

Professional Mentoring Scheme Mentor FAQs

Q: When do our strands run for academic year 2016-17?

A: Our undergraduate strand has two waves of entry:

- November (duration circa 7 months November 24th 2016 – June 1st 2017)
- February (duration circa 6 months February 23rd 2017 – August 1st 2017)

Our mentoring strand for Masters students has one wave of entry:

- February (duration circa 6 months February 23rd 2017 – August 1st 2017)

Q: Is attending mentor training mandatory?

A: Yes. They are 3 hours in length in the evening. It is important that you do attend training in person as there is much that is discussed in a group setting which is important to the nature of City's scheme; what we expect from our mentors and mentees; boundaries, and what you can expect from your mentee and from the Professional Mentoring Team in terms of support.

Q: When and where are the mentor training sessions held?

A: All training sessions are held on university campus, predominantly on the Northampton Square site. Postcode: EC1V 0HB.

For academic year 2016-17 the following training sessions will be held:

November 2016 intake:

- Tuesday 4th October 6:30-9pm
- Thursday 6th October 6:30-9pm
- Tuesday 11th October 6:30-9pm
- Late October session date TBC 6:30-9pm

February 2017 intake:

- Thursday January 12th 6:30pm-9pm
- Thursday January 19th 6:30pm-9pm
- Monday January 23rd 6:30pm-9pm

Q: Is this training accredited and can I use it to count towards my coaching accreditation?

A: The mentor training this scheme delivers has been specifically developed over many years to support and facilitate City's mentoring scheme. It has been designed by experienced mentoring and coaching practitioners and delivered in-house by the team. The scheme as a whole received national accreditation through the Mentoring and Befriending Foundation (now the NCVO) in 2013, however the training is not accredited coaching training – although you may find participation in the scheme a springboard to pursuing coaching accreditation! If you are seeking to accredit yourself as a coach please you will find links to accredited training through the EMCC: <http://www.emccouncil.org/> or the International Coach Federation <https://www.coachfederation.org/>

Q: how much time will I need to commit to my mentee?

A: Time commitment is important to seriously consider before placing your application for the scheme. It does require a commitment of minimum 12 hours over a 6-7 month period. The paradigm for the scheme is based on relationships developed through physically meeting face-to-face, and we encourage this through consistent face to face meetings with your mentee of at least two hours once a month. Skype may be used as a secondary tool for remotely facilitating discussions with your mentee as you progress, however we recommend that you establish your relationship in person before taking it online.

Q: Can I choose who I am paired with before we meet?

A: Unfortunately no. The team utilise our recruitment processes – both mentee and mentor – to gain an understanding of our participants and we use this information to match you to your mentee. This is also why attending mentor training is very important as it enables the team to get to know you in person a little before we match you. You are encouraged to use your time at mentor training to discuss with the team any further mentoring preferences. Where possible we will bear this in mind throughout the matching process.

Q: Is it compulsory to attend the Scheme's events?

A: The events the scheme run are not mandatory (other than mentor training), however we do encourage you to attend if you can as these can be great opportunities to gain more from your participation, keep in touch with the team, and to network with other mentors. We do strongly encourage you to attend the Introduction Evening as this is the first time you will meet your mentee and vice versa. It can be a fantastic environment to get your relationship started. Before this date you and your mentee will not know who you are paired with.

All other events offered by the team are optional to attend. We do encourage you to come along or even drop in for a short while according to your schedule. Most events will be run at our Northampton Square campus during the evening generally between 6:30-9pm.

In Academic year 2016-17 the following events will run:

November Wave Introduction Evening Thursday 24th Nov 2016 6:30-9pm
(Undergraduates)
Meeting your mentee for the first time

February Wave Introduction Evening 6:30-9pm Thursday 23rd Feb 2017
(Undergraduates and Masters students)
Meeting your mentee for the first time

Mentor Review Evening – all waves mentors-only – circa April 2017 – 6:30-9pm
A chance to touch in with the team, attend coaching refresher sessions and network with other mentors

Mentee Skills Development Evening – all waves mentees and mentors – circa June 2017– 6:30-9pm
A chance to meet other mentees in our speed networking sessions; get involved in the delivery of mentee skill sessions; and informally socialise with mentees and mentors

Professional Mentoring Awards Ceremony – circa late August-early September 2017– 6:30-9pm
A chance to celebrate a year of mentoring and its successes.

Q: Will I receive a certificate of participation?

A: Yes. You will receive a hard copy certificate of your participation in the post after the official close of your relationship. However the administration and issuing of certificates is usually based upon completion of the scheme's online end of programme feedback survey.