

Certificate in

Youth Arts

(Accrediting body: NUI Maynooth)



The **Certificate in Youth Arts** is a part time, year long university accredited course of study in Irish Youth Arts Practice.

(Accrediting body: NUI Maynooth, Dept of Applied Social Studies)



The Certificate in Youth Arts aims to introduce those working in the non-formal education sector to the concepts, principles and practice of youth arts using a context and practice approach.



Image credits: Main photo, Emmet Sheerin. Inset photos, Emmet Sheerin and Kerry Diocesan Youth Service.

THE IMPORTANCE OF YOUTH ARTS

For many years NYCI has prioritised youth arts as a key medium to engage and communicate with children and young people, through NYCI's Youth Arts Programme (a partnership between NYCI, the Arts Council and the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs).

NYCI is dedicated to the development and advancement of youth arts in Ireland. It aims specifically to realise the potential of young people through good quality arts practice within youth organisations and to develop appropriate policies and activities at local, regional and national level.

NYCI aims to ensure that all young people, as citizens, have the opportunity to participate in and engage with arts and cultural practice in Ireland as an intrinsic right (Article 27 UN Human Rights) as well as for its value and efficacy as an educational medium.

NYCI provides strategic support for arts practice in youth work, encouraging the creation of safe and supportive environments that value imagination, originality, daring and experimentation.

An energised, growing and sustainable youth arts community which spans all art forms and delivers quality outcomes for young people, is vital to ensure the future cultural, social and economic well being of Ireland. A vibrant arts sector, of which engaged, creative, vocal young people are a part, underpins a healthy contemporary society.

The ultimate aim of the Certificate in Youth Arts is to further develop and enhance arts practice in youth work, so that more young people have the opportunity to experience arts in a non formal educational setting as makers, creators, participants, audience members and critics.

It also aims to ensure that these are high quality experiences and also to promote the best practice for working with young people developed by the youth work sector and how this can influence and contribute to arts practice in Ireland.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The course is delivered in seven modules via a mix of presentations, group discussion, small group work, personal assignments, guest tutor inputs and site visits.

Past guest expert inputs have been provided by Dr Maurice Devlin, Dept of Applied Social Studies, NUI Maynooth, Orlaith McBride, past Arts Council member and Director of National Association for Youth Drama, Philippa Donnellan, Director of Broadreach at CoisCeim Dance Theatre Company and Elaine Agnew, composer and music practitioner. Site visits have included IMMA, Rialto Youth Project, Axis Ballymun and Tallaght Young Filmmakers.

You can expect to:

- Explore and develop the creative and imaginative skills required for best practice across all areas of youth arts (and youth work more broadly)
- Explore and apply models of good practice in youth arts
- Explore the role and contribution of youth arts to youth work both as a methodology and powerful means of self expression for young people.
- Develop the skills and knowledge to design, plan, deliver and evaluate youth arts projects at a co-ordination level in your own work setting
- Have developed a network of youth arts practitioners, organisations, supports and contacts to aid you in your future work
- Have an effective understanding of contemporary youth arts practice in Ireland

In addition you will have:

- Explored case studies from small scale, limited resource projects through to cutting edge large scale projects across a range of artforms – drama, dance, visual arts, digital film etc
- Engaged with and learned from a variety of youth arts specialists and organisations working in Ireland today
- Explored and enhanced your own delivery and facilitation of youth arts projects

You can expect to have further developed the following personal and professional skills:

- Group facilitation, negotiation
- Leadership
- Project management
- Evaluation processes
- Self Reflective Practice

WHO IS THIS COURSE SUITABLE FOR?

This course is suitable for anyone working with young people, partially or entirely through the arts, in the non formal education sector, who has 2 years' full time (or 4 years' part time) experience working with young people and has participated in or overseen at least 2 youth arts projects in a co-ordination or management capacity in that time.

What background experience should I have?

Please see the information above, but broadly, if you are working with young people, through the arts, in the non formal education sector, then you could be a youth worker, community development worker, a youth arts practitioner or be from one of many other professions.

We prefer to look at what all these professions have in common rather than concentrate on the differences between them.

