

# Postgraduate Certificate in Dementia Studies & Postgraduate Award in Professional Development



**University  
of Worcester**

**Association for  
Dementia Studies**



**Association for Dementia Studies**  
School of Allied Health & Community  
University of Worcester, Henwick Grove, Worcester, WR2 6AJ  
www.worcester.ac.uk tel: 01905 855000



**University  
of Worcester**

## Dear Potential Student

Helping people develop their expertise in supporting people to live well with dementia is our passion at the Association for Dementia Studies. Research tells us that the people who make the most impact on this are those in leadership roles. These people work in a wide variety of care and support services that are accessed by people affected by dementia. It is people in leadership roles, or who have the potential to lead others, who will get the most out of this course. We have pitched this course at a postgraduate level as the most appropriate level for developing reflective and creative leadership qualities.



### Is this for you?

This course is fully online, but you won't be studying alone. Practitioners worldwide face similar challenges in delivering great quality dementia care. By sharing the learning and solutions to common challenges together, your horizons will open up.

The course is open to graduates of any discipline. Many candidates will have a clinical or social care qualification, but we also want to attract people from business, the arts, sport and culture backgrounds.

Our watchwords in developing this course have been evidence-based practice and teaching excellence. We are delivering a course that you do at your pace, studying at the time that is convenient to you. You will engage with online lectures, videos, research literature and discussions to facilitate your independent study. There will be regular live interactive learning opportunities via seminars in a virtual classroom, as well as interactive activities and engagement with other students and tutors.

We know that many people are capable of working at this level but they might not already have a degree. If you think this is the course for you, but you don't have a degree then you will need to provide some pre-course writing and evidence during the admission procedure to make sure that you can work at this level. Also, for those people for whom English is a second language we will need to see evidence that you have IELTS 6.5.

You will benefit from courses designed by academics who are leaders in their specialism. The course content is grounded in research that we have been directly engaged with over the past ten years. I am excited to lead the first module on Person-Centred Leadership: The VIPSA Approach.

Our vision is that this will develop into a full Master's level course over the next few years with more exciting modules on stream. We want to support you to see your way through complexity, to deliver care and support fit for people living with dementia in the 21st century.

Together we can bring about amazing change.

*Dawn*

### Professor Dawn Brooker PhD CPsychol (clin) AFBPsS

Director of the Association for Dementia Studies, School of Allied Health and Community,

University of Worcester, United Kingdom



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# Postgraduate Certificate in Dementia Studies

## Distance learning course

Do you want significant improvements in the care and support for people affected by dementia?  
Are you interested in studying at master's level with one of the world leading research and education centres in dementia care?

Applications are open for prospective students to enrol on our postgraduate modules.

Code	Module Title and Module Lead	Starting Annually	Credits
MDEM4001	<a href="#">Person-Centred Leadership: the VIPS Approach</a>	September	15
MDEM4003	<a href="#">Expert Practice in Delivering Person-Centred Dementia Care</a>	January (over 2 semesters)	30
MDEM4004	<a href="#">Supporting People Living with Advanced Dementia</a>	January	15
MDEM4005	<a href="#">Enabling Environments for People Living with Dementia</a>	September	15
MDEM4006	<a href="#">Engagement and Empowerment in Dementia Studies</a>	January	15
MDEM4007	<a href="#">Dementia in the Family Context</a>	January	15

To complete a postgraduate certificate you are required to complete a total of 60 credits from the selection above. [Person-Centred Leadership: the VIPS Approach](#) is the mandatory module and this must be completed, although it doesn't have to be the first module completed.

All modules can also be taken standalone and may be eligible for recognition of prior learning at other universities. The course content will reflect the requirements of the [Dementia Training Standards Framework](#) and will meet all of the Tier 3 leadership learning outcomes.

Successful completion of the Expert Practice in Delivering Person-Centred Dementia Care module will give you a 30 credit [Postgraduate Award in Professional Development](#). This has been developed from an evidence-based programme '[Focussed Intervention Training and Support \(FITS\) into Practice](#)' course in care settings for people with dementia, complex needs and distressed behaviour.

### 2021/2022 Fees      UK and EU students      International

•15 credit module	£ 608	£881
•30 credit module	£1,215	£1,762

NB. Fees are revised annually and so if your course spans two academic years fees will vary.

### Closing date for applications:

- The closing date for January modules is in November (date to be confirmed).
- The closing date for the September 2021 modules is Tuesday 3rd August 2021. Future years to be confirmed.

For more information and to apply online please visit:  
[Postgraduate Certificate in Dementia Studies](#) and/or  
[Postgraduate Award in Professional Development](#) or email:  
[dementia@worc.ac.uk](mailto:dementia@worc.ac.uk) Tel: 01905 542531.

