**

The course costs £1008. UNISON will provide funding for members though there is a limited budget so a selection process may be required. Trusts will support 3-5 places if funding is made available from the Dept of Health Support Workers Fund. For those who have a household income of up to £25,000 and who do not already have a qualification higher than Level 3 such as HNC, HND or degree, you can apply for a grant via Student Finance NI. This grant is means tested and thresholds increase for a full or partial award linked to number of dependents under 18.

UNISON will provide guidance to apply for the grant for those who qualify. Household income is calculated as income earned by you and your partner (if applicable) between April 2018 and March 2019. You will need a copy of your P60 or March payslip and that of your partner (if applicable) to verify income. It does not include income of other people in your household. If your household is in receipt of Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance, Industrial Injuries Benefit, Child Benefit, Working or Child Tax Credits – you do not include these as part of any household income.

 

K101 *Introduction to Health & Social Care* Application Form

**In partnership with UNISON & Western Health & Social Care Trust**

**Please note – K101 is an academic course and will require structured study time.**

**You should have completed any other current study/Trust courses before applying for K101**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name:** | | | **Contact phone number:** | | |
| **Site e.g. SWAH, Altnagelvin, Omagh, community etc** | **Job title and grade:** | | | **Ward/Dept** | |
| **Line manager’s name & contact number** | | | | | |
| **Are you eligible for a full or partial grant via Student Finance based on a household income of less than £25,000 ? *(Please use information from 2019 P60 form or March 2019 payslip)***  ***Y N*** | | | | | |
| **Are you a member of UNISON?**  **Y N** | | **Have you been employed in the Health Service for 2 yrs**  **Y N Year started \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | | |
| **Please outline courses (of over 4 months duration) completed since leaving school and the year completed? e.g., NVQ/QCF, Return to Learn, Essential Skills, HNC,HND, degree** | | | | |

**Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Line Manager Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

***(Please ensure you have read the ‘Information for Managers’ sheet before signing*)**

**Please complete both sides and return application form**

**by Monday 20th May 2019 to**

**Carolyn McColgan, Vocational Training Team,**

**Lime Villa, Gransha Park, Londonderry BT47 6WJ**

A limited number of places are available therefore a selection process may be used according to the number of applications received. Selection will take into consideration the need to maintain delivery of service and release to attend must be authorised by your line manager.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | WesternTrust-logo |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **PERSONAL DETAILS** | | | |
| **SURNAME** | | **FIRST NAMES** | |
| **TITLE** (Mr. Mrs. Ms, Mx, etc) | | **MALE / FEMALE** **/ OTHER** | |
| **DATE OF BIRTH** (day, month, year) | | **Please state your Nationality:** | |
| **Have you received information from us or studied with us before? Yes or No**  **If Yes, please quote Personal Identifier (PI) number : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (only applies if previous student) | | | |
| **Is your work Part-time or Full-time? What is your occupation title?** | | | |
| **Where is your work location?** | | | |
| **Please state your Highest Level of Education:** e.g GCSE, NVQ/QCF, HNC, Degree | | | |
| **Do you have you any disability, health problem, mental health difficulty or specific learning difficulty (such as dyslexia) that might affect your studies and for which you may need extra support from us?**  **Yes or No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **Are you interested in progressing onto the OU Pre-Reg Nursing Programme? Yes or No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | | | |
| **HOME ADDRESS**:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **Postcode**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | | | **PHONE NUMBERS:**  **Day: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **Evening: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |
| **EMAIL ADDRESS** |  | | |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **STUDY DETAILS** | | |
| **Module Code** | **Module Title** | **Qualification Code** |
| K101 | An introduction to health and social care | T01 |

*We will protect the information you provide, in line with the Data Protection Act 1998. We will send you full details with your course registration pack, or you can look at the prospectus or visit our website for details of our data protection policy*