



Would you like the opportunity to gain a third level qualification supported by UNISON and Western Health & Social Care Trust?

Are you interested in improving your practice and potentially pursuing a career in nursing, social work, allied health professions or management in the health sector?

**If Yes,
The Open University module *K101 Introduction to Health & Social Care*, (level 4) might be for you**

**Applications must be returned by
Friday 17th June**

Places will be offered subject to funding being available

Application and information packs available from
Carolyn McColgan, Vocational Training Team, Lime Villa, Gransha
Park, Londonderry BT47 6WJ

Carolyn.McColgan@westerntrust.hscni.net Tel: 028 71865118
from UNISON website <https://www.unison.org.uk/regions/northern-ireland/education-and-training>

If you would like information on the course contact Fidelma Carolan, UNISON
07796675826 f.carolan@unison.co.uk

Thank you for your interest in applying for the Open University module Introduction to Health & Social Care (K101) run through Western Health & Social Care Trust in partnership with UNISON.

In order to be eligible to be considered for a place you must meet the following criteria;

- have worked within the health service (f/t or p/t) for at least two years
- present evidence of completion of a course lasting at least 4 months
- have completed any present relevant training within the Trust by October 2016

Your line manager must be prepared to release you to attend tutorials for up to 60 hours over ten months, and they must sign your application to formally authorise this release.

All of those selected will get release from the Western Trust to attend tutorials and to access to the UNISON Study Skills programme and UNISON sponsored project preparation day.

Service delivery is paramount and places will be offered to those who meet the criteria and whose release can be facilitated by line managers.

The course fee is £893. Places on this course are funded directly by UNISON (members only), by the Trusts/DHSSPS and through the Open University funding assistance programme for those whose household income is less than £21,000 and do not hold a degree.

Please complete and return the enclosed application form and the Open University form. If you have questions about eligibility, please contact Fidelma Carolan 077966 75826 or f.carolan@unison.co.uk

Application forms and documentation must be returned by

Friday 17th June 2016

to

**Carolyn McColgan, Vocational Training Team, Lime Villa, Gransha Park,
Londonderry, BT47 6WJ**

Further information on the course can also be found at Open University site

<http://www.open.ac.uk/courses/modules/k101>

K101 Introduction to Health & Social Care Course Information for Managers

What is the course about?

This is an Open University course which is being run in partnership with the Western Trust and UNISON. It offers a broad foundation in health and social care and is a stand alone qualification offering a Level 4 Certificate in Introduction to Health & Social Care, worth 60 university credits. It provides underpinning knowledge for the new QCF modules which have replaced the NVQ Levels 3&4 in Care, and is mapped to the Knowledge & Skills Framework. It is also a compulsory module in a number of OU diploma and degree programmes including Nursing, Social Work, B.A. in Health & Social Care and B.A. in Health Sciences. It is open to staff working in any department and from any discipline. The cost of the course is £893 and places are limited. Places are funded directly by UNISON (members only), by the Trust/DHSSPS and through an OU grant programme.

There are four modules

Block 1: paints a broad picture of care in the UK, ranging from the caring within families, to primary health care, acute care in hospitals and social care in the community.

Block 2: explores the impact of care needs and care services on people's sense of identity and self-worth. Care can make deep inroads into personal lives and life narratives, so it is essential that care workers are sensitive to this and provide appropriate support

Block 3: explores the settings in which care takes place and is managed. You visit a wide variety of care environments, from domestic homes, to residential and hospital settings, exploring their physical, social and psychological impact and the extent to which they are enabling or disabling

Block 4: examines how care can go wrong and what individuals can do to try to prevent this. You explore the crucial role of record keeping and the challenges of preserving confidentiality in a busy workplace

What release is required? Late September 2016 to June 2017

Study Skills for K101	- 6 x 3hrs	- 18
K101 tutorials	- 5 x 2hrs	- 10
Study leave	- 8 x 3 hrs	- 24
Project Preparation Day	- 1 day	- 8
Total	60 hours over ten months	

In real terms it breaks down as the following but travel time may also be needed

First 8 weeks	-	one session per week, either Study Skills or K101
Next 6 months	-	less than one session per month - K101
Study leave	-	½ day per month (Oct - May)
Project prep day	-	May

As this is a first year university level programme, students will be expected to do between 10-14 hours per week of personal study in their own time. They have to complete five essay assignments, 4 computer based assignments and one project.