# Person-Centred Leadership: The VIPS Approach

## MDEM4001

**Module Leader**

Professor Dawn Brooker

**Mode of Delivery**

This is a fully distance learning module which will be delivered using the University's online learning platform which will include both synchronous (scheduled) and asynchronous content plus guided independent study and preparation of assessments. Typically you will have 2 hours per week of directed activities and undertake 7-8 hours of independent study each week. More information can be found in the Module Specification.

**Module Level and Credits**

15 credits at Level 7

**Dates**

The module will run once a year from September to January.

**Module Status**

This module can be studied on a standalone basis but will be mandatory for the Postgraduate Certificate in Person-Centred Dementia Studies. For further information please visit [here](#):

**To Apply**

An online application form is available [here](#).

**For enquiries about registering for the Module**

*Postgraduate Admissions Office*

[pg-admissions@worc.ac.uk](mailto:pg-admissions@worc.ac.uk)

01905 855111

**For general enquiries:**

*Professor Dawn Brooker*

Director of the Association for Dementia Studies

[dementia@worc.ac.uk](mailto:dementia@worc.ac.uk)

01905 855250

This module is designed to provide in-depth understanding of leadership required to facilitate person-centred living for people with dementia and their families. Utilising a person-centred perspective, students will develop skills necessary to lead evidence-based ways of improving the provision of support and services to maintain the personhood of people with dementia. Students will develop a knowledge base and skills specific to evaluating their own and organisational practice, create strategies for supporting practice improvement and teamwork. The structure of the content and assessment is based on the VIPS framework which underpins NICE 2018 Dementia Guideline and many dementia strategies internationally.

## Intended Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the module, students should be able to:

- 1 - Critically analyse current evidence relevant to leading an organisational culture that supports a person-centred approach towards people living with dementia and their care partners
- 2 - Evaluate personal leadership skills and analyse their utility for supporting the development of a culturally sensitive, person-centred workforce
- 3 - Apply the VIPS framework (Brooker & Latham, 2016) and critically analyse the results within their area of influence
- 4 - Design and assess quality improvement strategies for promoting positive change within organisations providing care and support to people affected by dementia
- 5 - Develop approaches for working with people living with dementia and their care partners that ensure inclusion



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# Expert Practice in Delivering Person-Centred Care

## MDEM4003

### Module Leader

Isabelle Latham

### Mode of Delivery

This is a fully distance learning double module which will be delivered using the University's online learning platform across two semesters. (This module runs across academic years so that students can benefit from the additional time given by the summer break as students are required to deliver training and support and reflect on it as part of the module) More information can be found in the [Module Specification](#).

### Module Level and Credits

30 credits at Level 7

### Dates

The module will run once per year across two consecutive semesters commencing in January (Semester 2) and finishing in the following January (Semester 1). It will then run annually following the same pattern

### Module Status

This module can be studied on a standalone basis and students who complete it can choose to leave with a [Postgraduate Award in Professional Development](#) or use it towards the [Postgraduate Certificate in Person-Centred Dementia Studies](#).

### To Apply

An online application form is available [here](#). The closing date for applications for January modules is in the preceding November (date to be confirmed)

### For enquiries about registering for the Module

Postgraduate Admissions Office  
[pg-admissions@worc.ac.uk](mailto:pg-admissions@worc.ac.uk)

01905 855111

### For general enquiries

**about the content:** *Isabelle Latham*

Senior Lecturer, Association for Dementia Studies  
[dementia@worc.ac.uk](mailto:dementia@worc.ac.uk): 01905 542326

This module will enable participants to implement the Focussed Intervention Training and Support (FITS) programme for people with dementia who have complex needs and distressed behaviour. This is an evidence-based training and support intervention that improves psychosocial care and thus reduces the use of restrictive interventions such as anti-psychotic prescribing. Click [here](#) for more details of evidence base:

It is applicable to practitioners from multi-disciplinary professional backgrounds in health and social care. As part of the module participants will deliver one cohort of FITS into Practice within their own organisation/s.

Successful completion of this module will enable participants to become a Dementia Practice Development Coach (DPDC) for their own organisation and implement the programme into practice across settings.

### Intended Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the module, students should be able to:

1. Critique the FITS into Practice model, its evidence base, purpose and structure
2. Critically explore the practical implementation of the FITS into Practice model within relevant organisations
3. Critically analyse the impact of integrating the model within their current role through recruitment, teaching and support of staff selected to experience the programme as part of their direct care role
4. Critically assess the facilitators and barriers to implementing the model in relevant care organisations and how their role as a DPDC can affect this
5. Apply the FITS model to their own organisation and critically reflect on their planning and practice of implementation



# Supporting People Living with Advanced Dementia

## MDEM4004

### Module Leader

Mary Bruce

### Mode of Delivery

This is a fully distance learning module which will be delivered using the University's online learning platform in one semester. More information can be found in the [Module Specification](#).

