



Kingston University

School of Social Work

Post-Qualifying Programmes in Social Work: Specialist Level Short Course: Consolidation

- Working in mental health services
- Working with adults
- Working with children, young people, their families and carers



Post-qualifying social work at Kingston University and St George's, University of London

The Consolidation Module ***(The first module at Specialist level)***

The consolidation module is the first module at Specialist level in the new GSCC post-qualifying framework for social work. It replaces PQ1 (Part One of the Post Qualifying Award in Social Work) in the old GSCC framework. It is offered twice a year at The Faculty of Health and Social Care Sciences, Kingston University and St George's, University of London, with start dates in September and February.

In-house programmes can be arranged with employers on request.

The Consolidation module is available in the following routes:

- **Social Work Practice with Children and Young People, their families and carers**
- **Social Work Practice with Adults**
- **Social Work Practice in Mental Health Services**

It attracts 15 academic credits at Level 6 (i.e. *at the level of the final year of an honours degree*)

Prerequisites

Students must be qualified social workers who are currently registered, or in the process of registering with the GSCC. Students will normally be in employment.

How is the course structured?

Students are required to attend for enrolment at the Faculty. They then attend **4 Workshops** (each of 2-3 hours). The first Workshop introduces the module and how to build a portfolio. The other three workshops are designed to stimulate thinking about how theory and research can inform practice and to promote critical reflection on practice.

Whilst taking this programme, students should have regular **professional supervision** and be supported by their line manager. Some students may be undertaking induction programmes at work. Learning on induction programmes may directly inform the portfolio for this module. Students are also encouraged to access in-house training in their agency. This will be helpful in supporting practice development.

All students are allocated to a Mentor who works with students in small groups and on an individual basis to assist them in completing the portfolio. Mentoring may be provided by the student's agency or by Kingston University.

Access to learning resources

Students taking the consolidation module are able to access the full range of learning resources at Kingston University and St George's, University of London (including electronic journals). A Library Induction/E-Learning Session is offered to all students on the module

Assessment of the module

Students produce a portfolio for assessment. The portfolio contains two main elements

1. **A Critical Professional Development Review (1000 words)**. This also includes setting objectives for future development
2. **Reflective Study on Practice (2300 words)** Students appraise their practice with reference to two case studies or pieces of work from their professional practice. They are required to seek at least one piece of service user or carer feedback and reflect on this in considering their development. An observation of competent practice verified by the student's line manager is also required. The line manager or supervisor will read the case or work summaries and is asked to confirm that the student has met the specialist consolidation requirements for social work in their practice area.

Why choose the Faculty of Health and Social Care Sciences?

- We offer an introductory Workshop, with clear guidance on Portfolio completion
- We offer three other taught workshops
- We offer a Library Induction/E Learning session & excellent learning resources
- Students at Kingston University are supported by a mentor who provides guidance in completing the Consolidation module
- Social Work staff who also work in social work practice and Representatives of Service Users and Carers are involved in delivering the workshop teaching
- There are clear pathways on to **completing the Specialist level**. Kingston University offers programmes for the Specialist level at **Graduate and Post Graduate Certificate level and BA (Hons) level** in Children and Families, Mental Health (including the ASW programme) and Working with Adults. The consolidation module forms part of these awards. Students who achieve the consolidation module gain credit they can use towards these academic and professional awards.

Costs of the module: £500 if Kingston University provides mentoring. £300 if the student's agency provides mentoring.

Applying for the Consolidation module

Programmes are offered in **February and September** each year

If you are interested then **please contact our Recruitment Team, Louise Burton on 020 8547 8736 for an application pack and further details.**

If you would like to discuss the programme, please contact Christine Crouch on 020 84578424 or cjcrouch@hscs.sgul.ac.uk

Tel: 020 8547 8732 or visit: www.healthcare.ac.uk or www.kingston.ac.uk/pgchildfamilystudies/
or www.kingston.ac.uk/pgmentalhealthstudies/ or www.kingston.ac.uk/pgcommunitycare/

For more details