



Virtual
Community
College

Programme Prospectus 2019-2020

Institiúid Teicneolaíochta Cheatharlach



INSTITUTE of
TECHNOLOGY
CARLOW

At the Heart of South Leinster



An Cosán Virtual Community College

For thirty years, An Cosán has been delivering lifelong learning in Tallaght West, teaching from early years to adulthood in communities that struggle with injustice and inequality. An Cosán is now developing a national profile through its innovative and award-winning **An Cosán Virtual Community College (VCC)**. VCC is reducing the digital divide, supporting learners to develop their skills through using 21st century teaching and learning technologies, and offering additional supports to learners to enable them to achieve their full potential.

Our Education Model

An Cosán VCC is at the forefront of educational technology in Ireland. Working in partnership with IT Carlow, we use a blended model of online, live lectures with offline activities, assignments and face-to-face workshops.

Today's learners can access a wide variety of educational options. At VCC, we ensure that our learners have access to technologies and teaching methods that enable them to engage and learn effectively. Learners can access presentations, class recordings, and coursework around their own schedule and at a pace that suits them.

VCC's model of community education builds on foundational concepts of inclusion, participation, capacity building, and social action. Our programmes actively encourage learners' networking and collaborating to achieve both personal and social transformation.

Our Community Partners

VCC partners with community education organisations to support learners to access blended online learning programmes. Hospitality, providing 'a place of heart and home', is integral to our ethos, recognising that learners' basic needs must be met before they can excel in their studies. Centres provide facilities where students can access the technology required to engage in blended online learning and create collaborative peer learning communities.

VCC has established partnerships with a growing number of community groups around the country to share knowledge and experience and to bring community education, particularly higher education programmes, to communities experiencing injustice and inequality.

We see these partnerships as mutually beneficial. Partnerships create valuable, supportive education experiences for students; they also provide a range of e-learning tools and resources to community education organisations and tutors. Moreover, as knowledge and skills develop, community partnerships will allow quality programmes and best practice emerging at a local level to be mainstreamed nationally.

Learner Supports

At VCC, we support our learners fully so that they can achieve their full potential.

- Technology moderators provide technical support and encouragement to learners in advance of and during online sessions.
- Qualified tutors with in-depth classroom experience and subject matter expertise are readily available to discuss programme content.
- One-to-one online mentors are available throughout the programme.
- Learners are actively encouraged to support one another and build collaborative learning communities.

Programme Fees and Bursary

- Unaccredited programmes (6 week) €200
- Accredited programmes (10 week) €300
- Certificate programmes (1 year) €1,800

The course fee includes a **non-refundable** deposit of €50 payable to secure a place. Please note that 50% of the fees must be paid upfront with the balance to be paid before the course finishes. Bursaries and phased payment options available for individual learners.

Learners can access a small bursary/scholarship fund, if required. To apply for a bursary email bursary@ancosanvcc.com for further information.

Where possible, all bursary requests should be accompanied by a note from an organisation, a tutor or mentor with a reference and recommendation for a bursary. All bursaries awarded are partial bursaries.

Format

Each unaccredited and accredited programme begins with an 'Induction Day', a six-hour face-to-face workshop, which introduces students to the course content, the technology, as well as one another. This is followed by weekly live online sessions using a variety of interactive tools. Learners access readings, watch videos, and undertake assignments in their own time and at a pace that suits them. We also offer tutorial sessions in the virtual classroom to help learners with their study skills and assignments. **Unaccredited modules** involve an Induction Day and five virtual classroom sessions. **Accredited modules** involve an Induction Day and eight virtual classroom sessions in addition to a second face-to-face workshop midway through the module. **Certificate Programmes** involve 6 modules over a one-year period. Each module involves an Induction day, 5/6 online sessions and a second face-to-face workshop midway through each module.

Unaccredited Standalone Module	Accredited Standalone Module	Certificate/Higher Certificate Programmes (includes 6 modules)	Description
Induction Day	Induction Day	Induction Day	6-hour face-to-face workshop, including technology induction
5 Online Sessions	4 Online Sessions	3 Online sessions	1-hour online technology refresher at first online session 2-hour synchronous teaching per week (2.5 hours on Certificate Programme)
-	Midway Workshop	Midway Workshop	6-hour face-to-face workshop
-	4 Online Sessions	2/3 online Sessions	2-hour synchronous teaching per week (2.5 hours on Certificate Programme)

Introductory Programmes – Foundation Level Unaccredited | Duration: 6 weeks | Fee: €200

An Cosán VCC's unaccredited programmes provide a supportive, fun, and collaborative virtual learning environment in which we encourage learners to participate actively in their own development.

Introduction to Community Development (Unaccredited)

The **Introduction to Community Development** programme introduces learners to the core concepts of community development and social action. We will use animation, video, and music to examine key themes such as power and democracy in society, the role of the state, the ethics of community development, and digital citizenship. We draw on case studies and learners' own experiences to discuss key issues facing their communities, including youth visibility, identity politics, and community empowerment. Learners will identify practical approaches and strategies to support their community's development.

Introduction to Community Drugs Work (Unaccredited)

The **Introduction to Community Drugs Work** programme explores the causes, course, and consequences of drug addiction and how they relate to the individual, the family, the community, and society. Addiction issues related to diverse populations are presented, and the connections between local and global contexts in relation to drug use will also be explored. Learners will identify practical approaches and strategies to support community drugs work. We will examine case studies and contemporary response alternatives regarding intervention, treatment, education, and prevention.

Introduction to Community Leadership (Unaccredited)

The **Introduction to Community Leadership** programme will explore the role of leadership in the community. Learners will investigate a model of grassroots community leadership in practice, nationally and globally. Learners will also examine the concept of leadership and analyse different leadership styles and qualities. Learners will identify their own leadership skills as well as identify strategies and practices fitting to community leadership development. Learners will also explore the contribution of technology to community leadership. We will draw on case studies and learners' own experiences to discuss key issues facing their communities, including inequality, discrimination, and community empowerment. We will use animation, video, and music to examine key themes such as power and democracy in our community, the role of the state, and digital citizenship.

Introduction to Gender Studies (Unaccredited)

The **Introduction to Gender Studies** programme introduces learners to critical questions about the meanings of gender in society. We introduce foundational ideas, including how gender is socially constructed, how gender structures our ways of being and thinking, and how the personal is political. Participants will apply these insights to a variety of contemporary social, political and economic problems. Key themes for collective inquiry and discussion include the difference between sex and gender, identity, gender inequality, cultural assumptions, media representations, and feminism in the 21st century. An Introduction to Gender Studies will enrich learners' self-understanding, enhance their understanding of the world, and facilitate their advancing gender equality.

