



Foundation Degree in Science in Sports Coaching (part-time) Jordanstown



Alfie Wylie

Jordanstown Campus, University of Ulster

"Alfie was admitted under the APEL scheme, is a UEFA 'Pro' License coach (Level 5), current coach of Linfield FC, formerly manager of Newry City, Loughall and Glenavon, full-time employee of Irish Football Association as Performance Co-ordinator for Womens Football, National Team Manager of N Ireland Women's Squad."

Entry Requirements:

Refer to the online prospectus for entry requirements.

Foundation Degree in Sports Coaching Course Structure

Year 1 Semester 1		Year 2 Semester 2	
Sport and Society		Principles of Teaching & Coaching	
Effective Learning			
Coaching in Practice			
Year 2 Semester 1		Year 2 Semester 2	
Exercise Science		Skill Development	
Sports Coaching			
Coaching Practice			
Year 3 Semester 1		Year 3 Semester 2	
Sports Development		Coaching Science	
Reflective Practice			

Introduction

The University of Ulster launched a part-time Foundation Degree in Science (FD Sc) in Sports Coaching in September 2005. This is the first sports coaching qualification to be delivered by a higher education institute in Ireland and is based at the Jordanstown campus. The Foundation Degree is ideally suited to school-leavers and mature students seeking to further their knowledge of coaching or pursue it as a career.

Background

The need to adopt a more systematic and professional approach to coaching is now widely acknowledged. Opportunities for paid employment in the field of sports coaching are rapidly increasing with clubs, governing bodies and statutory agencies all prepared to invest in the recruitment and development of young people in sport and the nurturing of elite performers. The introduction of this Foundation Degree has been supported by Sport NI, Sports Institute NI and Governing Bodies of Sport, all of which are seeking to elevate the status of sports coaching. The development of this academic award will allow students to engage in an in-depth analysis of all facets of coaching and ensure the development of a knowledgeable and committed coaching 'workforce'.

What is A Foundation Degree?

A Foundation Degree is a modern, higher education qualification designed to equip students with the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in a practical working environment. It is flexible and accessible and opens up opportunities to gain professional recognition and other higher level qualifications. This is a part-time award which can be tailored to suit personal circumstances and has a particular emphasis on work-based learning with students participating in a placement programme each year.

Programme Structure

The Foundation Degree will be delivered on a part-time basis over a 3 year period and will consist of 11 separate modules. Four modules will be delivered in year 1 and 2 with three modules being delivered in year 3. Students who wish to exit after successfully completing the first 6 modules will be awarded a Certificate in Higher Education. There will also be an opportunity for students who wish to 'slow-track' to complete the course over an extended period of time (maximum 6 years).

Appropriate Prior Learning (APL)

The system of APL seeks to facilitate entry to the University for students who may not meet the stated level of academic attainment but who have considerable experience related to the course of study. Students will, therefore, be given the opportunity to provide evidence of sports coaching experience to support their application. Candidates may also be given exemption from some modules if they are able to provide evidence of appropriate prior learning.

Progression

Students who achieve a commendation grade (60% plus) may apply for the opportunity to progress onto the second year of a full honours degree programme (BSc Hons Sports Studies or BSc Hons Sport and Exercise Sciences).

Work-based Learning

Foundation Degrees are vocationally relevant qualifications with a major emphasis on work-based learning. The course includes three modules (Coaching in Context, Coaching Practice, Reflective Practice) which give students an opportunity to gain valuable experience in a 'live' coaching environment. These modules are fundamental in the acquisition of skills for future employability in coaching in either a professional or voluntary capacity. Applicants to the course should be aware that they must have gained a Level 1 governing body coaching award before they can undertake the Coaching Practice module (Year 2, Semester 2).



Application:

Application to this course should be made directly through the University. Application forms may be downloaded from the university online prospectus <http://prospectus.ulster.ac.uk>

Alternatively, please contact the Life and Health Sciences Faculty Office:
tel: 028 90 66029

General Information:

If you need any further information please contact:

Tandy Jane Haughey
Course Director
F.D. (Sc) Sports Coaching
Room 15E02B
School of Sports Studies
UU Jordanstown
BT37 0QB

Email: tj.haughey@ulster.ac.uk
Tel: 028 90 366118

Large print copies of this leaflet are available from the Faculty Office
tel. 028 70324159

The information provided in this leaflet is correct at the time of going to press but the course programme is subject to continuing development and the University reserves the right to make changes at any time, before or after a candidate's admission. As much notice as possible will be given of such changes.