

## CERTIFICATE OF VALIDATION

New validation

Validation Process: **Revalidation**

|                           |                        |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Provider Name</b>      | Dublin Business School |
| <b>Date of Validation</b> | 17-Jul-25              |

|                            | Code    | Title   | Award   | Exit Only |
|----------------------------|---------|---|---|-----------|
| <b>Principal Programme</b> | PG26317 | Master of Arts in Addiction Studies               | Master of Arts (Masters Degree at NFQ Level 9)<br>9M22987 90 credits                  | N/A       |
| <b>Embedded Programme</b>  | PG26318 | Postgraduate Diploma in Arts in Addiction Studies | Postgraduate Diploma in Arts (Postgraduate Diploma at NFQ Level 9) 9M22985 60 credits | Yes       |

|                           |                     |                    |
|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
|                           | <b>First Intake</b> | <b>Last Intake</b> |
| <b>Enrolment Interval</b> | Sep-25              | Aug-30             |

### Principal Programme

|                                     | Full Time | Part Time | Delivery Mode: full-time / part-time |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Intakes per Annum:</b>           | 2         | 2         | Full Time, Part Time                 |
| <b>Minimum Learners per Intake:</b> | 8         | 8         |                                      |
| <b>Maximum Learners per Intake:</b> | 50        | 50        |                                      |
| <b>Duration (months)</b>            | 12        | 24        |                                      |

### Target Learner Groups

This programme is designed for learners with Level 8 Bachelors Honours degree at 2.2 or above, with a background in psychology, psychoanalysis, anthropology, sociology, social science, law enforcement/probation and welfare or a cognate discipline, who wish to acquire a postgraduate qualification in the area of addiction. It is also suitable for mental and physical healthcare professionals and social work/care professionals who wish to apply knowledge of the theory and approaches to addiction to their clinical work. In addition, the course provides an exciting and thought-provoking foundation for learners who may wish to subsequently pursue training in the counselling or psychotherapy of addiction.

### Brief Synopsis of the Programmes

The Master of Arts in Addiction Studies is a rigorous and formal exploration of addictions from a variety of academic and scientific perspectives: neuroscientific, sociological, cultural, psychological, anthropological and psychoanalytic. It includes examination of topics of policy, criminal justice, treatment and rehabilitation and case management. The programme is concerned with how these perspectives interact and how they differ. The aim is to educate learners so that they can carry out research in the field of addiction and thereby critically inform policy making, enhance employment opportunities in management and teams of addiction services and inform their own profession. The programme also provides clinicians with a strong theoretical foundation from where to approach the treatment of addictions. A unique feature of this programme is a series of supervised clinical visits. Ten locations are identified which relate to the National Drug Strategy of reducing harm and supporting recovery. Learners are given the opportunity to experience first-hand the application and implementation of the diverse strategies employed, and also can undertake a volunteer placement(s) of up to 20 hours in locations that relate to the National Drug Strategy.

## Minimum Intended Programme Learning Outcomes

On completion of this programme the learner will be able to:

1. Demonstrate critical understanding of the psychoanalytic, pharmacological, social and cultural theories of addiction and its wider context.
2. Critically compare and contrast historic and contemporary medical, social and psychological perspectives on addiction.
3. Identify and critique the issues of professionalism, regulation, policy and on-going professional development, which are relevant to the field at present.
4. Conduct research in the area of addiction through application of appropriate qualitative and/ or quantitative methodological and analytic techniques.
5. Fill gaps in knowledge, understanding and practice of addiction-related issues in order to continue personal and professional development.
6. Critically evaluate the skill set involved in addiction service, and research and demonstrate the skills involved.
7. Display a critical awareness of the principles and practice of social policy as it relates to addiction and related services.
8. Develop applied practice experience in the field of Addiction through practical skills training, volunteer placement and the development of written reports.