Introduction to Climate Change and Environment (Unaccredited)

The **Introduction to Climate Change and Environment** programme introduces learners to climate justice, one of the defining issues of our times. Participants will learn the foundations of environmentalism and apply these insights to a variety of contemporary political and ecological problems. Key themes for discussion include understanding nature and climate change, the role of capitalism, technology and agriculture, and the emergence of sustainable alternatives. We will examine national and international case studies of community-led movements and projects for climate justice. An Introduction to Climate Justice will enrich learners' understanding of the world while developing visionary ideas to change it.

Introduction to Citizenship and Social Action (Unaccredited)

Where does democracy come from? What does it mean to be a citizen? How can we change society and who is going to do it? The **Citizenship and Social Action programme** will explore the ideas and practices associated with democracy, citizenship, and social action. Students will examine Irish and European Union policies regarding citizenship and participation. Learners will further analyse digital citizenship in the age of the internet and social media, as well as strategies and practical approaches to support community empowerment.

Higher Education

Special Purpose Awards | QQI Level 6 & 7 | 10 Credits

Duration: 10 weeks | Fees: €300

An Cosán VCC and IT Carlow provide the following 10-week accredited, blended learning programmes.

Learning to Learn at Third Level (QQI Level 6)

The **Learning to Learn at Third Level** programme is designed to support learners to develop skills and confidence in preparing for education at third level. Students will explore a range of different learning styles and will be introduced to academic reading and writing; reading techniques and strategies; planning, structuring, writing assignments and using academic conventions. The module will also introduce learners to key ideas in social studies.

Citizenship and Social Action (QQI Level 6)

The **Citizenship and Social Action** module will explore theoretical concepts of democracy, citizenship and social action. Students will also analyse specific case studies in relation to citizenship, social action and democratic participation in the age of the internet. Alongside this, they will investigate and identify strategies and practical approaches to support digital citizenship. Finally, learners will examine the Irish and European Union policy frameworks with regard to citizenship and participation.

Community Leadership (QQI Level 6)

The **Community Leadership** module will explore the role of leadership in the community sector. Learners will investigate a model of grassroots community leadership in practice, nationally and globally. Learners will also examine the concept of leadership within the context of social activism and analyse different leadership styles and qualities. Learners will identify their own leadership skills and style and identify strategies and practices fitting to community leadership development. Learners will also explore the contribution of technology to community leadership.

Introduction to Social Enterprise Development (QQI Level 6)

The **Introduction to Social Enterprise Development** module is designed to support learners to develop skills and confidence in creating social enterprises. Learners will explore key theories and concepts, examine the role of social enterprise in the community, and undertake a basic analysis of local community needs. Learners will gain a better understanding of business planning and funding, as well as key governance and management issues. Learners will also plan their future progression paths as social entrepreneurs.

Community Development (QQI Level 6)

The **Community Development** module explores the key principles and practices of community development. It provides an overview of the historical and contemporary infrastructure of the community and voluntary sector in Ireland. Learners will assess diverse community development case studies and approaches, exploring their implications within local communities and wider Irish society. Learners' own participation in the community development process will be examined throughout and consideration given to assessing their practice and approaches through the lens of community development theory.

Group Work and Facilitation Skills (QQI Level 6)

The **Group Work and Facilitation Skills** module will develop learners' understanding of group dynamics, of the principles underpinning facilitation styles and interventions, and of a range of group work techniques. Learners will practice and improve their facilitation and presentation skills as well as their capacity to plan, deliver and evaluate a group. The programme will build on learners' ability to critically reflect on their own knowledge, skills and experience both as a group participant and a group facilitator.

Social Analysis (QQI Level 6)

The **Social Analysis** module will explore key concepts of sociology, including the concept of power and social change. Learners will examine the relationship between social, economic and political development as well as analyse the potential of community activism to effect social change. Particular attention will be paid throughout the programme to Irish society and to the key influences shaping its development.

The Nature and Context of Addiction (QQI Level 6)

The **Nature and Context of Addiction** module will introduce students to the meaning and nature of addiction. Will provide an overview of predominant theories of causation – biological, psychological, sociological and cultural. Will introduce students to the theoretical orientations in the treatment of addiction – medical, pharmacological, spiritual, psychological and psychoanalytic. Will provide an overview of the pharmacology of drug use. Will introduce learners to models of treatment.

Drug Prevention, Education & Awareness (QQI Level 6)

The **Drug Prevention, Education and Awareness** module will introduce students to best practice in the area of preventative education and family support in an Irish context. To provide a general introduction to prevention education theory & practice.

Approaches to Treatment and Rehabilitation (QQI Level 6)

The aims of the **Approaches to Treatment and Rehabilitation** module are to provide an understanding of a range of models and approaches to the treatment of addiction problems. To provide an historical overview of approaches and rehabilitation to substance abuse. To develop an understanding of treatment and rehabilitation as central tenet of the National Drugs Strategy. To give an outline of harm reduction principles, context & approaches.

Community Development Practical Approaches (QQI Level 6)

The aims of **Community Development Practical Approaches** module are to examine community development practices using a cross-sector sample of established community and voluntary organisations. Demonstrate the application of the community development process using a framework to investigate the sample organisations. Identify any barriers and challenges within the community development process observed. Support learners to develop practical skills which are central to the community development process.

Understanding and Managing Conflict in a Community Development Context (QQI Level 6)

The aims of **Understanding and Managing Conflict in a Community Development Context** module are to introduce the main models and strategies for conflict resolution and mediation within a social justice context. Consider the issues which contribute to conflict in disadvantaged communities. Introduce essential skills for conflict resolution and negotiation. Build on participant's ability to critically reflect on their own response to conflict both as an individual and as community leaders.

Reflective Practice, Knowledge, Skills & Attitude (QQI Level 6)

The aims of **Reflective Practice, Knowledge, Skills & Attitude** module are to support students to gain experience as a practitioner in a community development context and integrate relevant theory with practice. Develop self-awareness and core skills to critically reflect on their practice in a comprehensive and ethical manner. Be responsible for managing their continuous professional development.

Leadership & Organisational Development (QQI Level 6)

The aims of **Leadership and Organisational Development** module are to define the role of leadership and its relationship to management in the community and voluntary sector. Examine appropriate organisational structures in community organisations. Explore the importance of governance and current legislation governing the community sector. Explore the process of strategic planning and development and the relevance of evaluation. Explore the shadow side of organisations.