UNISON & Western Trust

K101 – Introduction to Health & Social Care - FAQ

UNISON and the Western Trust are committed to promoting opportunities for development and progression for members/staff.

What is the course about?

This course provides a broad foundation in health and social care. It gives a grounding in the knowledge, skills and understanding required in caring work of all kinds – paid or unpaid, voluntary or professional – and also explores the perspective of users of care services. At the same time it prepares you for further study towards a diploma or degree.

Block 1: paints a broad picture of care in the UK, ranging from the caring within families, to primary health care, acute care in hospitals and social care in the community. You will explore the diversity and sensitivity of care situations, the wide variety of modern care services, the interconnections between them and what it is like to care and to receive care.

Block 2: explores the impact of care needs and care services on people's sense of identity and self-worth. Care can make deep inroads into personal lives and life narratives, so it is essential that care workers are sensitive to this and provide appropriate support. They need skills in communication and in ways of group working, so that lives are enhanced by care, rather than damaged. It also asks how a community can respond to the needs of different groups of people. An in-depth case study of a neighbourhood renewal programme enables you to assess whether such schemes can improve people's health and wellbeing. You will also examine the work of services, agencies and carers against a background of rapid social change across the UK.

Block 3: explores the settings in which care takes place and is managed. You visit a wide variety of care environments, from domestic homes, to residential and hospital settings, exploring their physical, social and psychological impact and the extent to which they are enabling or disabling. You also consider how people become attached to places and what happens when they have to leave them.

Block 4: examines how care can go wrong and what individuals can do to try to prevent this. You explore the crucial role of record keeping and the challenges of preserving confidentiality in a busy workplace. You consider the pressure on care workers to be accountable, and you explore the roles of research evidence and protocols in ensuring high standards of care.

Where can it lead?

K101 is a stand-alone qualification, providing underpinning knowledge for QCF in Care and is mapped to the Knowledge & Skills Framework. It is also a compulsory module in a number of OU diploma and degree programmes including Nursing, Social Work, BA in Health & Social Care and B.A. in Health Sciences. Pre-Reg Nurse training is available through the OU, QUB and UU. **Completion of the K101 does not guarantee a place on the Open University programme.** However, evidence indicates that K101 improves candidates' ability to reflect learning and practice at interviews for the nursing programme. All applicants must also have Maths GCSE A-C or Essential Skills Numeracy level 2. They also get an exemption in the first year of the OU course. In addition it is worth 60 credits, 120 of which are required in lieu of A Levels for a full time degree in Social Work at Queens or University of Ulster and for Nursing at UU (plus GCSE Maths). There is also now a part time social work degree available in QUB.

How long does it last?

It will run from late September 2016 to June 2017. There will be 5 two hour tutorials over that time, with additional support from your tutor by email and/or phone. In addition UNISON has developed a Study Skills programme for the K101 course over 6 three hour sessions which will run alongside the K101 tutorials to support your progress. We also host an project preparation day.

Will I get release?

This course is being run in partnership with the Trust, and release is at the discretion of your line manager. 60 hours of release (plus travel time) are required for the tutorials, study skills and some study leave.

Do I require access to a computer?

Yes, this is essential as much of the tuition is delivered online and you will also have to complete a number of web based tasks, so you need access to a computer and the internet. Basic internet and email skills are sufficient.

How much work will there be?

