

# Restorative Practices

## Programme 2015-16



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For the prospectus:

[ulster.ac.uk/courses/course-finder/201516/Restorative-Practices-3103](http://ulster.ac.uk/courses/course-finder/201516/Restorative-Practices-3103)

Ulster University Restorative Practices Programme has been developing highly skilled and effective practitioners and managers since 2003. The Programme enables students to reflect critically on policy and practice and have an in-depth knowledge of the context in which they practice. Our Masters and Doctoral programme is designed to increase the knowledge base of restorative practices locally and internationally.

The Restorative Practices Programme is designed for people working in:

- The youth justice and criminal justice systems;
- In education;
- In children and families services including residential establishments;
- In victim services;
- In community and statutory organisations engaged in community safety and the prevention of anti-social behaviour;
- The resolution of conflict and hate crime in intercultural contexts;
- In public and private organisations and trade unions.

## Ulster University's Approach

Our approach has emerged from our direct work on Northern Ireland's highly successful Youth Conference scheme, on high risk prisoners, on community based restorative justice projects, and on restorative schools. We use the Balanced Model of Restorative Justice and our method is based upon narrative dialogue. Our skills training prepares practitioners for the full range of challenges including the complex in the restorative field.

Our teaching engages students in understanding the values, concepts and skills underpinning restorative practices, encourages them in critical inquiry into restorative practices in a range of contexts, and to embed what they find valuable in their daily practice. Our learning methods are experiential and participative.

We recognise that part-time students must fit their studies around busy professional and personal commitments. Most students complete two modules per year. You can expect to be at the Jordanstown campus on one or two days a month between October and March though increasingly you can complete much of the course through distance learning.

Any part of the course can be delivered outside Northern Ireland if sufficient students enrol in a specific locality.

Fees are available from the Ulster website: [ulster.ac.uk/finance/fees](http://ulster.ac.uk/finance/fees)

## Course Structure

The Certificate in Restorative Practices is designed to prepare students to practice competently and is recognised by the Restorative Justice Council's Accredited Practitioner scheme. It can be taken at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. It involves 8 days intensive class based learning restorative practices models and skills followed by reflecting upon practice to demonstrate both competence and the ability to learn from experience.



Those who have gained the Certificate or the equivalent (through the Accreditation of Prior Learning) can proceed to completing a Masters in Restorative Practices. This course enables students to examine in depth the political and philosophical concepts underpinning restorative justice and to think deeply about the application of restorative principles and practices in the context of their choice. This prepares students to undertake an original research study into an aspect of restorative justice in which they are interested.