Equality and Diversity (QQI Level 6)

The aims of **Equality and Diversity** module are to introduce learners to theories and concepts of identity, equality and diversity. Explore the social construction and status implications of identity, culture and diversity within Irish society. Support learners to examine and reflect on their own understanding of equality, diversity and anti-discrimination and the relationship to community work in practice. Explore legislation, policy and practice with regard to the promotion of equality in Irish society. Consider the nature of discrimination and equality in relation to gender and ethnicity.

Social Policy (QQI Level 6)

The aims of the **Social Policy** module are to examine the executive functions of state and the processes involved in decision making and social policy development within government. Outline the historical development of Irish social policy. Introduce the social policy framework with regard to Health, Education and Community and Voluntary Activity. Examine the relationship between social policy, service provision and community development in a local context.

Introduction to Counselling and Motivational Interviewing (QQI Level 6)

The aims of Introduction to **Counselling and Motivational Interviewing** module are to Introduce participants to a range of counselling theories and concepts. Explore key components of each counselling methodology from an addiction perspective. Explore ethical principles of addiction counselling. Introduce participants to the key concepts of Motivational Interviewing. Facilitate the practice of motivational counselling skills and techniques.

Community Development & Technology (QQI Level 7)

The aims of **Community Development & Technology** module are to introduce the national and European policy framework which supports e-engagement and e-inclusion, to develop an understanding of the digital divide from a community development context. To gain an overview of digital planning and management concepts for community development. To introduce a range of tools to research and plan a digital communications strategy. To develop ICT skills to support the execution of a digital communications strategy.

Research Methods & Practice (QQI Level 7)

The aims of **Research Methods & Practice** module are to develop learners' understanding of the research process and the role of research in informing theory and practice particularly in relation to community development/social science. Provide learners with an understanding of a range of research methodologies and methods utilised in social research. Develop learners' critical analysis and practical research skills. Introduce a range of data collection techniques. Provide students with an appreciation of ethical issues in social research. Provide a model research framework.

Project Cycle Management in the Community & Voluntary Sector (QQI Level 7)

The aims of **Project Cycle Management in the Community & Voluntary Sector** this module is to introduce students to project cycle management using the logical framework approach for results oriented project planning. To provide a framework for project cycle & financial management for planning, proposal development, monitoring & evaluation and impact assessment.

Leadership and Social Change (QQI Level 7)

The aims of **Leadership and Social Change** module are to critically examine the relationship between leadership and social change and analyse the challenges within the process. Explore approaches to leadership for social change. Consider strategies for leading, influencing and promoting social change in the context of globalisation and social transformation. Examine the psychology of leadership, theories of internalised oppression and the impact of internalised oppression on leadership.

Leadership in Practice (QQI Level 7)

The aims of **Leadership in Practice** module are to support students to: Critically reflect on the application of theory to practice. Consider how they can exercise leadership within their work as community development practitioners. Develop their skills and capacity to undertake a specific collaborative leadership project. Critically reflect on the nature and impact of their own leadership styles within that project, the challenges faced and overcome, and areas for professional development identified. Experience the opportunities and challenges of working in a collaborative context.

Drugs and Crime in a Global Context (QQI Level 7)

The aims of **Drugs and Crime in a Global Context** module are to introduce students to globalisation theory and determine the implications of globalisation on the local context. To provide an overview of global & regional drug trends and crime patterns. To introduce students to international case studies on drugs & alcohol policy.

Community Drug Work and Leadership in Practice (QQI Level 7)

The aims of **Community Drug Work and Leadership in Practice** module are to support students to Critically reflect on the application of theory to practice. To engage in the practical application of course material in a planned experiential learning activity. Develop collaborative skills and capacity with regard to a specific community drug work project. Critically reflect on the nature and impact of their own contribution within that project, the challenges faced and overcome, and areas for professional development identified. Experience the strengths and challenges of working in a collaborative context.

Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Awards Special Purpose Award | QQI Level 7 | 10 credits | Duration: 10 weeks | Fees: €300

An Cosán VCC and IT Carlow provide an innovative and creative approach to continuous professional development through our accredited higher education blended learning programmes.

Technology Enhanced Learning (QQI Level 7)

The **Technology Enhanced Learning** programme focuses on developing digital skills and competencies to enable learners to use a range of educational technologies. Learners will be introduced to the concept of communities of practice in technology enhanced learning. They will investigate and identify effective approaches to building digital skills in their own practice. Learners will also examine the Irish and European Union policy frameworks with regard to technology enhanced learning, community education and higher education.

Transformative Community Education (QQI Level 7)

The **Transformative Community Education** programme will explore theoretical concepts of community education, lifelong learning transformation and social change. 2. Analyse specific case studies in relation to community education, social action and transformation. 3. Investigate and identify strategies and practical approaches to curriculum design, development and delivery for transformative community education and support digital citizenship and social media activism. 4. Examine the Irish and European Union policy frameworks with regard to lifelong learning further education and training and community education. 5. Support practitioners to appreciate the value of e-learning in community education through experiential engagement and support the continuing professional and educational development of practitioners in the sector.

Progression Paths

Progression pathways towards Certificate, Higher Certificate and BA Degree are open to all current and new An Cosán VCC learners. Details are outlined on the following pages.

Certificate in Leadership and Community Development
QQI Level 6 | Minor Award | 60 Credits | 1 Year | €1,800 |
7th September 2019 – June 2020
(Commencing 7th September 2019)

Programme Overview

The aim of this interdisciplinary 1 year blended online certificate programme is to develop graduates who are equipped with sufficient knowledge, skills and competencies in the theory and practice of leadership and community development to enable them to make a professional contribution to communities, groups, societies and organisations and to prepare graduates for life-long learning so that they will be able to further develop and consolidate their knowledge and skills through experience, professional and/or academic education.

VCC has worked in partnership with IT Carlow to develop a blended online Bachelor of Arts in Leadership and Community Development (QQI Level 7). Learners who complete Stage 1 at Level 6 of the NFQ (60 credits) are eligible to exit the programme with a “Certificate in Leadership and Community Development” (Minor Award Level 6) or to progress to Higher Certificate and BA award.

Format:

Each Module begins with a 'Face to Face' Saturday Workshop 10am - 4pm followed by 5/6 Online sessions every Tuesday 10.00am-12.30pm / 18.00-20.30pm (timeslots offered dependent on demand). There is a second 'Face to Face' Saturday Workshop (10am-4pm) midway through the module.