You will have an interest in and some experience of youth arts practice and have participated in some youth arts projects, you will use youth arts as part of your youth work practice.

*** Application is competitive and we cannot guarantee that those who meet the minimum requirements will gain admission**

APPLICATION PROCESS

- We will begin accepting applications on **Monday 6th June 2011**. The closing date for applications is **Thursday, 4th August 2011**.
- All those meeting minimum criteria will be invited to a group workshop on **Thursday, 18th August 2011**. (You must be available to attend this workshop if you are applying)
- All those who do not meet minimum criteria will receive a letter explaining that they have not been successful.
- The group workshop will include group discussion and activities intended to explore in more detail applicant's background and experience, expectations of the course etc. We will also explore how people participate and engage in a group. It will be led by a panel comprising the arts team at NYCI, the course tutors and possibly an independent facilitator.
- From the group workshop 20 people will be offered places within 5 days of the workshop.
- These participants will be asked to accept or decline their place by **Friday, 9th September 2011**.

CONTENT/ CURRICULUM

Introduction to Youth Arts

Friday 14th October 2011

To promote group identity and explore participants' attitudes to learning and the arts.

Creative Social Education

Saturday 15th October 2011

Sunday 16th October 2011

To provide a broad theoretical framework for the course and outline particular philosophies behind the development of youth arts in Ireland.

Youth Arts Practice

Monday 14th November 2011

Tuesday 15th November 2011

Use models of good practice presented by artists and youth workers to explore the affirming aspect of creative arts.

Methodologies

Monday 16th January 2012

Tuesday 17th January 2012

To demonstrate the means whereby young people can articulate notions of identity through the arts and the training methodologies that might best define and foster these means

Revise and Review

Friday 2nd March 2012

Saturday 3rd March 2012

Reflection on progress made to date and preparation for the rest of the course.

Art Form Specialisation

Thursday 10th May 2012

Friday 11th May 2012

Saturday 12th May 2012

To prepare and provide opportunities for valid aesthetic experience and ultimately the development of good practice. To provide opportunities to develop the skills to implement a personal arts project.

Designing a Youth Arts Project

Friday 8th June 2012

To provide practical, intellectual and educational support for participants in their choice, preparation and execution of a 4 session project.

Delivery of Youth Arts Project

Summer 2012 (in own time)

Participants to deliver a 4 session project to a group on young people in a particular art form.

Presentation of Projects

August 2012 (Date TBC)

Final assessment to panel of experts and peer group.

ASSESSMENT

The course is assessed through assignments of written work. These assessments vary and include essays, reports and evaluations.

All assignments completed during the course combine to arrive at your final mark at the end of the year. Each assignment carries a certain percentage of your overall mark, as outlined below.

- Case Study 25%
- Comparative Essay 25%
- Compilation of practical workshop toolkit 10%
- Project and Presentation of Project 40%

Please note that participants must complete 80% course attendance in addition to their assignments in order to successfully complete the course.

FEES

The overall cost of this course is €1250.00 which includes registration with NUI Maynooth.

HOW IS THE QUALITY OF THIS COURSE ASSURED AND MONITORED?

- The course is continually monitored by a close working relationship between NYCI, course tutors, and NUI Maynooth. Opportunities for students to offer feedback on their experiences are built into the course, as are evaluation mechanisms.
- In addition, independent reviews are commissioned at intervals (2004, 2009)
- The course must meet independent standards set by NUI Maynooth in order to be accredited.
- Course results are verified by an external examiner.

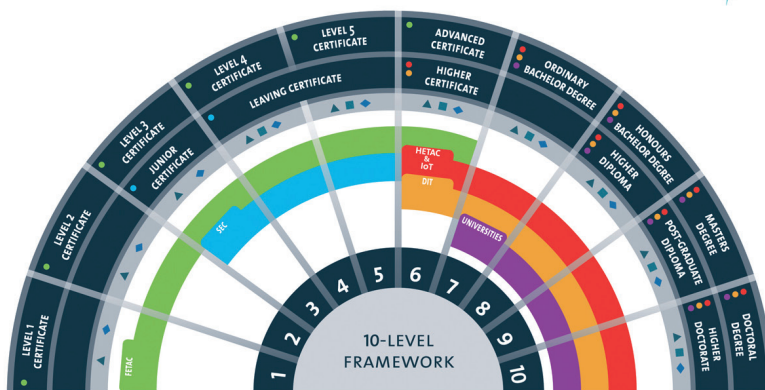
NYCI reserves the right to make any necessary changes to dates, content, delivery and assessment of this course due to unforeseen circumstances. Any anticipated change will be communicated to students as soon as possible.