### Module Level and Credits

15 credits at Level 7

### Dates

This module will be delivered annually in one semester, starting in January (Semester 2).

### Module Status

This module can be studied on a standalone basis or students can use it towards the [Postgraduate Certificate in Person-Centred Dementia Studies](#).

### To Apply

An online application form is available [here](#).

### For enquiries about registering for the Module

Postgraduate Admissions Office  
[pg-admissions@worc.ac.uk](mailto:pg-admissions@worc.ac.uk)  
01905 855111

### For general enquiries about the content:

Mary Bruce  
Senior Lecturer, Association for Dementia Studies  
[dementia@worc.ac.uk](mailto:dementia@worc.ac.uk)  
01905 542636

This module will critically explore approaches to support people living with advanced dementia enabling students to critique their own and others' practice in this area. Students will consider the utility of identifying and defining advanced dementia and consider the ways in which this impacts upon the person, their family, health and social care professionals and other agencies delivering support.

Students will critically evaluate key components of person-centred approaches in relation to the challenges of experiencing advanced dementia, and working in this area through the development of a comprehensive approach to support individuals within this group. This module is applicable to practitioners from multi-disciplinary backgrounds in health and social care.

### Intended Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

1. Appraise the utility of categorising advanced dementia within a person-centred approach to dementia care
2. Critically evaluate the evidence base and practicality of different approaches to support of people living with advanced dementia across different settings
3. Modify existing approaches to care planning to meet the needs of people with advanced dementia
4. Evaluate different methods for recognising and treating pain for people living with advanced dementia
5. Critique approaches to advanced care planning, end of life care, palliative care and terminal care as they relate to people living with advanced dementia



# Enabling Environments for People with Dementia

## MDEM4005

### Module Leader

Teresa Atkinson

### Mode of Delivery

This is a fully distance learning module which will be delivered using the University's online learning platform in one semester. More information can be found in the [Module Specification](#).

### Module Level and Credits

15 credits at Level 7

### Dates

This module will be delivered annually in one semester, starting in September (Semester 1).

### Module Status

This module can be studied on a standalone basis or students can use it towards the [Postgraduate Certificate in Person-Centred Dementia Studies](#).

### To Apply

An online application form is available [here](#).

### For enquiries about registering for the Module

Postgraduate Admissions Office  
[pg-admissions@worc.ac.uk](mailto:pg-admissions@worc.ac.uk)  
01905 855111

### For general enquiries about the content:

Teresa Atkinson  
Senior Research Fellow, Association for Dementia  
Studies  
dementia@worc.ac.uk: 01905 542530

In a more inclusive world for people with dementia, attention must be given to the physical and built environment, as well as the social environment.

Understanding how opportunities and constraints in any given environment can impact on people with dementia is important to supporting well-being and the citizenship of people living with dementia regardless of where they reside.

This module examines the creation of dementia friendly communities, enabling environments in the home and health care settings, as well as the contribution of the person-environment fit to well-being, autonomy and preservation of self and identity.

Students will explore the environments in which people with dementia live and experience the world. They will examine ways to assess different types of environments and prioritise the findings of assessments in relation to creating opportunities and minimising constraints across different settings.

### Intended Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the module, students should be able to:

1. Identify the ways in which people with dementia experience and manage the opportunities and constraints of their environmental conditions
2. Critically analyse the research literature relevant to enabling environments for people with dementia in community and care settings
3. Critically apply the principles of enabling environments to maximise autonomy and facilitate the development and maintenance of relationships
4. Critically assess different types of environments for their ability to provide a safe, familiar place to engage in activities of everyday life
5. Integrate environmental assessment information and research evidence to develop options for improving environments for people with dementia



# Engagement and Empowerment in Dementia Studies

## MDEM4006

This module is designed to provide in-depth understanding of issues of authentic engagement and empowerment in supporting those living with dementia.

There has been a huge shift over recent decades as to how people living with dementia are positioned in society. A citizenship and human rights discourse now prevails in dementia strategy documents including the World Health Organisation Action on Dementia. How this is enacted in people's day-to-day experience remains challenging.

Students will develop a knowledge-base and skills specific to their own sphere of influence to enable people with dementia and care partners to promote a citizenship approach.

### Intended Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the module, students should be able to:

1. Critically analyse current evidence relevant to citizenship approaches that engages and empowers people to have their human rights met within society
2. Evaluate barriers and facilitators to engaging with and empowering those living with dementia at different stages and within a diversity of contexts
3. Critically assess strategies for promoting engagement and empowerment within organisations providing care and support to people affected by dementia
4. Describe and critically evaluate approaches for working with people living with dementia and their care partners which engage and empower them

### Module Leader

Chris Russell

### Mode of Delivery

This is a fully distance learning module which will be delivered using the University's online learning platform in one semester. More information can be found in the [Module Specification](#).