Modules at a Glance: Stage 1 / 60 ECTS

Module	Title	Date for Face to Face workshops (attendance is required)	
		Induction Day	Midway Workshop
Module 1	Learning to Learn at Third Level	7 th September 2019	28 th September 2019
Module 2	Introduction to Community Development	19 th October 2019	16 th November 2019
	<i>Midterm Break</i>	<i>29th October – 2 November 2019</i>	
Module 3	Social Analysis	7 th December 2019	25 th January 2020
	<i>Christmas Break</i>	<i>23rd December 2019 – 3rd January 2020</i>	
Module 4	Group Work and Facilitation Skills	8 th February 2020	7 th March 2020
Module 5	Introduction to Community Leadership	28 th March 2020	2 nd April 2020
Module 6	Citizenship and Social Action	16 th May 2020	6 th June 2020

*All 6 programmes above are included in the Certificate but the order in which they run may vary. Participants can take modules at their own pace over 1 to 2 years.

Information Session, Registration & Bursary Deadlines:

- Deadline for Expressions of interest 1st July 2019
- Open Day: Wednesday 3rd July 2019 Time: 10.00am-18.00pm
Venue: An Cosán VCC, 4-5 Ushers Court, Ushers Quay, Dublin 8
- Registration and Bursary Fund application Deadline: **Friday 2nd August 2019**

Higher Certificate in Leadership and Community Development
QQI Level 6 | Minor Award | 60 Credits | 1 Year | €1,800 |
14th September 2019 – 24th June 2020
(Commencing 14th September 2019)

Programme Overview

The aim of this interdisciplinary 1 year blended online Higher Certificate programme is to develop graduates who are equipped with sufficient knowledge, skills and competencies in the theory and practice of leadership and community development to enable them to make a professional contribution to communities, groups, societies and organisations and to prepare graduates for life-long learning so that they will be able to further develop and consolidate their knowledge and skills through experience, professional and/or academic education.

VCC has worked in partnership with IT Carlow to develop a blended online Bachelor of Arts in Leadership and Community Development (QQI Level 7). Learners who complete Stage 1 at Level 6 of the NFQ (60 credits) are eligible to exit the programme with a “Certificate in Leadership and Community Development” (Minor Award Level 6) or to progress to Higher Certificate and BA award.

Format:

Each Module begins with a 'Face to Face' Saturday Workshop 10am - 4pm followed by 5/6 Online sessions every Wednesday 10.00am-12.30pm / 18.00-20.30pm (timeslots offered dependent on demand). There is a second 'Face to Face' Saturday Workshop (10am-4pm) midway through the module.

Modules at a Glance: Stage 2 / 60 ECTS

Module	Title	Date for Face to Face workshops (attendance is required)	
		Induction Day	Midway Workshop
Module 1	Community Development Practical Approaches	14 th September 2019	5 th October 2019
Module 2	Understanding and Managing Conflict in a Community Development Context	26 th October 2019	23 rd November 2019
	Midterm Break	29 th October – 2 November 2019	
	Christmas Break	23 rd December 2019 – 3 rd January 2020	
Module 3	Reflective Practice, Knowledge, Skills & Attitude	11 th January 2020	1 st February 2020
Module 4	Social Policy	29 th February 2020	21 st March 2020
Module 5	Equality & Diversity	25 th April 2020	23 rd May 2020
Module 6	Leadership & Organisational Development	23 rd May 2020	13 th June 2020

*All 6 programmes above are included in the Certificate but the order in which they run may vary. Participants can take modules at their own pace over 1 to 2 years.

Information Session, Registration & Bursary Deadlines:

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- Open Day: Wednesday 3rd July 2019 Time: 10.00am-18.00pm
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- Registration and Bursary Fund application Deadline: **Friday 2nd August 2019**

Certificate in Applied Addiction Studies & Community Development

QQI Level 6 | Minor Award | 60 Credits | 1 Year | €1,800 |

7th September 2019 – June 2020

(Commencing 7th September 2019)

The aim of this interdisciplinary 1 year blended online certificate programme is to develop knowledge, skills and competencies in the theory and practice of applied addiction studies and community development. The purpose of the programme is to build the capacity of community drugs workers and those working and volunteering in the wider community within an addiction context.

VCC has worked in partnership with IT Carlow to develop a blended online Bachelor of Arts in Applied Addiction Studies and Community Development (QQI Level 7). Learners who complete Stage 1 at Level 6 of the NFQ (60 credits) are eligible to exit the programme with a “Certificate in Applied Addiction Studies and Community Development” (Minor Award Level 6) or to progress to Higher Certificate and BA award.

Format:

Each Module begins with a 'Face to Face' Saturday Workshop 10am - 4pm followed by 5/6 Online sessions every Tuesday 10.00am-12.30pm / 18.00-20.30pm (timeslots offered dependent on demand). There is a second 'Face to Face' Saturday Workshop (10am-4pm) midway through the module.

Modules at a Glance: Stage 1 / 60 ECTS

Module	Title	Date for Face to Face workshops (attendance is required)	
		Induction Day	Midway Workshop
Module 1	Learning to Learn at Third Level	7 th September 2019	28 th September 2019
Module 2	Introduction to Community Development	19 th October 2019	16 th November 2019
	<i>Midterm Break</i>	<i>29th October – 2 November 2019</i>	
Module 3	Social Analysis	7 th December 2019	25 th January 2020
	<i>Christmas Break</i>	<i>23rd December 2019 – 3rd January 2020</i>	
Module 4	Group Work and Facilitation Skills	8 th February 2020	7 th March 2020
Module 5	The Nature and Context of Addiction	28 th March 2020	2 nd April 2020
Module 6	Drug Prevention, Education & Awareness	16 th May 2020	6 th June 2020

*All 6 programmes above are included in the Certificate but the order in which they run may vary. Participants can take modules at their own pace over 1 to 2 years.

Information Session, Registration & Bursary Deadlines:

- Deadline for Expressions of interest 1st July 2019
- Open Day: Wednesday 3rd July 2019 Time: 10.00am-18.00pm
Venue: An Cosán VCC, 4-5 Ushers Court, Ushers Quay, Dublin 8
- Registration and Bursary Fund application Deadline: **Friday 2nd August 2019**

Higher Certificate in Applied Addiction Studies & Community Development
QQI Level 6 | Minor Award | 60 Credits | 1 Year | €1,800 |
14th September 2019 – 24th June 2020
(Commencing 14th September 2019)

The aim of this interdisciplinary 1 year blended online Higher certificate programme is to develop knowledge, skills and competencies in the theory and practice of applied addiction studies and community development. The purpose of the programme is to build the capacity of community drugs workers and those working and volunteering in the wider community within an addiction context.

VCC has worked in partnership with IT Carlow to develop a blended online Bachelor of Arts in Applied Addiction Studies and Community Development (QQI Level 7). Learners who complete Stage 1 at Level 6 of the NFQ (60 credits) are eligible to exit the programme with a “Certificate in Applied Addiction Studies and Community Development” (Minor Award Level 6) or to progress to Higher Certificate and BA award.

