

Seminar Guidance

Presentation Date: 29th April 2019

A good place to start with your seminar is to unpack the key components within the question itself, which I have highlighted here for you:

Students are required to **discuss the role of the youth worker** within **contemporary society**, and **how this role has changed in recent years**.

Therefore, you need to consider (1) the role of the youth worker and how it (2) how this role has changed in recent years.

You need to consider where youth work takes place – the contexts – specifically the roles that YWs undertake within these contexts. HOWEVER – remember that this seminar does not ask you to discuss contexts. It asks you to discuss roles, therefore you should not go into too much depth and discussion regarding the contexts themselves – that is the focus of your written assignment, and not the seminar.

When discussing the youth worker's role, you need to consider the tools and methods which may be used. Some examples include:

- How activities can be used in an effective way to tackle issues raised by young people
- Group work
- One to one work
- Outdoor education
- Art
- Drama
- Sport
- Residential work

Throughout the seminar, ensure you discuss youth work's principles, purposes, and values. Regardless of the context, youth work should demonstrate youth work's principles, purposes, and values at all times. Is this always the case? Can this be the case when considering contemporary practice?

The subject specific learning outcomes that will be used to assess your work will be numbers 1, 2, 3 and 5, and are as follows:

1. Identify the varied youth work contexts.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the principles, purposes and roles undertaken within each youth work context.
3. Evaluate how the role of the youth worker within these contexts has changed in light of policy and political agendas.

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5. Organise their knowledge and learning through use of a range of information resources, and present their work appropriately, and reflect upon sustainable literacy skills developed.

In relation to the third learning outcome here, your seminar should not focus on giving a historical overview of youth work, but you do need to consider what has happened in recent years (so in contemporary society) to shape current youth work practice. Therefore consider budget cuts for example, and why there have been these cuts. Think of political agendas and so on.

You may also want to consider what contemporary society looks like from a young person's perspective – i.e. what is impacting upon their lives. It could be media (impacting on their body image, self-esteem etc), social networking and the potential risks, lack of money etc. What impacts upon young people's lives will impact on the youth worker's role – and shapes what we do in many ways.

Important points:

- Prepare well – ensure that your presentation lasts 8 minutes
- Practice – so that your presentation is familiar to you and flows well
- Remember your presentation skills – good eye contact with the audience, good use of cue cards/notes, good pace, pitch and power of your voice
- Remember to introduce yourself!