

Making your community sustainable

One of the University of Gloucestershire's **Essentials of Community Development (ECD)** series

Local communities are being squeezed on all sides through the hardships of economic recession and government cutbacks. There is still a demand for a high level of action at the most local levels of community governance. So how do you 'do more with less' whilst maintaining quality service provision? How do you make your community more 'sustainable', more aware of its role in global climate change, and more concerned about a whole host of issues from water and energy consumption to food and healthy lifestyles?

A sustainable community is one that is more resilient and more able to withstand economic shocks, protecting it against external forces and making full use of partnership opportunities.

This course seeks to help those working with local communities to understand the notion of 'sustainability' (often misrepresented in the popular media), offering support, policy direction and practical action to deliver local benefits. One step towards empowering your community to make informed choices in the face of a more uncertain future.

This is a stand-alone one day course, but can be taken as part of the ECD programme (4 x 1 day courses).

What is this course about?

The aim of this course is to enhance your understanding of the key issues surrounding the concept of 'sustainable community' and to give you some practical skills/ tools that you can

apply to your situation and community. It aims to support the development of communities that are more resilient and adaptable in the face of government and economic change.

Who is this for?

- Managers of projects/programmes at local and regional levels of government, NGOs, local authorities, regional bodies
- Professionals involved in: local government, community service delivery, health, education, recreation, natural resources management, rural or urban service delivery
- Anyone with an interest in developing sustainability within their community or dealing with changes in economic conditions and government support



What are the learning objectives?

At the end of this course participants will be able to:

- Describe the concept of sustainable community development
- Articulate an awareness of the relationships between social, economic and cultural factors in the community, the region and nationally
- Describe the concept of social capital, human capital, leadership and empowerment
- Demonstrate an awareness of the scope for participation and partnerships
- Undertake a simple community appraisal
- Identify opportunities for enhancing the sustainability of their community
- Describe the potential for partnership working in their community
- Identify opportunities for increasing participation and developing social and human capital in their communities

How will participants benefit?

- Develops awareness of the external forces affecting their communities
- Builds confidence in dealing with questions and concerns regarding sustainability - in their communities and responding to the media and government reports
- Equips with skills to enable them to participate in, or implement community appraisals
- Signposts resources for further information on a wide range of sustainability related issues

- Develops leadership skills to identify the potential for partnership work
- Enhances skills to explore opportunities for sustainable development in their own communities

Follow up activity could include:

- Community Engagement and Governance (Foundation Degree)
- European Rural Development (Postgraduate Certificate/ Diploma, Masters Degree)
- Carbon Management (short course)
- Essentials of Community Development (ECD) programme (short courses)
- Community Care Practice with Vulnerable Adults (University Diploma)
- Health and Social Care Practice (Foundation Degree)
- Youth Work (Honours Degree)
- Leadership and Management: Social Work (MSc and PG Diploma)

About the Countryside and Community Research Institute (CCRI)

The CCRI is a partnership between the University of Gloucestershire, the University of the West of England, the Royal Agricultural College and Hartpury College. The CCRI undertakes research and teaching on a wide range of issues relating to the economy, society, environment and governance in the UK and Europe emphasising sustainable development, economic regeneration, sustainable environments, local distinctiveness and inclusive participatory processes.

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1 day course (one of 4x1 day courses making the ECD programme)

How to book

To book please visit:

www.glos.ac.uk/shortcourses

Duration

1 day

Course Fee (per person)

£175 per 1 day course

£600 full 4 day programme

Time

9am - 4.30pm

Date

Visit our website for the latest dates

Location

Park Campus
University of Gloucestershire

For directions go to:

www.glos.ac.uk/travel

Tutor

Dr John Powell
(Supporting academics)

Contact us

To discuss the course in more detail call the University of Gloucestershire's Centre for Enterprise and Innovation, tel: **01242 714104** or email shortcourses@glos.ac.uk



SOUTH WEST ERDF
COMPETITIVENESS AND
EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME



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