Format:

Each Module begins with a 'Face to Face' Saturday Workshop 10am - 4pm followed by 5/6 Online sessions every Wednesday 10.00am-12.30pm / 18.00-20.30pm (timeslots offered dependent on demand). There is a second 'Face to Face' Saturday Workshop (10am-4pm) midway through the module.

Modules at a Glance: Stage 2 / 60 ECTS

Module	Title	Date for Face to Face workshops (attendance is required)	
		Induction Day	Midway Workshop
Module 1	Community Development Practical Approaches	14 th September 2019	5 th October 2019
Module 2	Understanding and Managing Conflict in a Community Development Context	26 th October 2019	23 rd November 2019
	Midterm Break	<i>29th October – 2 November 2019</i>	
	Christmas Break	<i>23rd December 2019 – 3rd January 2020</i>	
Module 3	Reflective Practice, Knowledge, Skills & Attitude	11 th January 2019	1 st February 2020
Module 4	Social Policy	29 th February 2020	21 st March 2020
Module 5	Introduction to Counselling and Motivational Interviewing	25 th April 2020	23 rd May 2020
Module 6	Approaches to Treatment and Rehabilitation	23 rd May 2020	13 th June 2020

*All 6 programmes above are included in the Certificate but the order in which they run may vary. Participants can take modules at their own pace over 1 to 2 years.

Information Session, Registration & Bursary Deadlines:

- Deadline for Expressions of interest 1st July 2019
- Open Day: Wednesday 3rd July 2019 Time: 10.00am-18.00pm
Venue: An Cosán VCC, 4-5 Ushers Court, Ushers Quay, Dublin 8
- Registration and Bursary Fund application Deadline: **Friday 2nd August 2019**

Certificate in Leadership and Social Enterprise
QQI Level 6 | Minor Award | 60 Credits | 1 - 2 Years | €1,800
7th September 2019 – June 2020
(Commencing 7th September 2019)

This interdisciplinary 1 – 2 year blended online certificate programme aims to develop knowledge, skills and competencies in the theory and practice of leadership and social enterprise development. The purpose of the programme is to build the capacity of people working in the social enterprise ecosystem and volunteering in the wider community within a social enterprise context.

Format:

Each Module begins with a 'Face to Face' Saturday Workshop 10am - 4pm followed by 5/6 Online sessions every Tuesday 10.00am-12.30pm / 18.00-20.30pm (timeslots offered dependent on demand). There is a second 'Face to Face' Saturday Workshop (10am-4pm) midway through the module.

Modules at a Glance: Stage 1 / 60 ECTS

Module	Title	Date for Face to Face workshops (attendance is required)	
		Induction Day	Midway Workshop
Module 1	Introduction to Social Enterprise Development	7 th September 2019	28 th September 2019
Module 2	Introduction to Community Development	19 th October 2019	16 th November 2019
	<i>Midterm Break</i>	<i>29th October – 2 November 2019</i>	
Module 3	Social Analysis	7 th December 2019	25 th January 2020
	<i>Christmas Break</i>	<i>23rd December 2019 – 3rd January 2020</i>	
Module 4	Leadership & Organisational Development	8 th February 2020	7 th March 2020
Module 5	Introduction to Community Leadership	28 th March 2020	2 nd April 2020
Module 6	Management Development	16 th May 2020	6 th June 2020

*All 6 programmes above are included in the Certificate but the order in which they run may vary. Participants can take modules at their own pace over 1 to 2 years.

Information Session, Registration & Bursary Deadlines:

- Deadline for Expressions of interest 1st July 2019
- Open Day: Wednesday 3rd July 2019 Time: 10.00am-18.00pm
Venue: An Cosán VCC, 4-5 Ushers Court, Ushers Quay, Dublin 8
- Registration and Bursary Fund application Deadline: **Friday 2nd August 2019**

For more information about how to apply for all Certificate Programmes and modules contact:

Foluke Oladosu, Higher Education Administrator

Office: 01 534 1847 | Email info@ancosanvcc.com

Young Adult Education Programme



Young Adults Education Programme

Are you aged 18-30 and based in Dublin?

Join your peers and take a QQI Level 5 / 6 module to help you progress to:

- College, Institute of Technology or University
- Work related apprenticeships

Flexible (one module at the time)

30 ECTS by IT Carlow

In your local community

Bursaries Provided

An Cosán Virtual Community College have received funding from the Social Innovation Fund to develop an access programme and alternative pathways to education, specifically targeting young adults (18-30 years old). The programme consists of 3 modules (QQI level 5 and 6) with the aim to prepare and support young individuals to progress to further and higher education. The programme format is flexible and delivered in the local community, where students can advance at their own pace with no pressure. Organisations working with young adults who are interested in learning more are invited to contact us.

Next Steps?


For more information about how you can join the programme contact our Youth Engagement Coordinator today to arrange an initial call. Contact Details below:

Dragana Soro

Youth Engagement Coordinator and Community Educator

Office: 01 534 1847 | Mobile: 086 4178737 | Email: d.soro@ancosanvcc.com

Young Women's Education Programme



Young Women's Education Programme

Are you a lone parent aged 18-30 looking to get back in to the workforce? Take the first step into your new adventure and come join our course free of charge, with help and support along the way. Be the change you want for yourself!

WHAT WE OFFER	YEAR 1	YEAR 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > QQI Major Award in Business Administration and Digital Skills for work > One to one mentoring > Peer support > Childcare places available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Basic Digital Skills > Personal Development > Communications Skills > Team Building > Career Guidance > Employability Skills > Financial Management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Business Administration > Bookkeeping & Accounts > The Internet > Word Processing > Reception & Frontline Office Skills > Work Experience

This programme is based in Tallaght West and Dublin Inner City

To Register your Interest contact Bess on 086 013 6396 or email b.mcbride@ancosanvcc.com

A Programme Supported by **J.P.Morgan**

Virtual Community College
AnCosán

Next Steps?

This programme is starting in September 2019 and registrations are open over the summer. For more information about how you can join the programme contact the Young Women's Education Programme Coordinator today to arrange an initial call. Contact Details below:

Bess McBride

Young Women's Education Programme Coordinator

Office: 01 462 8488 | Mobile: 086 013 6396 | Email: b.mcbride@ancosanvcc.com

Skills to Succeed Academy & Digital Skills Assessment Tool

Accenture and An Cosán VCC have come together to roll out a virtual 'Skills to Succeed Academy' around Ireland. The interactive online training programme, developed by Accenture, gives people the skills and confidence to choose the right career and ultimately better position them to get a job or build a business. Registration for the Skills to Succeed Academy is free and can be applied for through local community-based employment support organisations that are working with An Cosán VCC as Academy advisors.



