



Restorative Practices Programme

The University of Ulster has experience of developing highly skilled and effective restorative practitioners and managers who can reflect critically on policy and their practice and have an in depth knowledge of their area of work. Our Masters and Doctoral programme is designed to increase the knowledge base of restorative practices.

The Restorative Practices Programme at the University of Ulster is also engaged in various research programmes examining restorative practices.

We have designed this programme for practitioners and managers:

- in the youth justice and criminal justice systems;
- in education;
- in children and families services including residential units;
- in services for victims;
- in community and statutory organisations engaged in community safety and the prevention of anti-social behaviour and crime;
- in public and private organisations and trade unions;
- in faith based organisations.

University of Ulster's approach

Our approach has emerged out of our work on Northern Ireland's highly successful Youth Conference scheme¹, on high risk prisoners, on community based restorative justice and on restorative schools. We call our model the Balanced Model of Restorative Practices and our method is based upon narrative dialogue. We provide a sound foundation in practice skills, which can be used in complex and high risk situations. We teach restorative core concepts, which can be applied in a range of different contexts. We also engage students in analysing conflicts in modern society and in creating a vision of a restorative society.

Our teaching is designed to engage students in understanding the values, knowledge and skills underpinning restorative practices, to encourage them in a critical enquiry into restorative practices and to embed what they find valuable in their daily practice. Our learning methods are mainly experiential and based upon storytelling and dialogue.

Programme benefits

The University of Ulster offers accredited training at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. Through this programme students can become accredited practitioners and progress to a Masters degree.

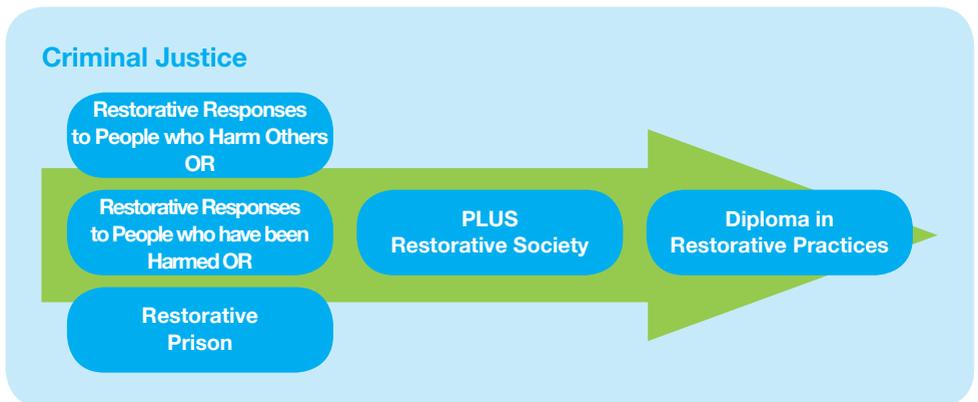
¹ Youth Conference scheme has been recognized as a model of best practice by independent reports including *Rules of Engagement: Changing the Heart of Youth Justice*, The Centre for Social Justice 2012, *A Review of the Youth Justice System in Northern Ireland*, Department of Justice NI (2011), *Time for a Fresh Start*, Independent Commission on Youth Crime and Anti-social Behaviour (2010), *Making Amends: Restorative Youth Justice in Northern Ireland*, Prison Reform Trust (2009). This model has also become an exemplar of good practice in Europe (*Conferencing: A Way Forward for Restorative Justice in Europe*, European Forum for Restorative Justice 2011).

