

## REQUEST FORM

Enter your details below:

Please send me further information and details for enrolment on this module

Send to:

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## FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

*The paramount importance of a values and evidence based approach is introduced early and emphasised throughout the materials: implementation of any changes should never be attempted without proper reference to the needs of people with learning disabilities in the context of local legal guidelines and a team approach.*

## THE CERTIFICATE

This module can be done as part of the Post Graduate Certificate “Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs”. Each module is rated at 15 Post Graduate points. Completion of four modules from a choice of six will lead to the award of the Certificate.

The modules are:

- Challenging Behaviour
- Mental Health
- Offenders with Learning Disabilities
- Older People with Learning Disabilities
- Vulnerability, Victimization and Abuse
- Profound and Multiple Disabilities

Please get in touch if you require any further details.



University  
of  
St Andrews

## Open Learning Module

## Profound and Multiple Disabilities

*A Post Graduate level module for staff working in supervisory or professional positions in services for adults with learning disabilities.*

## PROFOUND AND MULTIPLE DISABILITIES

A text and web based distance learning course, for people working in supervisory or professional positions in the care of adults with learning disabilities.

**What is it?** – a distance learning course, for people working in supervisory or professional positions in the care of adults with learning disabilities. The Open Learning format is written in an interactive style and contains individual activities, case studies, up to date research findings, structured text and current references. The materials are designed to encourage staff to use their own workplace experiences as a basis for new learning.

**What qualifications are required for entry?** – normally a professional qualification or a degree, or substantial relevant work experience in a cognate discipline, together with at least three years practical experience in the field. Staff will normally be employed in the field of learning disabilities, and will be required to have the approval of their employers

**What level is the qualification?** – the Certificate is at post graduate level, and is accredited at 15 post graduate points (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework level 11). Staff can do the module as a ‘stand alone’ qualification, or as part of the Post Graduate Certificate “Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs”

## CONTENT

**What is studied in the module?** – the module covers what is currently known about ensuring good quality services for people with profound and complex disabilities. For example:

- Classification and terminology
- Developmental aspects
- Communication and intensive interaction
- Meeting health care needs
- Capacity to consent
- Specific health care needs: Epilepsy, Sleep difficulties, Dysphagia
- Behavioural phenotypes
- Mental health and challenging behaviour
- Personal and intimate care
- Sexuality
- Day opportunities and residential provision
- Staff ratios, costs and service quality
- Resources, service quality and user outcomes
- Specially designed environments
- The active support model
- Supporting caring families

**Within each module there are also cross-module topics, i.e.**

- Gender Issues
- Ethnic dimensions
- Genetics
- Communication
- Health Issues

**How long will it take to complete the module?** – the rate of progress will depend on each student’s aptitude, and the amount of time available for study. As a rough guide, we estimate that each module will need around 150 hours of study time, including completion of assignments. We would expect each module to be completed within a six month period.

**Is attendance at University necessary?** – no, this is an open learning module. Students will be supported by telephone tutorials and meetings with tutors if requested. (see “What materials will be supplied?” below)

**What assessment methods will be used?** – two main assessment vehicles will be used in each module, i.e. a series of multiple choice questions, and two, 3000 word assignment based on a review of selected written materials.

**What materials will be supplied, and what facilities will I need?** – Students will be supplied with written materials and given password-regulated access to university library resources, including electronic databases, full text articles and good practice guidance.

**How much will it cost?** – the cost for the module will be £425, including all materials.

**When does the module start?** – there are two intakes each year, in March and October.

**What are the other modules in this series?** – Challenging Behaviour, Mental Health, Offenders with Learning Disabilities, Older People with Learning Disabilities, Vulnerability, Victimisation and Abuse