For more information visit www.ancosanvcc.com/s2sacademy/ or follow #S2SAcademy on Twitter.

Digital Skills Assessment tool

At our recent Community Partner Forum 2019, An Cosán VCC showcased a prototype of a digital skills assessment tool which will help people understand their current digital competencies as well as reflect on and identify their perceptions about their digital skills and offer a pathway to achieving basic digital competency based on the European Digital Competence Framework (DigComp). The digital skills assessment tool will be tested and trialled over the coming months through An Cosán VCC's Technology Enhanced Community Education Network (TECEN). Community organisations are invited to participate in this exciting and innovative solution to the digital divide.

Next Steps?

To find out more about becoming an Skills to Succeed Academy Advisor and to sign up for the free training or to be part of the pilot to trial the Digital Skills Assessment tool contact our Skills to Succeed Project Manager today to arrange an initial call. Contact Details below:

Mark Kelly

Skills to Succeed Project Manager

Office: 01 534 1847 | Mobile: 086 0499643 | Email: m.kelly@ancosanvcc.com

Right to Work Programme

Who is this programme for?

International Protection Applicants who are looking to work or to start their own business.

We offer training and support in:

Career Guidance | CV Writing | Interview Skills |
Employability Skills | Job Searching | Self-Employment | Social Enterprise | Dignity in the Workplace | Human Rights and Equality in Ireland

Where? Weekly workshops will take place in An Cosán VCC, 4 Usher's Court, Usher's Quay, Dublin 8

When?

Round 1: Fridays from 31st May - 28th June
Round 2: Fridays from 9th - 30th August

Community Partners

We invite Community Partner organisations who work with International Protection Applicants to get in touch to find out more about the programme.

Next Steps?

To find out more about the Right to Work Programme and to avail of the free training please contact:

Dr Thomas Murray / Foluke Oladosu

Office: 01 534 1847 | Email: right2work@ancosanvcc.com |

Places are limited so contact us today!

The Right to Work Education Project

| The Right to Work Education Project | Dublin Workshops |

Who is this for?
International Protection Applicants who are looking to work or to start their own business.

We offer training and support in:
Career Guidance | CV Writing | Interview Skills |
Employability Skills | Job Searching in Ireland | Self-Employment | Social Enterprise
Dignity and Human Rights in Work

Workshops will take place in **An Cosán VCC, 4 Usher's Court, Usher's Quay, Dublin 8.**
Session 1: Friday (10am-4pm) 9th August.
Sessions 2-4: Friday mornings (10-1pm) on 16th, 23rd and 30th August.
Afternoon sessions (2-4pm) may be reserved for one-to-one coaching.

Registration is free | Transport costs to workshops will be covered and a light lunch offered |
Learners can join class by webinar | Certificates to be presented at An Cosán Awards Ceremony.

To avail of a free place on the programme or for more information, contact Foluke Oladosu.
Tel: 01 534 1847 | Email: right2work@ancosanvcc.com |

Places are limited so contact us today! www.ancosanvcc.com
#LoveLearning

An Cosán VCC Online Series exploring opportunities for Social Enterprise

"Tein-Eigen the Need-Fire" - A monthly online series of live community conversations.

When: Starting Tuesday 25th June 2019 and running once a month July – December 2019

Time: 14.30-16.00pm

Fee: There is no charge for access to this online conversation series

Format: Introduction Session starts Tuesday 25th June 2019 followed by 6 online sessions which will run the 2nd Tuesday of every month on the following dates:

- Tuesday 9th July; 13th August; 10th September; 8th October; 12th November & 10th December 2019.

What: This series of live online conversations on social enterprise development aims to meet the emerging needs of communities wishing to collaborate online who have an interest in social enterprise development.

Where: Our community conversation will convene online, using the online platform ZOOM initially and will integrate other tools as the series develops. Broad Theme: Online Collaboration and Opportunities for Social Enterprise in Communities

Convener: Suzie Cahn, Social Enterprise Coordinator, An Cosán VCC

Why you should attend?

These seminars will provide you with the opportunity to:

- Meet people who wish to learn about new and innovative ideas, embrace technology enhanced collaboration, and empower individuals and communities through social enterprise.
- Engage in stimulating conversations and incubate new ideas and future collaborations
- Network with peers and others outside of your existing networks from diverse fields but with a common focus

What will be discussed?

The following topics are suggested themes that will be covered in the online series. Themes will be confirmed in collaboration with participants.

- Online peer to peer support and collaborative hubs for Social Enterprises
- Women in Social Enterprise
- Social Enterprise and community led Climate action
- Rural regeneration through Social Enterprise
- Social Enterprise & Development: Lessons from Global South
- Inclusion, Innovation, Identity: opportunities for those left farthest behind in Social Enterprise
- Maker Spaces: Social Enterprise and the Circular economy
- Systemic Thinking, Interconnection Social Enterprise cross-disciplinary educators Community of Practice

To Register: Click [here](#) to register on Eventbrite to join the monthly online series.

For more information contact:

Suzie Cahn, Social Enterprise Coordinator

Office: 01 534 1847 | Mobile: 086 410 5898 | Email: s.cahn@ancosanvcc.com

#Learn #Engage #Network #LoveLearningVCC

Become a Community Partner

Working closely with our Community Partners, An Cosán VCC caters for learners who have not benefitted from mainstream education, offering a wide range of accessible accredited and non-accredited courses. We see these partnerships as mutually beneficial. As knowledge and skills develop at a local level, quality programmes and best practice will be mainstreamed nationally. All our courses are designed to respond to community education needs and we fully support students to reach their potential. Working closely with our Community Partners, An Cosán VCC caters for learners who have not benefitted from mainstream education, offering a wide range of accessible accredited and non-accredited courses.

Hospitality, providing ‘a place of heart and home’ and recognising that learners’ basic needs must be met before they can excel in their studies is integral to our ethos. Our continuously growing network of Community Partners provide funding support or facilities what we call ‘Learning Hubs’ where students can access the technology required to engage in blended online learning and create collaborative, supportive peer to peer ‘learning communities’.

Our Community Partner Network is made up of a wide range of organisations all with a shared ethos to support adult learners to access education across Ireland. The network includes: community-based adult education organisations, Family Resource Centres, community development organisations, social enterprises, independent non-profit organisations, Local Development Companies, Education & Training Boards (ETB’s) and national membership organisations e.g. Aontas, Leargas, IACTO, The Wheel.

