
Embedded Short Placements - BA Child Studies / International and Community Perspectives Module

This module offers a variety of activities that allows it to embed international learning throughout with an objective of having students “all the time working with those sort of international ideas and taking them apart, comparing them, contrasting them”.

Area of Focus

There are a number of international learning activities associated with this module:

1/ Students undertake a 60 hour volunteering placement (UK or abroad)

2/ International content is taught in the curriculum – all students study about the different approaches to and perspectives on childhood around the world via a variety of interactive teaching materials, including videos of international practitioners talking about how they approach the subject matter;

3/ Students use module-specific “Wikimap” to search for placements and are asked to add information on their own placements in order to share learning with other students;

4/ Students must complete an e-portfolio to include class and group work that centres around internationalisation;

5/ Students must write a 2000- word reflective piece about their research which compares the UK to their international placement;

6/ Students must write a 500-word reflection evaluation on what they’ve learned from studying international perspectives;

7/ Students take part in a group assignment where they choose any country in the world and compare it to the UK. They have to look at the demographics, the economy, the history, the politics, etc. They then do a presentation to the rest of the class.

Alumni of the module are invited to come and speak about their experiences abroad to all current students whether they are doing their placement abroad or in the UK.

“I will be able to share the knowledge I gained with future employers, possibly influencing the way they do things and be more accepting of other cultures”

Student Comment

These activities promote knowledge of diverse cultures and practices as well as the values of respect and openness. They foster an inclusive ethos making sure international learning is shared by all students on the module, thereby enabling a global learning experience for all.

“Our teaching does not just look at the UK; we’re always talking about what’s happening around the world, because when you’re studying childhood you can’t be insular, you have to look at the wider picture. So I think our students are very, very well equipped for that.”