### Teaching and Learning Modes

1. Lectures / Classes
2. Practical Sessions
3. Tutorials

### Approved Countries

Ireland

### Physical Resource Requirements

Learners are required to have ongoing access to a computer, related software and a reliable internet connection. Learners will be provided with a full online induction which provides an introduction to the College generally as well as an IT induction and sessions on learning online. This means that for learners their laptop or desktop computer will require a minimum of a supported version of a Windows operating system and 4GB RAM. They will be expected to participate in lectures, workshops, use software and open access online tools in the completion of the learning and assessment associated with this programme. There is no programme-specific technology required for the programme.

| Staff Profiles | Qualifications and Experience   | WTE |
|----------------|---|-----|
| Lecturer       | <p>Lecturing staff will have a minimum of a Level 9 Postgraduate Diploma or Masters and/or PhD in a relevant discipline (e.g. Addiction, Criminology, Psychology, Social Science, Law etc). Additionally, experienced industry professionals and those with research supervision experience from both quantitative and qualitative approaches are required to deliver the programme.</p> <p>In modules where industry experience is desirable, holders of Level 8 honours degrees in the above disciplines, who are exceptionally qualified by virtue of significant senior industry experience may also be considered.</p> | 10  |

| Approved Centres | Centre                        | Minimum Enrolment per Annum | Maximum Enrolment per Annum |
|------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                  | 38628L Dublin Business School | 8                           | 200                         |

| Additional Locations | Location Name | Minimum Enrolment per Annum | Maximum Enrolment per Annum |
|----------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                      | N/A           |                             |                             |

| Learner Teacher Ratios | Learning Activity  | Ratio |
|------------------------|--------------------|-------|
|                        | Classroom Sessions | 1:50  |
|                        | Online Lectures    | 1:50  |

| Programme being replaced by this Programme | Prog Code | Programme Title                     | Validated |
|--|-----------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
|  | PG24066   | Master of Arts in Addiction Studies | 25-Apr-24 |

## Embedded Programme

Validation Process: **Revalidation**

| Code    | Title   | Award   | Exit Only |
|---------|---|---|-----------|
| PG26318 | Postgraduate Diploma in Arts in Addiction Studies | Postgraduate Diploma in Arts (Postgraduate Diploma at NFQ Level 9) 9M22985 60 credits | Yes       |

|                   | Full Time | Part Time | Delivery Mode: full-time / part-time |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| Duration (months) | 9         | 18        | Full Time, Part Time                 |

### Target Learner Groups

The Postgraduate Diploma is an embedded exit only award for those who cannot complete the full Master of Arts programme.

### Brief Synopsis of the Programmes

The Postgraduate Diploma is an embedded exit only award for those who cannot complete the full Master of Arts programme.

### Minimum Intended Programme Learning Outcomes

On completion of this programme the learner will be able to:

1. Demonstrate critical understanding of the psychoanalytic, pharmacological, social and cultural theories of addiction and its wider context.
2. Critically compare and contrast historic and contemporary medical, social and psychological perspectives on addiction.
3. Identify and critique the issues of professionalism, regulation, policy and on-going professional development, which are relevant to the field at present.
4. Understand how to develop research in the area of addiction through learning about appropriate qualitative and/ or quantitative methodological and analytic techniques.
5. Fill gaps in knowledge, understanding and practice of addiction-related issues in order to continue personal and professional development.
6. Critically evaluate the skill set involved in addiction service, and research and demonstrate the skills involved.
7. Display a critical awareness of the principles and practice of social policy as it relates to addiction and related services.
8. Develop applied practice experience in the field of Addiction through practical skills training, volunteer placement and the development of written reports.