Technology Enhanced Community Education Network (TECEN)

Community Partners have access to the Technology Enhanced Community Education Network (TECEN) which was launched in 2018. [Read about the launch in 2018 on Irish Tech News.](#)

TECEN is a peer led network of the community partners An Cosán’s VCC works with all across Ireland. It will support participants and professionals in the sector to access continuous professional development, use digital literacy, technology and social media strategically to create value for the sector and their own organisations. Workshops, webinars and virtual engagement will cover a myriad of digital media and digital literacy skills with an emphasis on gaining practical skills and tactical execution. An Cosán VCC intends to grow TECEN as a support network for the community development and community education sector to build capacity in the sector to harness the power of technology in their daily work. The aim is to develop a strong commitment to the network and deepen members understanding of the need and importance of a digital skills strategy for the sector, their organisations and their work.

Community Partner Forum

Community Partners are invited to our annual Community Partner Forum which we hold once a year. The Forum is a space for grassroots community organisation's and national representative organisations to gather together to share knowledge, experiences and challenges to enable our network to advocate as a collective voice on the key priorities in our community education sector and to plan action outcomes to address those needs. You can read about previous Forum events which took place [in 2018](#) and [in 2019](#). Visit our website to [here to see our growing Community Partner Network](#).

Benefits of joining the An Cosán VCC Community Partner Network:

- Access to An Cosán VCC's innovative model and ethos
- Access to a National Programme delivering foundation, further and higher-level education
- Access to Impact Driven National & Regional Events
- Access to our National Network
- Membership of Technology Enhanced Community Education Network (TECEN)
- Access to Consultancy Support Services from our team
- Increased visibility through our national communications and digital marketing campaigns
- Access to our Advocacy work
- Opportunity to develop your centre as a quality assured Learning Hub which follows principles of best practice in Technology Enhanced Learning
- Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Opportunities
- Access to Consultancy Supports in various specialty areas

Together, we work with you to empower learners, their families and communities across Ireland.

If you are interested in becoming a Community Partner and joining the Technology Enhanced Community Education Network (TECEN) contact our Community Partner Lead today to arrange an initial call. Contact details below:

Maria Flanagan

Community Partner Lead

Office: 01 534 1847 | Mobile: 086 8223808 | Email: m.flanagan@ancosanvcc.com

Potential sources of Funding Supports

We know going to college can be an exciting but expensive experience. We also know one of the biggest barriers people face in accessing education is financial. We have put together a list of potential funding sources to support you to access financial supports so that you can reach your full potential.

The 1916 Bursary Fund

The purpose of this funding is to encourage participation and success by students from sections of society that are significantly under-represented in higher education. Click [here](#) for more information on this Fund.

The Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection

The Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection offer a range of supports for people who are in receipt of social welfare income supports to gain new skills through training or education (e.g. Back to Education Allowance (BTEA) and Training Support Grants). To check eligibility please contact your Case officer in your local Intreo Office or Local Employment service. Click [here](#) for more information.

Education and Training Boards (ETBs)

ETBs are statutory authorities which have responsibility for education and training, youth work and a range of other statutory functions. ETBs manage and operate second-level schools, further education colleges, multi-faith community national schools and a range of adult and further education centres delivering education and training programmes. Occasionally, local community groups can apply for Community Education Funding for offer education programmes in your area. Contact your local Community Education Office. Click [here](#) to find your local ETB.

St Vincent de Paul – Education and Training Bursary Fund

The SVP Education and Training Bursary Fund has been established to support students of all ages who may financially struggle to access or stay in third level education and training programmes. St Vincent de Paul have an Education Fund that people can apply to locally. Click [here](#) to find out more information on the Fund. To find out how you can apply to the SVP Education and Training Bursary Programme, you can contact your [Regional office](#).

SICAP Funding through your Local Development Company

The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2018-2022 is funded by the Irish Government through the Department of Rural and Community Development and co-funded by the European Social Fund under the Programme for Employability, Inclusion and Learning (PEIL) 2014-2020.

The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) helps people to find work, to upskill, provides CV training, a personal development course, helps them onto a work placement programme such as CE or Tús programme. You may be able to seek support to get back to education by contacting your local development company who administer SICAP programmes nationally. Click [here](#) to find your local SICAP Provider.

Carlow IT - Student Assistance Fund

The Student Assistance Fund is a means tested fund and is intended to assist full time students who are finding it difficult to meet college expenses as a result of ongoing low income. The Fund provides financial support to students who are in significant financial difficulty and whose participation in college would be at risk without financial support. The purpose of the Fund is to assist by making a contribution to students in meeting some of the day-to-day costs incurred by being in college. Click [here](#) for more information on the Student Assistance Fund.

Department of Education Pilot Support Scheme 2019

Pilot Support Scheme for students who are in the Protection System or at the Leave To Remain (but not deportation order) stage and who are pursuing an approved Post Leaving Certificate course or an approved Undergraduate course for the academic year 2019/2020. Check [here](#) for more information.

Irish Refugee Council

The IRC Education fund was established in 2015 with support from the Community Foundation for Ireland to financially assist people in the asylum process in accessing further education. Click [here](#) for more information or contact Charlotte on email education@irishrefugeecouncil.ie for more information. The Irish Refugee Council have also compiled a range of supports in an Grants and Scholarships information leaflet which you can access [here](#).

Credit Unions

Many Credit Unions in Ireland provide a number of education grants or bursaries in their catchment areas for students studying at all levels of further and higher education. The “It makes sense” Loan - This scheme which is offered as a low-cost alternative loan, is being made available in participating credit unions across the country and is open to those in receipt of social welfare who are over 18 years of age. Click [here](#) for information about “It makes sense” loans and click [here](#) to go the national credit union site, where you can find details of your local credit union.

studentfinance.ie

studentfinance.ie is a convenient and user-friendly source of information on the financial assistance schemes available in Ireland to help you to progress through further and higher education. Click [here](#) to see the list of supports compiled on this site.

An Cosán VCC – Bursary Fund

An Cosán VCC have a small Bursary Fund for people who cannot access funding elsewhere.

Contact An Cosán VCC on Email info@ancosanvcc.com to find out how to apply for financial support from this fund.

Deadline for Applications to An Cosán VCC Bursary Fund for Certificate and Higher Certificate Programmes commencing in September 2019 is **Friday 2nd August 2019**.

FAQ

What do I need to participate on a course?

Access to a broadband internet connection is recommended. For live classes we also recommend a laptop plus a headset and a microphone. For more detailed information on the technology requirements click [here](#).

How many learners will be on the course?

