

SPECIAL FEATURES

Skills development

The programme has been designed to encourage students to consider the interface between social justice, criminal justice and children's rights. Students have the opportunity to apply academic knowledge and critical analytical skills to practice and enhance understanding of young people's lives, the criminal justice system and the discourse of children's rights.

Flexibility

This programme involves a blended learning approach offering a mixture of online and face-to-face course delivery. Students have the opportunity to select child and youth focused optional modules from a range of Schools, gaining an interdisciplinary perspective.

Career Opportunities

Possible career paths include work in youth and social justice related fields. Previous graduates have been successful in gaining jobs working for NGOs in the criminal justice and youth justice fields. The programme is also an excellent stepping stone for Doctoral research.

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SCHOOL OF
SOCIAL SCIENCES,
EDUCATION AND
SOCIAL WORK

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Normally a 2.1 Honours degree or equivalent qualification acceptable to the University in a social science or related discipline. Applicants who do not meet the entry requirements should contact the Programme Directors for advice.

International Applicants

International students wishing to apply to Queen's University Belfast (and for whom English is not their first language), must be able to demonstrate their proficiency in English in order to benefit fully from their course of study or research. Non-EEA nationals must also satisfy UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) immigration requirements for English language for visa purposes. Evidence of an IELTS score of 6.5 (taken within the last 2 years), with not less than 5.5 in any component, or an equivalent qualification acceptable to the University is required.



QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST

SCHOOL OF
SOCIAL SCIENCES,
EDUCATION AND
SOCIAL WORK

YOUTH JUSTICE

MAKING A SOCIAL DIFFERENCE

SHAPING
A BETTER
WORLD
SINCE 1845

MSc YOUTH JUSTICE

The Masters in Youth Justice has been designed for those who want to advance their understanding of youth issues, youth offending and social and criminal justice responses to young people. It is focused on developing critical analytical skills and enhancing the ability to assess policy and practice against international standards and benchmarks.

Targeted at practitioners, policy-makers and those interested in further academic study, it provides the opportunity to apply academic knowledge and critical analytical skills to

practice. The Masters aims to enhance understanding of young people's lives, the criminal justice system and the discourse of children's rights.

Given increased policy attention in the area of youth justice and strategies impacting on children and young people more generally, the programme reflects the concern to understand the needs and rights of children and young people and ground responses in evidence, best practice and international standards.



“I really enjoyed how the MSc in Youth Justice had a real focus on the merging of disciplines. The Interdisciplinary focus meant that I got a well-rounded insight to the topics covered. The learning approach was really flexible, with classes both on campus and online, making it easy to work around other commitments. The tutors were incredibly helpful and supportive through the process.”

Laura Wylie

MSc Youth Justice, graduated 2016

COURSE CONTENT

The programme draws on specialisms within the School of Social Sciences, Education and Social Work (in youth studies, youth justice, criminology, social work and research methods). Optional modules are also available within the School and participating Schools (Psychology, Nursing and Midwifery).

A blended learning approach has been adopted which includes a mixture of face-to-face and online learning, traditional lectures, workshops, condensed weekend modules, online discussion forums and guest speakers.

The MSc is awarded to students who successfully complete a combination of core and optional taught modules (120 CATS points) and a research dissertation (60 CATS points). Postgraduate Diploma (120 CATS points from core and optional modules) and Certificate (60 CATS points from core modules).

Students may enrol on a full-time basis only. The MSc will take one year to complete.

CORE MODULES

- Childhood and Youth Research in Practice – 10 CATS
- Foundations in Children's Rights – 20 CATS
- Introduction to Research Methods – 20 CATS
- Perspectives in Childhood and Youth – 10 CATS
- Youth and Social Justice – 20 CATS
- Youth Justice: Theory, Law and Practice – 20 CATS
- Dissertation (MSc only) – 60 CATS (20,000 words max.)

OPTIONAL MODULES

- Child Rights Based Research Methods – 20 CATS
- Economic Impact of Childhood Interventions – 10 CATS
- Improving Outcomes – 10 CATS
- International Contexts of Childhood Adversity – 10 CATS
- Qualitative Data Analysis – 10 CATS
- Qualitative Research in Childhood and Youth – 10 CATS
- Quantitative Data Analysis – 10/20 CATS

“The MSc in Youth Justice provides an opportunity for recent graduates, and those working in policy and practice, to enhance their understanding of contemporary youth issues, system responses to young people and the discourse of children's rights. Importantly, it aims to enhance the ability of students to apply their learning to policy, practice and research through auditing rights compliance, designing research tools, writing comment pieces/blogs and carrying out their own research on an area of youth justice, youth policy or youth practice.”

Dr Siobhán McAlister

Programme Director