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Teaching and Learning Modes | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lectures / Classes</li> <li>2. Practical Sessions</li> <li>3. Tutorials</li> </ol> |
|-----------------------------|--|

|                    |         |
|--------------------|---------|
| Approved Countries | Ireland |
|--------------------|---------|

### Physical Resource Requirements

Learners are required to have ongoing access to a computer, related software and a reliable internet connection. Learners will be provided with a full online induction which provides an introduction to the College generally as well as an IT induction and sessions on learning online. This means that for learners their laptop or desktop computer will require a minimum of a supported version of a Windows operating system and 4GB RAM. They will be expected to participate in lectures, workshops, use software and open access online tools in the completion of the learning and assessment associated with this programme. There is no programme-specific technology required for the programme.

| Staff Profiles | Qualifications and Experience   | WTE |
|----------------|---|-----|
| Lecturer       | <p>Lecturing staff will have a minimum of a Level 9 Postgraduate Diploma or Masters and/or PhD in a relevant discipline (e.g. Addiction, Criminology, Psychology, Social Science, Law etc). Additionally, experienced industry professionals and those with research supervision experience from both quantitative and qualitative approaches are required to deliver the programme.</p> <p>In modules where industry experience is desirable, holders of Level 8 honours degrees in the above disciplines, who are exceptionally qualified by virtue of significant senior industry experience may also be considered.</p> | 10  |

| Approved Centres | Centre                        | Minimum Enrolment per Annum | Maximum Enrolment per Annum |
|------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                  | 38628L Dublin Business School | 0                           | 0                           |

| Additional Locations | Location Name | Minimum Enrolment per Annum | Maximum Enrolment per Annum |
|----------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                      | N/A           |                             |                             |

| Learner Teacher Ratios | Learning Activity  | Ratio |
|------------------------|--------------------|-------|
|                        | Classroom Sessions | 1:50  |
|                        | Online Lectures    | 1:50  |

| Programme being replaced by this Programme | Prog Code | Programme Title                                   | Validated |
|--|-----------|---|-----------|
|  | PG24067   | Postgraduate Diploma in Arts in Addiction Studies | 25-Apr-24 |

# Conditions of Validation of the Programmes Covered by this Certificate of Validation

## Part 1: Statutory Conditions of Validation

The statutory (section 45(3) of the 2012 Act) conditions of validation are that the provider of the programme shall:

1. Co-operate with and assist QQI in the performance of QQI's functions in so far as those functions relate to the functions of the provider,
2. Establish procedures which are fair and consistent for the assessment of enrolled learners to ensure the standards of knowledge, skill or competence determined by QQI under section 49 (1) are acquired, and where appropriate, demonstrated, by enrolled learners,
3. Continue to comply with section 65 of the 2012 Act in respect of arrangements for the protection of enrolled learners, if applicable, and
4. Provide to QQI such information as QQI may from time to time require for the purposes of the performance of its functions, including information in respect of completion rates.

## Part 2 Conditions of Validation Established by QQI Under section 45(4)(b) of the 2012 Act

### Part 2.1 Condition of Validation Concerning a Change in the QQI Award or Award Standard

1. Where QQI changes an award title, an award specification or an award standard that a programme depends upon, the provider shall not enrol any further learners on the affected programmes unless informed otherwise in writing by QQI (e.g. by the issue of a revised certificate of validation). The programme is considered validated for learners already enrolled on the affected programme.

### Part 2.2 Condition of Validation Concerning the Duration of Enrolment

1. The duration of enrolment is the interval during which learners may be enrolled on the validated programme.

Validation is determined by QQI for a specified number of years of enrolment appropriate to the particular programme as indicated on the certificate on validation subject to unit 9.2.1. It is a condition of validation that the programme does not enrol any new learners outside this interval. A typical duration would be five years.

If a provider wishes to continue to enrol learners to the programme beyond this interval the provider must arrange in good time for it to be validated again by QQI, or exceptionally the provider may apply for extension of the duration of enrolment (unit (14)). In this context the provider may apply for validation of the programme from first principles or, alternatively, the provider may avail of the process for revalidation (unit (13)) by QQI.

