

# IAG Workshop

*Graduate Education in Gerontology Worldwide:*

*Exploring Options for Cross-National Articulation, Student Exchanges, and More*

**Overview of Current Graduate Degree Programs and Collaborations**

## **The Scottish Experience**

**Mary Gilhooly**

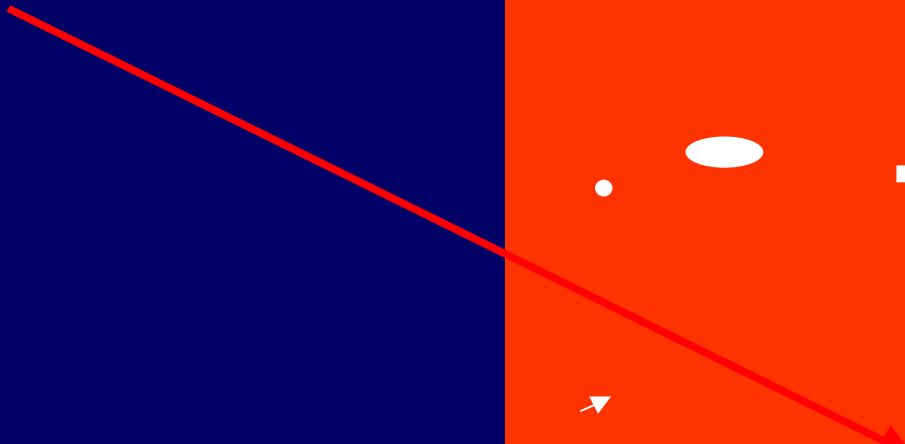
**February 25, 2004**

**Richmond, Virginia**

**Glasgow Airport is in Paisley**



**Centre of Gerontology  
and Health Studies**



**Paisley**



*Three Levels:*

**Postgraduate Certificate (PgCert)**

**Module 1 - Introduction to Social Gerontology**

**Module 2 - Psychological and Sociological Aspects of Ageing**

**Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip)**

**Module 3 - Legal and Ethical Issues in Treatment and Care**

**Module 4 - Politics and Policy in an Ageing Society**

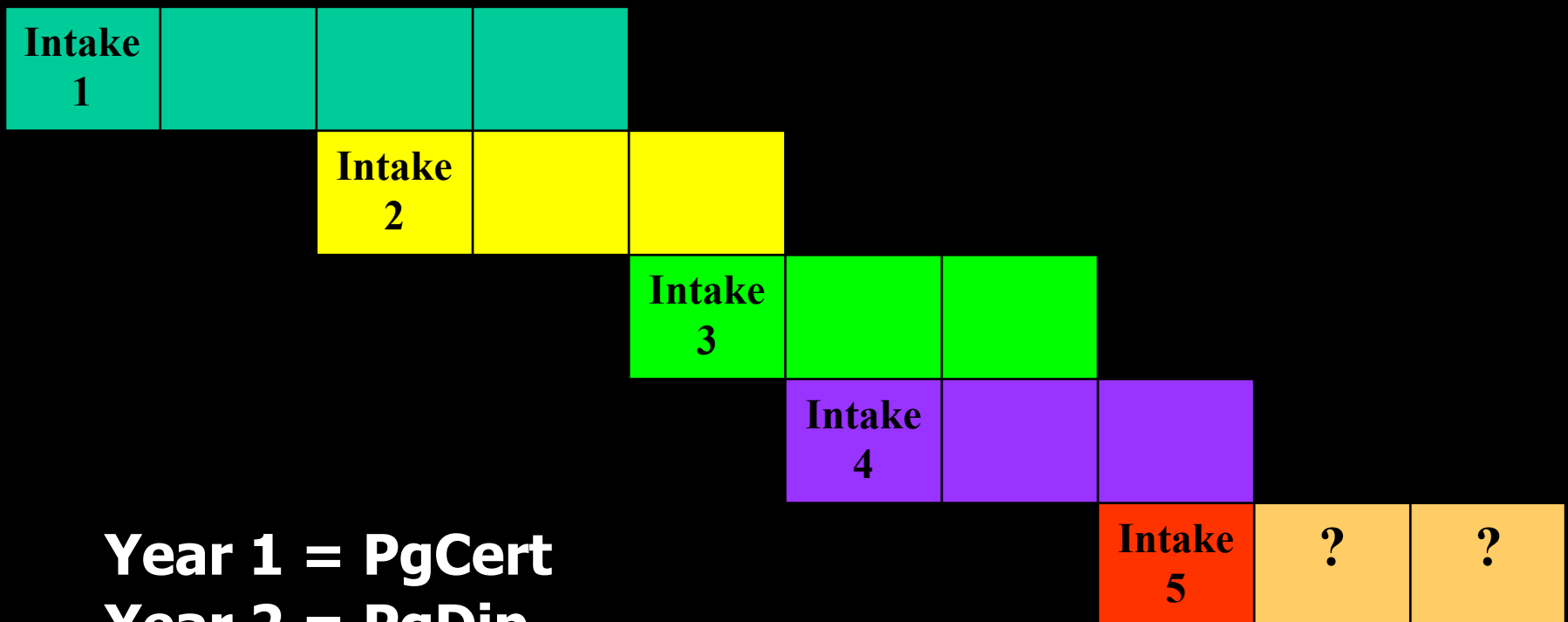
**MSc**

**Module 5 - Research Methods**

**Module 6 - Dissertation (20,000-26,000 words)**

# University of Paisley, Scotland

1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003



**Year 1 = PgCert**

**Year 2 = PgDip**

**Year 3 = MSc**

**Q. Who does the course?**

**A. It was designed for a wide range of health and social care professionals.**

**To date the students have mainly been nurses.**

**Q. What is the access policy?**

**A. Undergraduate degree in a relevant subject**

***Or***

**Relevant experience**

**A high proportion have a BSc in Health Studies  
from the University of Paisley**

## **Q. Has the course been a success?**

### **A. Yes (in my view)**

- **When we ran the course in the evenings the numbers were in the region of 18-25 in Year 1.**
- **A Trust then paid us to run the course in the daytime. The numbers are now much smaller, but we make much more money!**
- **The students are most complimentary.**
- **Trust managers say they see a real difference in students after our course**

**Janet Askham**

**Director**

**Institute of Gerontology**

**King's College London**



# **Masters Programmes at King's College London**

- **Started in 1988, with first graduates in 1990**
- **250 graduates to date (15 MSc Clinical Gerontology, 6 PG Diploma, 227 MSc Gerontology)**
- **Students come from overseas as well as UK, but mostly the latter**

## **Masters Programmes at KCL are:**

- **Multi-disciplinary**
- **Competitive entry**
- **Demand fluctuates but enquiries always buoyant**
- **Applicants mainly from health-related areas**
- **Evidence that degree is beneficial to career advancement and ability to perform job**

## **Masters Courses in Gerontology in UK**

- **Only few in existence**
- **Mostly very vulnerable, due to:**
  - funding difficulties**
  - employer support often low**
  - difficulties in supply of teaching staff**