

## Unit 3: Professional Practice

<b>Unit code</b>	<b>Y/615/1620</b>
<b>Unit type</b>	<b>Core</b>
<b>Unit level</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Credit value</b>	<b>15</b>

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### Introduction

The need to be effective as a communicator, critical thinker, analyser, team worker and interpreter is essential. Within the workplace these skills are needed on a daily basis to show proficiency in designated tasks as part of a job role. The development of academic competence, and also the continuation of life-long learning and Continuing Professional Development (CPD), is required to ensure that individuals have a valued set of interpersonal skills that can be applied to any situation or environment.

This unit provides a foundation for good practice in a variety of contexts. The ability to communicate effectively using different tools and mediums will ensure that practical, research, design, reporting and presentation tasks are undertaken professionally and in accordance with various communication conventions. In everyday life the ability to apply critical reasoning and solve problems are necessary skills to enable task resolution and facilitate effective decision-making. Working with others in a group environment academically or within the workplace is an integral part of everyday life. Therefore, understanding the dynamics of teams in terms of culture, roles and responsibilities will ensure that there is a better understanding and awareness of the importance and value of teamwork. Continuing professional development, self-improvement and working towards various goals is an area that is encouraged in the workplace through the appraisals framework. In addition, professional development extends into higher levels of learning and the need to demonstrate effective research skills and academic reporting skills is also required.

Among the topics included in this unit are: the development of communication skills and communication literacy; the use of qualitative and quantitative data to demonstrate analysis, reasoning and critical thinking; and tasks that require the integration of others within a team-based scenario and planning and problem-solving.

On successful completion of this unit students will be able to demonstrate leadership skills through the dynamics of team working, and through reflective practice be able to evaluate the contributions made as an individual and also of others. As a result they will develop skills such as communication literacy, critical thinking, analysis, reasoning and interpretation, which are crucial for gaining employment and developing academic competence.

## **Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

- LO1 Demonstrate a range of interpersonal and transferable communication skills to a target audience.
- LO2 Apply critical reasoning and thinking to a range of problem-solving scenarios.
- LO3 Discuss the importance and dynamics of working within a team and the impact of team working in different environments.
- LO4 Examine the need for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and its role within the workplace and for higher level learning.