

**Consent, Sexual Violence and Harassment: Practitioner Skills & Practice (PS6158)****10 ECTS Level 9 Microcredential Module**

**Delivered by:** The Active\* Consent programme (School of Psychology, Discipline of Drama & Theatre Studies, and School of English & Creative Arts at University of Galway), with contributors including Galway Rape Crisis Centre and others.

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This document includes: (a) a module overview; (b) some background on the module; (c) the course structure; and (d) information on eligibility, fees, and how to apply.

**Module Overview**

*Consent, Sexual Violence and Harassment: Practitioner Skills and Practice* runs from Friday 29<sup>th</sup> of September to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023, and comprises six 3-hour online seminars followed by a final full-day, in-person set of seminars on University of Galway campus.

Module dates & times are as follows:

Day	Dates	Time	Seminar
Friday	29 <sup>th</sup> September	10.00am-1.00pm online	Active* Consent Seminar 1
Friday	6 <sup>th</sup> October	10.00am-1.00pm online	Active* Consent Seminar 2
Friday	20 <sup>th</sup> October	10.00am-1.00pm online	Active* Consent Seminar 3
Friday	27 <sup>th</sup> October	10.00am-1.00pm online	First Point of Contact Training 1
Friday	10 <sup>th</sup> November	10.00am-1.00pm online	First Point of Contact Training 2
Friday	24 <sup>th</sup> November	10.00am-1.00pm online	First Point of Contact Training 3
Friday	1 <sup>st</sup> December*	10.00am – 4.30pm in person (University of Galway campus)	Active* Consent Seminar 4 & First Point of Contact Training 4

The aim of this module is to support individuals to implement programmes and initiatives related to consent, sexual violence and harassment. The module is delivered at Postgraduate Level 9, and successful completion results in the award of 10 ECTS accredited through the University of Galway.

Through seminars, group tasks, readings and individual assignments, the module fosters in-depth learning and skills development in the following areas:

- Developing a critical understanding of consent, sexual violence and harassment.
- Designing, implementing, supporting and evaluating consent, sexual violence and harassment programmes.
- Skills for training, workshop facilitation, and planning targeted outreach initiatives.
- Engaging constructively with policy, guidelines, and frameworks.

- Principles of organisational culture change, institutional structures and processes.
- Collaborative thinking and group work skills.
- Interpersonal skills to support receiving a disclosure of sexual violence or harassment.

While the content will specifically target the education and post-primary sectors, we welcome participants who are working in areas such as youth work, community organisations, the Defence Forces, An Garda Síochána, etc. It is envisaged that participants will have a range of experiences and backgrounds – for instance, in student services, college administration, counselling and wellbeing, academic programme management, or agencies/ organisations relevant to education and research.

## **Background**

The content of the module draws on examples related to the Consent Framework (‘Safe, Respectful, Supportive & Positive: Ending Sexual Violence & Harassment in Irish Higher Education Institutions’) promoted by the Department of Further & Higher Education, Research, Innovation & Science. The module also draws on the Active\*Consent team’s work and research with post-primary schools, higher education and other community settings.

The module partners (Active\* Consent, Galway Rape Crisis Centre, and other contributors) are collaborating to bring together and to extend educational / training initiatives developed in recent years. We have designed a new and innovative learning experience intended to support colleagues in the sector to respond to the potential of the Consent Framework and related policy development taking place through the NCCA, Department of Justice & Equality, and so on. We will integrate the expertise available to the three partner groups, while also drawing on our wider network to include input from national and international experts in research, practice, law, and policy.

## **Course Structure**

The module covers three main topic areas:

- Designing, supporting, and evaluating education and development programmes on consent, sexual violence and harassment for students and staff.
- Supporting organisational change through staff development, training in receiving disclosures, and acting as a resource for organisational culture and climate change.
- Developing policies and best practice to underpin institutional and procedural change.