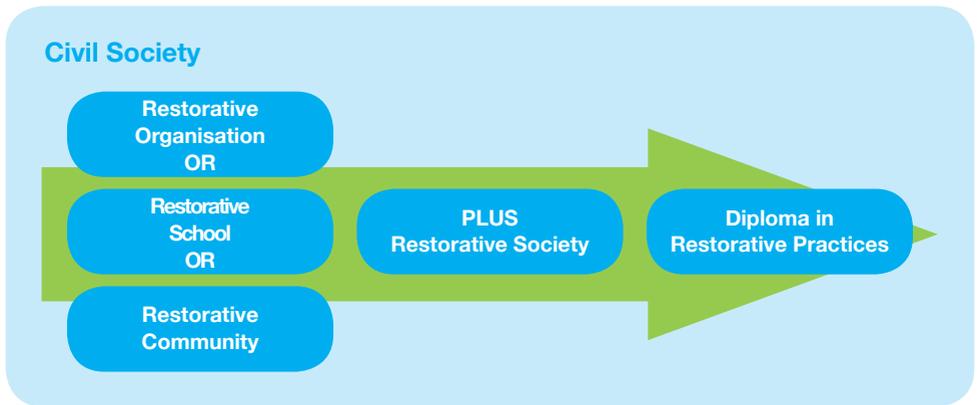
Pathways

ENTRY LEVEL: Preparation for practice (*complies with the Restorative Justice Council's Accredited Practitioner scheme*).

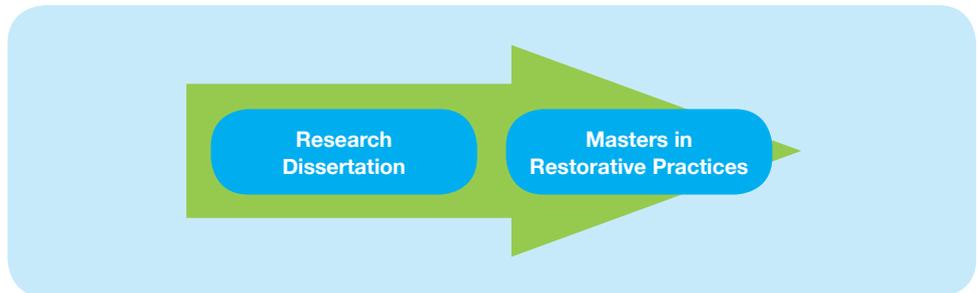


CONTEXT LEVEL: Understanding the context of practice (*complies with the occupational standards for work with victims and the European Directive on Services for Victims and with the PQ Specialist Award for social workers in Northern Ireland*).





RESEARCH LEVEL: Contributing to the knowledge base of Restorative Practices.



Flexible **schedule and delivery**

We recognise that most students will be employed and must fit their studies around busy work and private lives. The course is taken part-time. Most students complete two modules each year. The full Masters programme can take between two and three years. You can expect to attend the University campus in Northern Ireland two days a month between October and April.

The course can be delivered outside Northern Ireland if sufficient numbers enrol from a specific locality.

Our experience

The University of Ulster has been offering the Restorative Practices Programme since 2003. In that time we have delivered:

1. Diploma courses to all youth conference coordinators employed by the Youth Justice Agency;
2. Diploma courses to police officers, social workers, residential care workers, and community youth workers;
3. Tailored modules to over 50 social workers working with the Youth Justice Agency;
4. Family Group Conference training to over 60 social workers;
5. Certificate courses to over 30 community restorative justice workers;
6. Certificate courses to over 30 staff from the Northern Ireland Prison Service;
7. Courses on 'Restorative Schools and Youth Agencies' in Co. Donegal;
8. Supervision of Masters Level research and dissertations.

Fees

Fees are available from the University web site:

<http://www.ulster.ac.uk/finance/fees/>



Further Information

On enrolling please contact:

Ms Lorraine Majury (Secretary) | T: 028 9036 6183 | E: l.majury@ulster.ac.uk

On course content please contact:

Mr Tim Chapman | T: 028 9036 6183 | E: tj.chapman@ulster.ac.uk

Mr Hugh Campbell | T: 028 9036 6183 | E: ha.campbell@ulster.ac.uk

Dr Derick Wilson | T: 028 9036 6183 | E: da.wilson@ulster.ac.uk

www.socsci.ulster.ac.uk/restorativepractices/