



# MA/PGDip (Child, Youth and Community)

This MA or PGDip is designed for professionals already working in or for those who have a strong interest to work in the community, voluntary or public sectors. Professionals involved in the delivery of services to children, young people and communities are increasingly required by funders and central government to provide scientific, robust evidence, to measure the social impact of these interventions. Responding to this strong sectoral need, the MA or PGDip in Child, Youth and Community offers a specific skillset in programme planning and evaluation. It is a flagship teaching programme of the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre within the Discipline of Applied Social Science.

## Why Study This Programme

- The programme offers a flexible one year full-time or two-year part-time blended learning approach, with placement and fieldwork opportunities.
- Graduates become proficient in programme planning, monitoring and evaluation methodologies in the context of child, youth and community services.
- It is based in a UNESCO affiliated Research Centre with a dynamic research programme focused on 'what works' in the real world of policy and practice and on utilising community and participatory-based approaches to working with and for children and youth.
- It offers the opportunity to be part of a thriving post-graduate community within the wider School of Political Science and Sociology.

## Key Facts

**Programmes Available:**  
MA or PGDip

**Duration:**  
1 year full-time or 2 years part-time

**Entry Requirements:**  
Applicants will require a NQAI Level 8 Degree at an upper Second Class Honours (2.1) or equivalent in child, youth and family studies, sociology, psychology or a cognate discipline. Where applicants do not meet the formal academic requirements, they can apply for entry through the University's Recognition for Prior Learning Policy.

**Fees:**  
E.U. students / Non-E.U. students can find previous academic year fees at <https://www.nuigalway.ie/courses/taught-postgraduate-courses/child-youth-and-community.html#course>

## Programme Outline

All MA Students are required to complete 90 credits (ECTs) worth of modules – 70 ECTS will be taught core and optional modules. A further 20 ECTS will be awarded for the successful completion of a final research project. Post Graduate Diploma Students are required to complete 60 credits (ECTs) worth of modules, combining core and option modules.

### Core Modules

- Families, Children and Young People: Sociological Perspectives and Policy Issues (10 ECTS)
- Programme Planning and Evaluation (10 ECTS)
- Community Development and Organising (5 ECTS)
- Human Rights and Social Justice (10 ECTS)
- Research Methods (10 ECTS)
- Research Workshop (10 ECTS)

### Optional Modules\*

- Professional Experience (10 ECTS)
- Field-Based Learning (5 ECTS)
- Working with Specific Populations (5 ECTS)
- Applied Gender Analysis (5 ECTS)
- Welfare, Social Change & Irish Society (5 ECTS)
- Social and Political Context of Activism and Advocacy (5 ECTS)

\*The full set of option modules available can be found at [https://www.nuigalway.ie/courses/taught-postgraduate-courses/child-youth-and-community.html#course\\_outline](https://www.nuigalway.ie/courses/taught-postgraduate-courses/child-youth-and-community.html#course_outline)

## Employment & Career

### Opportunities

Upon graduation, students will have the necessary knowledge and skill-set for programme planning, research and evaluation, human rights programming and advocacy, communication and innovative thinking in the context of child, youth and community services. Typically, graduates will seek employment in areas such as youth work, child welfare, community development, national or international public administration, advocacy or research.

### Graduate/Student Profile

“The MA in Child Youth and Community has allowed me to reflect on my professional experience to date while also allowing me to apply theory to my practice. It has provided me with an understanding of what is meant by key concepts such as human rights, evidence-based practice, programming planning and evaluation. Most importantly, it is equipping me with knowledge and language that I can use in the field to hopefully make a difference”.

- Annemarie Shaloo (current student)

Apply Now:

[www.nuigalway.ie/courses/how-to-apply](http://www.nuigalway.ie/courses/how-to-apply)

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis.

## Find Out More

Dr. Danielle Kennan

T: +353 91 495731

E: [danielle.kennan@nuigalway.ie](mailto:danielle.kennan@nuigalway.ie)

W: <http://www.nuigalway.ie/courses/taught-postgraduate-courses/child-youth-and-community.html>