

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



Tupou tertiary Institute & Ola Fou

Pasifika Youth Development Certificate and Diploma Courses

Course Structure and Accreditation

The Diploma in Pasifika Youth Development is based on a 200 credit NZ qualification (the level 6 Diploma in Youth Work). In partnership with Praxis, it has been adapted for delivery in the Pacific Islands.

Praxis is accredited by the NZ Qualifications Authority to deliver the Diploma in Youth Work.

The Ola Fou course is currently offered in:

Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu

The course is taught at two levels and aims to achieve the following student outcomes:

Stage 1: Certificate in Pasifika Youth Development, Level 4

Graduates of the Certificate course are able to consult with young people and communities to identify local needs. They are able to work from a youth development approach to design and facilitate small scale youth projects that respond to the needs they have identified. They are able to facilitate groups and work alongside individual young people as mentors and coaches.

Stage 2: Diploma in Pasifika Youth and Community Studies, Level 6

Students who have graduated from the Certificate and display further leadership potential will be offered to continue the course at Diploma level. The Diploma course will be taught over a further 15 months. Graduates of the Diploma in Youth Development are connecting with young people and leading community driven projects and services. They are leading practitioners and advocates for youth development in their communities and nations. They have gathered teams of volunteers around them and are mentoring new generations of leadership.

The Ola Fou course is for a person who:

- Is already working with young people in a voluntary or paid position.
- Is able to travel in order to build their knowledge and skills for working with young people.
- Is recommended and supported by a recognised organisation or church that can provide supervision and approved practical project work during the course.
- Is over 18.
- Has basic English language and literacy skills (the course is taught in English).
- Can supply either a police check or an appropriate character reference from government, village or church officials.

Course Delivery

Each level of the programme is delivered through a combination of face-to-face teaching and practical placements. The face-to-face teaching is delivered through a series of residential block courses. There are four block courses at each level.

The first block course is run in each country, it is free of charge and open entry (open to anyone working with young people). Selection for places on the rest of the programme are made at this block course.

The next three block courses are offered in Fiji or Tonga, and Solomons or PNG. Students from the other countries travel to these block courses (travel between countries is paid for by Ola Fou).

Between blocks each student is attached to an agency (a church, community or government organisation), and a community. Ola Fou asks each agency to enter into a formal agreement that they will provide active support and supervision for their student.

Praxis has developed a network of former students to provide support for students who will visit between block courses to provide additional support to both the student and their agency.

Between each block, the student is required to complete practical course assignment requirements in the context of their community and agency. Before the next block course they will be visited by a member of the Ola Fou team. **Travel to the next block course will only be organised if the assignment work is completed to a high standard.**

Course Content – What will I learn?

The course content is delivered through an interactive and practical approach to learning. Assessments are a mixture between academic work and practical assignments to be completed back in your own community. The course has a strong focus on equipping each student to look at their local community through new eyes and respond to needs within it.

As a student you can also expect to have learnt to:

- Operate safely and ethically as a youth worker in your community context.
- Explore your own development, your giftings and motivations.
- Develop networks in your community, assess need, and work with others to develop responses to it.
- Connect with and support young people in your identified community.
- Contribute to the development of young people and respond appropriately to a person in crisis.
- Creatively facilitate groups.
- Plan and manage community projects (Diploma).
- Develop structures for personal support and self-care.

Application process

Block 1 workshops are run over 3 days in each country, they are open to anyone involved in working with young people -there is no cost to attend.

Application and interviews for the Ola Fou course will be conducted at Block 1 in each participating country. The next series of Block 1 workshops will be held in the second half of 2015. For information about when and where these blocks will be held in your country please contact:

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Please check out the Praxis website for more information and updates about Ola Fou
www.praxis.org.nz