

Project Name: Foundation Degree in Spa Management

Amendment History:

Version No.	Date	Reason for Amendment
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Project Manager

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Document Distribution

Geoffrey Elliott	UW	Members of LLN	To approve project
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Debbie Lambert	LLN	Manager	For Information
Donna Obrey	LLN	Project Officer	To track project

Background

The development of this Foundation Degree will add to the growing portfolio of courses related to complementary therapies within the department of Beauty and Holistic Therapies at the college. The programme will be designed in response to an approach by the college to meet the growing demand for higher education qualifications in the field of Spa Management which is a huge growth industry with no higher level qualifications specific to the industry

Objectives of the Project

- Serve the development needs of the local community, employers and employed therapists by providing an accessible work-based programme
- Provides a new progression route for students within the department and for employment in spa management.
- Provides a vocationally focused programme in line with Government policy and local community needs-widening participation.
- It strengthens partnership with local providers utilising work placement salons and spa from existing provision and expanding contacts.

Project Approach

It is envisaged that the curriculum offer will be available from September 08. Therefore curriculum development must begin immediately.

It is anticipated that a project officer will be funded for a six month period on a 0.5 basis to write the modules and validation document.

Scope:

A Key Products from the project

- A Validation Document available for internal and external scrutiny
- A curriculum offer which meets the needs of local employers and employees
- Progression opportunities from level 3 programmes within the department
- Progression opportunities to relevant and appropriate level 6 programmes
- The FD will strengthen the relationship between FEc and the HEi
- The FD will provide a transition route to study a vocationally orientated programme, which develops both academic and workplace skills in this area.

B Out of Scope

The project funding will not cover the marketing of this course.

Constraints

- Course team need to identify curriculum specialist to write the modules
- Course team need to be aware of key dates within the validation schedule at the University
- The development of the curriculum must adhere to the University of Worcester Quality Assurance procedures

Initial Project Case

The project team will use the LLN monies to fund a specialist curriculum designer with expertise in the field of Spa Management. This person will be funded for a period of 6 months on a 0.5 basis. This model was used by Gloucestershire College in the successful design of their FD in Complementary Therapies.

Benefits of the Project

- The design of a FD which meets the needs of the local community.
- Progression Opportunities from level 3 programmes and into a relevant and appropriate level 6 qualification.
- A qualification which is 'fit for purpose'
- An opportunity to study a vocational qualification at a higher level
- Mature learners in full-time employment with no/few qualifications may access the course through Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL)
- An increase in student numbers from a vocational route accessing HE

Key Assumptions

- There is a market for this type of course

- A suitable project manager can be identified
- Resources are available within the college to support the programme design and delivery

Costs

A contribution of up to £5000 towards the cost of employing a subject specialist to write the specialist modules and prepare the validation document. The department has estimated that the full cost of this is about £13,000.

How will the project be evaluated?

- The project will be designed in stages with review points along the way.
- The project will have to hit key dates for internal and external scrutiny.

How will the project be sustained?

The specialist curriculum designer will be part funded by Gloucestershire College

Initial Risk Log

Risks	Probability	Impact	Containment Plan
Unable to recruit a Specialist curriculum designer	L	L	There is sufficient expertise within the faculty to write a number of the modules
Unable to meet the validation deadlines	L	L	Ensure that relevant staff are notified well in advance of validation schedule
The college are unable to provide financial support towards funding the specialist designer	L	L	Ensure funding is in place at the start of the project

Contribution to the aims of the LLN

This project fits into the Health and Social Care and Leadership and Management themes. It will contribute towards the target for new courses, and towards the overall ASN total. The courses will be developed with employers, and will be vocational in orientation.

Project Team

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