### Module Level and Credits

15 credits at Level 7

### Dates

This module will be delivered annually in one semester, starting in January (Semester 2).

### Module Status

This module can be studied on a standalone basis or students can use it towards the [Postgraduate Certificate in Person-Centred Dementia Studies](#).

### To Apply

An online application form is available [here](#).

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### For enquiries about registering for the Module

Postgraduate Admissions Office  
[pg-admissions@worc.ac.uk](mailto:pg-admissions@worc.ac.uk)  
01905 855111

### For general enquiries about the content:

Chris Russell  
Programme Lead and Senior Lecturer  
Association for Dementia Studies  
[dementia@worc.ac.uk](mailto:dementia@worc.ac.uk): 01905 542531





# Dementia in the Family Context

This module provides in-depth understanding of the experience, needs, interventions and outcomes of family carers of persons with dementia.

Family carers are recognised as having their own, often unmet needs which require meeting in the interests of their own health and wellbeing and to enable them to be more resilient carers. Whilst family carers are becoming less hidden, interventions to respond to their needs for more information, skills to manage challenges and to cope with the experience of someone with a degenerative condition, are often underdeveloped or researched. There are a number of carers who do not fit with traditional stereotypes and may be young or in paid employment, presenting additional challenges which may include not being recognised, and therefore supported, as carers.

Students will develop a knowledge-base and skills specific to their own sphere of influence to enable family carers to attain optimum health and wellbeing.

## Intended Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the module, students should be able to:

1. Critically analyse current evidence relevant to experiences, needs, interventions and outcomes of family carers of persons with dementia
2. Evaluate barriers and facilitators to meeting the support needs of family carers of those living with dementia at different stages and within a diversity of contexts
3. Design and assess strategies for enhancing support for family carers in a range of settings
4. Critically explore the opportunities and challenges that a changing future societal, environmental and technological landscape may bring to the role of caring

## MDEM4007

### Module Leader

Teresa Atkinson

### Mode of Delivery

This is a fully distance learning module which will be delivered using the University's online learning platform in one semester. More information can be found in the [Module Specification](#).

### Module Level and Credits

15 credits at Level 7

### Dates

This module will be delivered in one semester, starting in January (Semester 2).

### Module Status

This module can be studied on a standalone basis or students can use it towards the [Postgraduate Certificate in Person-Centred Dementia Studies](#).

### To Apply

An online application form is available [here](#).

### For enquiries about registering for the Module

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[pg-admissions@worc.ac.uk](mailto:pg-admissions@worc.ac.uk):  
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### For general enquiries about the content:

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Senior Research Fellow, Association for Dementia Studies  
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01905 542530



# Postgraduate Certificate in Dementia Studies

## The Teaching Team



[Professor Dawn Brooker](#) – Director of the Association for Dementia Studies at the University of Worcester



[Dr Chris Russell](#) – Programme Lead and Senior Lecturer



[Dr Isabelle Latham](#)  
-Senior Lecturer



[Teresa Atkinson](#) -  
Senior  
Research  
Fellow



[Mary Bruce](#) –  
Senior Lecturer



[Nicola Jacobson-Wright](#) –  
Practice  
Development Coach

# The Association for Dementia Studies

Changing Hearts and Minds in Dementia Care

## What we do

Led by Professor Dawn Brooker, the Association for Dementia Studies is a multi- professional University research and education centre. We make a cutting edge contribution to developing evidence-based practical ways of working with people living with dementia, their families, friends and carers that enable them to live well.

### Research and Consultancy

#### About our research

Our research activities range from small scale evaluations of dementia care services and environments to major research programmes funded by UK research councils and the European Union. We work with individual organisations at the local level as well as in collaboration with multiple partners from around the world.

We carry out research in many different settings, such as care homes, acute hospitals, extra care housing, schools and social care. We are experienced in using a wide range of traditional and innovative research methods including surveys, interviews, focus groups, evidence synthesis and consensus development techniques.

#### Consultancy - Working with you to improve your services

Based on our research, the Association for Dementia Studies can offer a range of consultancy, bespoke support packages and service development activities across our wide portfolio.

#### Education and Development

The Association for Dementia Studies offers a range of other education and development opportunities, from free online courses, short seminars and one-off events to 4-6 day courses.

#### PhD Study

We support an active PhD and doctoral studies programme. For more information visit [www.worcester.ac.uk/courses/dementia-studies-mphilphd](http://www.worcester.ac.uk/courses/dementia-studies-mphilphd).

**These are just a few examples of what we can do for you. If you think that we can help please contact us by emailing [dementia@worc.ac.uk](mailto:dementia@worc.ac.uk)**



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For more information please visit:

[Person-Centred Dementia Studies PGCert](#)

[Professional Development: Expert Practice in Delivering Person-Centred Dementia Care PG Award](#)

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