We aim to have no more than 25 learners per course to enable real, personalised interaction between learners and tutors.

Are the courses Accredited?

All of our higher-level courses are officially accredited by IT Carlow and are recognised qualifications.

What does a community partner do?

The community partners are there to provide a communal space and support for learners to come together to access the coursework.

Is there a community partner in my area?

Please get in touch if you would like to see where your local community partner is. Our network of community partners is continuously growing, and we have successfully delivered courses nationwide.

What are the entry requirements?

For unaccredited programmes

VCC welcomes all learners to its unaccredited programmes, including those with different learning abilities. To benefit from the programme, we recommend that learners have intermediate English language skills. If in doubt, please talk to the programme tutor. There are no compulsory assessments on VCC's non-accredited programmes. Attendance and participation are based on the student's interest in the subject and their love of learning.

For accredited programmes

Applicants should have completed the Leaving Certificate or a QQI (FETAC) Major Award at Level 5 preferably in the area of study or a related area. Other applicants will be considered on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the Institute of Technology Carlow policy on recognition of prior learning (RPL). Applicants may be required to attend for an interview.

How can I Pay?

By cheque, postal order and directly into the bank, we also have the facility to take payment by debit and credit card. If you have any questions, please email us at info@ancosanvcc.com or call 01 534 1847.

What financial supports are available if finance is a barrier to my accessing a programme?

If you are seeking financial support to pay your fees look at the list of potential funding supports listed on this 2019/2020 Programme Prospectus (page 26-27) that you may be eligible to apply for support. This list is not exhaustive and we have gathered this information through our own research.

An Cosán VCC have a limited Bursary Fund for those who cannot find support elsewhere and where finance may be a barrier. If you are applying for support from the An Cosán VCC Bursary Fund please check the tick-box in the *Programme Fees* section of the [online registration form](#) and complete **all** questions on the subsequent *Bursary Information* page in step 3, otherwise we will be unable to assess your application. An Application Process and Deadlines apply.

How much time should I invest each week to successfully complete a blended online programme?

Unaccredited programmes

For unaccredited programmes, you need to be available for one full day Induction workshop (6-hour face-to-face workshop) and 5 online sessions (2 hours per week). It is recommended that participants allocate 1 hour per week for self-directed study to cover suggested readings and videos. **(Minimum 3 hours p/w)**

Accredited programmes

For accredited programmes, you need to be available for two full day workshops (2 x 6-hour face-to-face workshops) and 8 online sessions (2 hours per week). It is recommended that participants allocate 3 hours per week for self-directed study to cover suggested readings and videos. **(Minimum 5 hours p/w)**

Is attendance at Face to Face Workshops and Online Sessions compulsory?

Full attendance is expected at Face to Face workshops (i.e. Induction Days & Midway Workshops) and Weekly Online Sessions to achieve your required Learning Outcomes of your chosen course. In extenuating circumstances where it is not possible to attend then the class tutor must be notified directly in advance.

Where do Face to Face Workshops take place?

Face to Face workshops for Certificate and Higher Certificate Programmes will take place in Dublin City Centre. Modules delivered in collaboration with a Community Partner will take place in a accessible location agreed in advance with the local Community Partner. Contact the office for more information.

Follow Us on Social Media

Visit our website and follow us on Social Media to keep up to date with our latest news:



www.ancosanvcc.com



www.facebook.com/AnCosanVCC



www.twitter.com/AnCosan_VCC



www.linkedin.com/company/an-cosan-virtual-community-college-vcc/



www.youtube.com - Search for: An Cosán VCC



Learners Blogs: <http://ancosanvcc.com/blog>

Contact Us

If you need further information about registering for a programme or would like to speak to someone about your progression options, get in touch with our team today. We look forward to speaking to you.

Address: An Cosán Virtual Community College (VCC)
Ground Floor, 4-5 Usher's Court, Usher's Quay, Dublin 8

Email: info@ancosanvcc.com

Phone: 01 534 1847

Website: www.ancosanvcc.ie

We look forward to hearing from you!

Summary of all programmes and progression paths offered to learners:

Introduction Programmes – Foundation Level Unaccredited Duration: 6 weeks Fee: €200		
Introduction to Community Development	Introduction to Community Drugs Work	Introduction to Community Leadership
Introduction to Climate Change and Environment	Introduction to Gender Studies	Introduction to Citizenship and Social Action
Special Purpose Awards QQI Level 6 10 credits Duration: 10 weeks Fee: €300		
Learning to Learn at Third Level	Citizenship and Social Action	Community Leadership
Introduction to Social Enterprise Development	Group Work and Facilitation Skills	Community Development
Social Analysis	The Nature and Context of Addiction	Drug Prevention, Education & Awareness
Community Development Practical Approaches	Understanding and Managing Conflict in a Community Development Context	Reflective Practice, Knowledge, Skills & Attitude
Social Policy	Equality & Diversity	Leadership & Organisational Development
Introduction to Counselling and Motivational Interviewing	Approaches to Treatment and Rehabilitation	
Special Purpose Awards QQI Level 7 10 credits Duration: 10 weeks Fee: €300		
Community Development and Technology	Research Methods and Practice	Project Cycle Management in the Community and Voluntary Sector
Leadership and Social Change	Leadership in Practice	Drugs and Crime in a Global Context
Community Drug Work and Leadership in Practice		
Continuous Professional Development Awards QQI Level 7 10 credits Duration: 10 weeks Fee: €300		
Transformative Community Education	Technology Enhanced Learning	
Certificate Awards QQI Level 6 60 credits Duration: 1 year Fee: €1,800		
Certificate in Leadership and Community Development		
Certificate in Applied Addiction Studies and Community Development		
Certificate in Leadership and Social Enterprise		
Higher Certificate Awards (QQI Level 6) 120 credits Duration: 2 years		
Higher Certificate in Leadership and Community Development		
Higher Certificate in Applied Addiction Studies and Community Development		
Bachelor of Arts Awards (QQI Level 7) 180 credits Duration: 3 years		
BA Degree in Leadership and Community Development		
BA Degree in Applied Addiction Studies and Community Development		

VCC has worked in partnership with IT Carlow to develop a blended online Bachelor of Arts in Leadership and Community Development & Bachelor of Arts in Applied Addiction Studies & Community Development (QQI Level 7). Learners who complete Stage 1 at QQI Level 6 of the NFQ (60 credits) are eligible to exit the programme with a “Certificate in Leadership and Community Development” or “Certificate in Applied Addiction Studies and Community Development” (Minor Award Level 6) or to progress to Higher Certificate (QQI Level 6) and BA Degree Award (QQI Level 7).