This is a university level course and requires a high level of personal commitment. In addition to attending the tutorials, you must complete five essay assignments, four computer based assignments and a 3 hour exam. The OU recommends that around 10-14 hours per week of personal home study will be required. All materials are provided.

Will I get paid more?

No, as this is an academic course, it will not change what you do within your job, though feedback from past participants has been very positive in terms of improving personal practice. It may also open up opportunities to progress within your job, or to a different job, which may result in increased pay.

Do I have to be working in the field of Nursing or Care to do this course?

No, unlike NVQ and QCFs, which reflect practice, this is an academic course. This means that you can work in administration, support services, security, estates, catering, labs or facilities and still apply.

Is there a cost?

The course costs £893 UNISON will provide funding for members though there is a limited budget so a selection process may be required. There is a limited amount of funding via the DHSSPS/Trusts. There is a grant for candidates with a household income less than £20,000 who do not already hold a degree – partial fee grants may be available for those with household incomes up to £25,000. UNISON will support access to this grant for those who qualify. Household income is calculated as income earned by you and your partner (if applicable) between April 2015 and March 2016. You will need a copy of your P60 and that of your partner (if applicable) to verify income. It does not include income of other people in your household. If your household is in receipt of Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance, Industrial Injuries Benefit, Child Benefit, Working or Child Tax Credits – you do not include these as part of any household income.



K101 Introduction to Health & Social Care Application Form
In partnership with UNISON & Western Health & Social Care Trust

Please note – K101 is an academic course and will require structured study time.
You should have completed any other current study/Trust courses before applying for K101

Name:		Contact phone number:	
Site e.g. Altnagelvin, SWAH, community	Job title and grade:	Ward/Dept	
Work phone no/beep	Line Manager and Manager's Contact Number		
Total <u>household</u> income per annum (if below £26,000) : £ (Please use information from last P60 form (March 2016))			
Are you a member of UNISON? Y N		Have you been employed in Health Service for 2 yrs Y N Year started _____	
Please outline courses (of over 4 months duration) completed since leaving school and the year completed? e.g. a degree, NVQ/QCF, Return to Learn, Essential Skills			

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

Line Manager Signature _____ Date _____
(Please ensure you have read the 'Information for Managers' sheet before signing)

**Please complete both sides and return application form and documentation
by Friday 17th June 2016 to**

**Carolyn McColgan, Vocational Training Team, Lime Villa, Gransha Park,
Londonderry, BT47 6WJ**

A limited number of funded places are available therefore a selection process may be used according to the number of applications received. Selection will take into consideration the need to maintain delivery of service and release to attend must be authorised by your line manager.



PERSONAL DETAILS

SURNAME		FIRST NAMES	
TITLE (Mr. Mrs. Ms, Mx etc)		MALE /FEMALE/ OTHER	
DATE OF BIRTH (day, month, year)		Please state your Nationality:	
Have you received information from us or studied with us before?		Yes or No	
If Yes, please quote Personal Identifier (PI) number : _____ (only applies if previous student)			
Is your work Part-time or Full-time?		What is your occupation title?	
Where is your work location?			
Please state your <u>Highest</u> Level of Education: e.g GCSE, NVQ, HNC, Degree _____			
Do you have you any disability, health problem, mental health difficulty or specific learning difficulty (such as dyslexia) that might affect your studies and for which you may need extra support from us? Yes or No _____			
Are you interested in progressing onto the OU Pre-Reg Nursing Programme? _____			
HOME ADDRESS: _____ _____ _____		PHONE NUMBERS:	
Postcode _____		Day: _____	
		Evening: _____	
		Mobile: _____	
EMAIL ADDRESS			

STUDY DETAILS

Module Code	Module Title	Qualification Code
K101	An introduction to health and social care	T01

We will protect the information you provide, in line with the Data Protection Act 1998. We will send you full details with your course registration pack, or you can look at the prospectus or visit our website for details of our data protection policy