The module team will provide a clear structure and framework for your learning, encourage you to identify the specific areas you wish to focus on and support these paths, working together with all module participants as respected partners to promote a learning community to share knowledge and problem solving capacity. Direct online and in-person class interaction will be complemented by use of the Canvas virtual learning environment, which will include engaging eLearning content such as recorded interviews, readings, guest speakers, and guided activities.

There are five main learning outcomes associated with the module. After successful completion of the module, participants will have enhanced capacity to:

1. Design and support a relevant programme on consent, sexual violence and harassment.
2. Support staff and student members in the delivery and roll out of relevant programmes.
3. Receive disclosures of sexual violence or harassment and respond appropriately.
4. Review relevant policy and identify strategic directions for policy priorities.
5. Support organisational cultural change, institutional engagement and learning.

Indicative model for participation from September to December:

Learning Modality	Description	Approximate Number of Hours	Notes
Class / Seminar	Engage in structured discussion to review and discuss relevant theory, research, practice, and implementation strategies relevant to consent, sexual violence and harassment	24	Seminars held online
Directed Learning	Engage with structured learning activities, self-reflection, and guided review to assess gaps, strengths, opportunities in your unit / organisation (e.g., resources, strategic planning, collaborative partnerships, policy making, communication practices).	40	Complete guided learning tasks between sessions as set out on Blackboard
Independent Learning	Undertake study, research, and reflection to complete assignments, critical reflection on organisational engagement to assess scope for positive initiatives, policy development and cultural change	54	Completing assessments and targeted activities
Field Work	Engage in practical work in the organisational environment (e.g., existing work duties), review of organisational practice, and practical design of resources.	-	Engage in your normal duties during the semester (meetings, training, policy groups, etc.) as a basis to engage in the targeted learning and assessments.

## Assessment

As an accredited module, there will be formal assessment required to successfully complete the module. Given the applied and practical nature of the module focus, assessment is 100% continuous, and will be based on seminar attendance and written assignments.

Insofar as possible, assessment is designed with professional development in mind, to give you the maximum opportunity to use the assessment methodology to support the development of your own skills.

## **Eligibility and the Application Process**

### **Module Fees:**

€500.00\*.

\*Fees are not applicable to those currently working in the FET/ETBI sector.

### **The requirements for participation are:**

- Possessing a degree of Level 7 or above (or an equivalent relevant amount of experience)
- Currently engaged in a relevant setting where there is opportunity to engage in review and planning of initiatives relevant to the ‘Consent Framework’ or similar initiatives on consent, sexual harassment and/or violence
- Sufficient workplace support and current personal preparedness to participate fully in the module.

Preference will be given to applicants who are working or volunteering in the education sector, particularly those who will have the opportunity to engage in work relevant to the module content.

Applications are also welcome from those working in other relevant areas, such as youth work, second level education, community work, sexual health education, rape crisis counselling, and advocacy. Each applicant can provide information on relevant experience in the “personal statement” section of the application form to demonstrate how the module is relevant to you.

### **How to apply:**

Applications can be made by filling out the following form: <https://forms.office.com/e/X116wnwebn>

[If the above link does not work for you, please copy and paste it into your browser]

The application form will remain open until **September 14<sup>th</sup> at 5pm.**

If you have queries or need assistance, please contact [eva.obyrne@universityofgalway.ie](mailto:eva.obyrne@universityofgalway.ie)

For your application, in addition to the application form, you will be required to submit the following by email to [eva.obyrne@universityofgalway.ie](mailto:eva.obyrne@universityofgalway.ie):

- 1) A clear photograph – for your student ID card.
- 2) A copy of your passport or drivers licence (University of Galway require this for registration).

Once the above documentation has been received, your application will be ready for review by the module team. The module team will review your personal statement (which you will complete as part of the application form above) when making a decision regarding offering places. Successful applicants will be contacted by the module team and the University of Galway admissions team.