### Part 2.3 General Condition of Validation

The provider of the programme shall:

1. Ensure that the programme as implemented does not differ in a material way from the programme as validated; differing in a material way is defined as differing in any aspect of the programme or its implementation that was material to QQI's validation criteria.
2. Ensure that the programme is provided with the appropriate staff and physical resources as validated.
3. Implement in respect of the programme its written quality assurance procedures (as approved by QQI).
4. Make no significant change to the programme without the prior approval of QQI. (See unit (8)).
5. Unless otherwise agreed by QQI in writing, start implementing the programme as validated and enrol learners within 18 months of validation.
6. Continue in respect of the validated programme to comply with section 56 of the 2012 Act in respect of procedures for access, transfer and progression.
7. Implement the programme and procedures for assessment of learners in accordance with the Approved Programme Schedule and notify QQI in writing of any amendments to this arising from changes to the programme; see unit (9).
8. When advertising and promoting the programme and awards, use the programme title as validated, and the correct QQI award title(s), award type(s) and award class(es) indicating the level of the award(s) on the National Framework of Qualifications.

9. Adhere to QQI regulations and procedures for certification.

10. Notify QQI in writing without delay of: a. Any material change to the programme; a. Anything that impacts on the integrity or reputation of the programme or the corresponding QQI awards; b. Anything that infringes the conditions of validation; or c. Anything that would be likely to cause QQI to consider reviewing the validation.

11. Notify QQI in writing to determine the implications for the provider's validated programmes, where the provider is likely to, or planning to, merge (amalgamate) with another entity or to acquire, or be acquired by, another entity (see unit (12.5)) .

12. Report to QQI, when required or requested, on its implementation of the programme and compliance with the conditions of validation.

#### **Part 2.4 General Condition of Validation Arising from Specialised Validation Policy and Criteria**

#### **Part 2.5 Special Conditions of Validation**

## Programme and stage schedules

### PG26317 Master of Arts in Addiction Studies

|  |             |   |                 |                                     |                     |                   |                               |                             |                     |           |                        |        |             |
|--|-------------|---|-----------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|------------------------|--------|-------------|
| Name of Provider                                   |             | Dublin Business School                            |                 |                                     |                     |                   |                               |                             |                     |           |                        |        |             |
| Programme Title                                    |             | PG26317 Master of Arts in Addiction Studies       |                 |                                     |                     |                   |                               |                             |                     |           |                        |        |             |
| Award Title  |             | Master of Arts                                    |                 |                                     |                     |                   |                               | Exit Award Only             |                     | N/A       |                        |        |             |
| Teaching and learning modalities                   |             | Lectures / Classes; Practical Sessions; Tutorials |                 |                                     |                     |                   |                               |                             |                     |           |                        |        |             |
| Delivery Modes                                     | Award Class | Award NFQ Level                                   | Award EQF Level | Stage                               | Stage NFQ Level     | Stage Credits     | First Intake                  |                             | ISCED Code          |           |                        |        |             |
| Both   | Major       | 9   | 7               | Award Stage                         | 9                   | 90                | Sep 2025                      |                             | 03.1.3              |           |                        |        |             |
| Module   |             |   |                 | Total Student Effort Module (Hours) |                     |                   |                               |                             | Allocation of Marks |           |                        |        |             |
| Title  | Semester    | Status  | Credit          | Total Hours                         | Class Contact Hours | Direct e-learning | Hours of independent learning | Work-based learning efforts | C.A. %              | Project % | Skills demonstration % | Exam % | Workbased % |
| Addiction: Theory, Practice and Policy             | 1&2         | M   | 10              | 250                                 | 48                  | 0                 | 202                           | 0                           | 60                  | 0         | 0                      | 40     | 0           |
| Systemic and Psychoanalytic Perspectives on Addict | 1&2         | M   | 10              | 250                                 | 48                  | 0                 | 202                           | 0                           | 100                 | 0         | 0                      | 0      | 0           |
| Research Methods and Analysis                      | 1&2         | M   | 10              | 250                                 | 48                  | 0                 | 202                           | 0                           | 100                 | 0         | 0                      | 0      | 0           |
| Addiction Psychopharmacology                       | 1           | M   | 5               | 125                                 | 24                  | 0                 | 101                           | 0                           | 100                 | 0         | 0                      | 0      | 0           |
| Cultural Issues in the Study of Addiction          | 1           | M   | 5               | 125                                 | 24                  | 0                 | 101                           | 0                           | 70                  | 0         | 0                      | 30     | 0           |
| Women and Addiction                                | 2           | M   | 5               | 125                                 | 24                  | 0                 | 101                           | 0                           | 100                 | 0         | 0                      | 0      | 0           |
| Storytelling and Addiction                         | 2           | M   | 5               | 125                                 | 24                  | 0                 | 101                           | 0                           | 100                 | 0         | 0                      | 0      | 0           |
| Supervised Clinical Visits & Placement             | All         | M   | 10              | 250                                 | 48                  | 0                 | 202                           | 0                           | 60                  | 0         | 0                      | 0      | 40          |
| Research Project                                   | All         | M   | 30              | 750                                 | 29                  | 0                 | 721                           | 0                           | 100                 | 0         | 0                      | 0      | 0           |

