

NUI CERTIFICATE IN DIGITAL CREATIVITY IN YOUTH SETTINGS [Level 8]

Offered by the Department of Applied Social Studies Maynooth University
in partnership with Camara Education Ireland and the TechSpace Programme



**Maynooth
University**
National University
of Ireland Maynooth



create | invent | inspire

camara
education
ireland 

Overview

The certificate is designed for youth workers and educators who wish to develop a specialism in the emerging field of digital creativity in youth settings, using technology as a tool to enhance learning activities for young people.

Participants may come from a range of fields that employ the principles of youth-led development; from youth work to arts practice to formal education. The course will have an intake of 10 to 20 (minimum / maximum) participants each year.

The certificate is scheduled for first delivery between January - October 2018 and will be delivered over 7 blocks of tuition using a blended approach of face-to-face experiential and online learning. Included are two weekend residential workshops (February and April) designed to give participants a unique and immersive learning experience that broadens their skills and deepens their knowledge of digital creativity. The final block of tuition will take place in early June when participants design and develop an applied project to complete with a group of young people between June - October 2018.

The certificate fulfills a growing need within the Youth, Community and Education sectors to equip youth workers and educators with specialist digital and STEM skills to design and deliver projects with young people in a variety of youth settings. These specialists are key to enhancing young people's futures by enabling them to build key 21st century skills such as creativity, critical thinking and problem solving, communication and collaboration, as well as digital and technology literacies.

Why this Certificate Programme?

76% of youth workers have not received any formal training in social and digital media.

(Screenagers Republic of Ireland Report 2016).

The term 'digital native' falsely suggests that young people intuitively know how to use digital technologies. But evidence shows that a substantial percentage of young people in Europe lack basic ICT skills.

(ECDL Foundation 2015).

The combined estimates of expansion demand and replacement demand are expected to result in a total annual recruitment requirement of over 6,000 IT related roles.

(EFSGN National Skills Bulletin 2016, p.97)

Certificate Curriculum – 20 ECTS*

The programme is structured around two to three day blocks to facilitate people who are working and need to travel to attend.

The certificate covers 7 fundamental competencies to effectively deliver digital and STEM projects in youth settings. Each competency will develop the participants' knowledge of digital creativity learning models and build their skills to confidently use digital and STEM frameworks, models, approaches and tools to ignite creative confidence in young people. The course culminates in an applied project where each participant plans and delivers a project that showcases their work with a group of young people.

The curriculum will be organised around the following themes:

- Introduction to Digital Creativity in Youth Settings
- Digital Media & Audio Production
- Whole Organisational Planning for Leading ICT Integration
- STEM: Maker and Computer Science
- Emerging Technologies and Introduction to Applied Project
- Applied Projects Exhibition and Course Showcase Event
- Applied Project with a group of young people

Assessment

Participants will complete an assignment after each block and this will be submitted prior to the start of the next block. The applied project will be submitted in October 2018 and assessed as part of the certificate showcase event.

The showcase event will take place in October 2018. The event will be attended by stakeholders from partner organisations (line managers and colleagues), academia, industry, digital, STEM and education fields.

The programme will be coordinated by the Department of Applied Social Studies and Camara Education Ireland. Core staff will be drawn from TechSpace and Maynooth University. Guest practitioners, speakers and industry experts will also contribute.

Jan - Jun 2018

- Run every 4-5 weeks, between January - June 2018.
- The blocks will be delivered over a full working day on Friday and Saturday.
- Two residential weekends in February and April, will run for full days on Friday and Saturday, and a half day on Sunday.

Jun - Oct 2018

- Participants will continue the course with a self-directed, applied project between June and October 2018.

Programme and Learning Philosophy

The programme is unique in Europe and utilises an innovative learning approach to developing digital creativity among young people in youth settings. The programme addresses the continuous professional development (CPD) needs of the youth sector by developing youth workers' and educators' abilities to work creatively with young people in diverse settings.

The curriculum is underpinned by an educational philosophy that promotes non-formal, experiential learning central to good youth development practice. This will include the deployment of a framework for integrating educational technology in youth organisations supported by an established pedagogical approach to digital creativity in youth work.

Over the years, TechSpace has developed into a national movement that aims to change the lives of young people by becoming Ireland's leading creative technology network for outcome focused youth development. Through partnerships with the leading youth sector organisations, schools and industry the curriculum was designed to combine learning from theory and practical application.

You will:

- Learn about the TechSpace approach.
- Learn how to apply 'learn by doing', inquiry based approaches and tools to enhance the delivery of digital and STEM activities to inspire young people to become digital creators, inventors and makers rather than just consumers of technology.
- Take part in digital media and STEM communities of practice linked to the TechSpace Network. You will share your facilitating experiences, observe other participants facilitating, provide frequent feedback on facilitating, design sessions together, learn from each other, and discuss facilitation in general to identify and find solutions that address the needs of your day-to-day job.
- Be encouraged and supported to reflect on your practice, adopt new and innovative practices, and implement fresh and engaging methodologies.

Organisations will also benefit from this increased capacity of their staff.

Maynooth University

The Department of Applied Social Studies (DAPSS) is the longest established provider of professional education and training in youth work and community work in the country. Its mission is to promote human rights, social justice and equality, nationally and internationally, through excellence and innovation in education, research and public engagement that contribute to the development of the social professions and applied social sciences

Camara Education Ireland and TechSpace

CEI is the Irish education hub of the international charity, Camara Education and runs two education programmes in Ireland; TechSpace Programme and Schools Programme. It trains and support all educators, primarily those working with socio-economically communities, to use technology to inspire young people to master 21st century learning skills. Through the TechSpace Network it builds the capacity of youth organisations and schools to run creative technology and STEM education programmes.

The programme is aligned to priorities outlined in Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures (BOBF), National Youth Strategy (2012-2020), National Quality Standards Framework, Digital Strategy for Schools (2015), Digital Agenda for Europe (2014), Screenagers International Research Report (2016), amongst others.

Who Should Apply?

The programme is suited to:

- **Practising Youth Workers** who have a number of years' experience of delivering digital media and STEM education through youth development principles and wish to bring their competencies to the next level.
- **Youth Workers or volunteers** with aspirations to transition to a youth worker specialising in digital media and STEM practices.
- **Youth Arts Workers** responsible for delivering an arts programme who wish to enhance their practice by incorporating digital media and STEM within their work.
- **Other Educators** who see the potential of technology and wish to embed digital media and STEM activities within their services.

We welcome inquiries from people in other contexts who wish to establish their suitability for the programme.

Applicants must be 21 years of age or over on 1st January 2018.

How to Apply?

Application Deadline 15th November 2017

Phone / online interviews will take place the week of 20th November.

Places confirmed from the week of 27th November 2017.

Delivery Dates January - October 2018

Venue:

Maynooth campus

Off campus locations will be used on occasion such as visits to an event, gallery or other relevant locations.

Tuition and Registration Fee €1,200

A non-refundable deposit of €100 will be due when offers are made after 27th November.

Accommodation

Available on campus, if required, with prices starting €32-€45 per person, per night.

To request an application form visit www.techspace.ie/level-8-certificate or get in touch with us at info@techspace.ie or call Clare on +353 (01) 652 2667