QUALIFICATION

- The Certificate in Youth Arts is a Special Purpose Certificate, with 20 ECTS* credits and is level 7 on the National Framework of Qualifications.

* European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) is based on the convention that 60 credits measure the workload of a full-time student during one academic year. The student workload of a full-time study programme in Europe amounts in most cases to 36/40 weeks per year and in those cases one credit stands for 24 to 30 working hours. Workload refers to the notional time an average learner might expect to complete the required learning outcomes. The allocation of ECTS credits is based on the official length of a study programme cycle. The total workload necessary to obtain a first cycle degree lasting officially three or four years is expressed as 180 or 240 credits.

NATIONAL FRAMEWORK OF QUALIFICATIONS



AWARDING BODIES

- FEAC - Further Education and Training Awards Council
- SEC - State Examinations Commission (Department of Education & Science)
- HEAC - Higher Education and Training Awards Council
- DIT - Institute of Technology (most have now merged at specific levels under Designated Authority from HEAC)
- DIT - Dublin Institute of Technology
- Universities

AWARDS IN THE FRAMEWORK

There are four types of award in the National Framework of Qualifications:

- Major Awards: are the principal class of awards made at a level
- ▲ Minor Awards: are for partial completion of the outcomes for a Major Award
- ◆ Supplemental Awards: are for learning that is additional to a Major Award
- ◆ Special Purpose Awards: are for relatively narrow or purpose-specific achievement

Transforming Ireland



funded by the Irish Government under the National Development Plan 2007-2013.

For further information consult: www.nqai.ie www.nfq.ie www.qualrec.ie

© NQAI 2009

**PAST PARTICIPANTS
OF THIS COURSE
HAVE SAID**

“THE YOUTH ARTS COURSE ALLOWED ME TO DEVELOP PROFESSIONALLY AND IN TURN EQUIPPED ME TO HELP OTHERS DEVELOP THEIR PRACTICE.”

“THE IMPACT OF THE COURSE ON MY WORK PRACTICE HAS BEEN IMMENSE. THE PLANNING, ORGANISATION, METHODOLOGIES AND FOCUS ARE MUCH CLEARER AND MORE EFFICIENT THAN BEFORE. IT HAS ALSO DIRECTLY LED TO PAID EMPLOYMENT AND GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIPS WITH ARTS, YOUTH AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS.”

**PAST PARTICIPANTS
OF THIS COURSE
HAVE SAID**

“The course gave me space and time, along with a new vocabulary to think about, and therefore understand, what Youth Arts means to me and what it means for society. This increased understanding allowed me to return to my work armed with renewed motivation, new and important contacts, increased policy and sector knowledge, and a fired up imagination.”

NYCI reserves the right to make any necessary changes to content, delivery and assessment of this course due to unforeseen circumstances. Any anticipated change will be communicated to participants as soon as possible.

FURTHER QUESTIONS:

Please consult our website www.youtharts.ie for more detailed information on all aspects of this course and for a list of frequently asked questions and past participant profiles.

Alternatively, please do contact us on 01 4784122.

COURSE PERSONNEL:

Course Director	Dr Maurice Devlin, NUI Maynooth
Course Co Ordinator:	Anne O’Gorman NYCI
Course Tutor	Fiona Smith, NYCI



National Youth Council of Ireland

3 Montague Street, E: info@nyci.ie
Dublin 2, T: +353 (0)1 478 4122
Ireland. F: +353 (0)1 478 3974



NUI MAYNOOTH
Ollscoil na hÉireann Má Nuad