## PG26318 Postgraduate Diploma in Arts in Addiction Studies

|  |             |   |                 |                                     |                 |                     |                   |                               |                             |                     |           |                        |        |             |
|--|-------------|---|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|------------------------|--------|-------------|
| Name of Provider                                   |             | Dublin Business School                                    |                 |                                     |                 |                     |                   |                               |                             |                     |           |                        |        |             |
| Programme Title                                    |             | PG26318 Postgraduate Diploma in Arts in Addiction Studies |                 |                                     |                 |                     |                   |                               |                             |                     |           |                        |        |             |
| Award Title  |             | Postgraduate Diploma in Arts                              |                 |                                     |                 |                     |                   |                               | Exit Award Only             |                     | Yes       |                        |        |             |
| Teaching and learning modalities                   |             | Lectures / Classes; Practical Sessions; Tutorials         |                 |                                     |                 |                     |                   |                               |                             |                     |           |                        |        |             |
| Delivery Modes                                     | Award Class | Award NFQ Level   | Award EQF Level | Stage                               | Stage NFQ Level | Stage Credits       | First Intake      |                               | ISCED Code                  |                     |           |                        |        |             |
| Both   | Major       | 9   | 7               | Award Stage                         | 9               | 60                  | Sep 2025          |                               | 03.1.3                      |                     |           |                        |        |             |
| Module   |             |   |                 | Total Student Effort Module (Hours) |                 |                     |                   |                               |                             | Allocation of Marks |           |                        |        |             |
| Title  |             | Semester  | Status          | Credit                              | Total Hours     | Class Contact Hours | Direct e-learning | Hours of independent learning | Work-based learning efforts | C.A. %              | Project % | Skills demonstration % | Exam % | Workbased % |
| Addiction: Theory, Practice and Policy             |             | 1&2   | M               | 10                                  | 250             | 48                  | 0                 | 202                           | 0                           | 60                  | 0         | 0                      | 40     | 0           |
| Systemic and Psychoanalytic Perspectives on Addict |             | 1&2   | M               | 10                                  | 250             | 48                  | 0                 | 202                           | 0                           | 100                 | 0         | 0                      | 0      | 0           |
| Research Methods and Analysis                      |             | 1&2   | M               | 10                                  | 250             | 48                  | 0                 | 202                           | 0                           | 100                 | 0         | 0                      | 0      | 0           |
| Addiction Psychopharmacology                       |             | 1   | M               | 5                                   | 125             | 24                  | 0                 | 101                           | 0                           | 100                 | 0         | 0                      | 0      | 0           |
| Cultural Issues in the Study of Addiction          |             | 1   | M               | 5                                   | 125             | 24                  | 0                 | 101                           | 0                           | 70                  | 0         | 0                      | 30     | 0           |
| Women and Addiction                                |             | 2   | M               | 5                                   | 125             | 24                  | 0                 | 101                           | 0                           | 100                 | 0         | 0                      | 0      | 0           |
| Storytelling and Addiction                         |             | 2   | M               | 5                                   | 125             | 24                  | 0                 | 101                           | 0                           | 100                 | 0         | 0                      | 0      | 0           |
| Supervised Clinical Visits & Placement             |             | All   | M               | 10                                  | 250             | 48                  | 0                 | 202                           | 0                           | 60                  | 0         | 0                      | 0      | 40          |