

“Getting Inside” – Realising Student Ambitions through Work Shadowing

Advertising the Scheme Students:
 Open to students from:
 Year 3 Psychology
 Year 3 & 4 Social Sciences
 Year 3 & 4 Criminology
 Advertised via:
 • Student Portal
 • Emails from Academics & Careers staff
 • Flyers and posters on campus
 • Lecture announcements



Employers:
 Key employer contacts were engaged from relevant sectors. Employers were engaged via:
 • Networking Events
 • 3rd Sector Interface
 • Distribution lists
 • Telephone
 • E-mail



Application Form
 Students were invited to complete an application form.

Assessment Centre (14 students)
 Competency Framework students were assessed on:

- Empathetic and effective communicating
- Effective planning and organisational skills
- Good at problem solving
- Open minded, practical and able to use own initiative
- Working well within a team

Activities included: group exercise, presentation & interview.

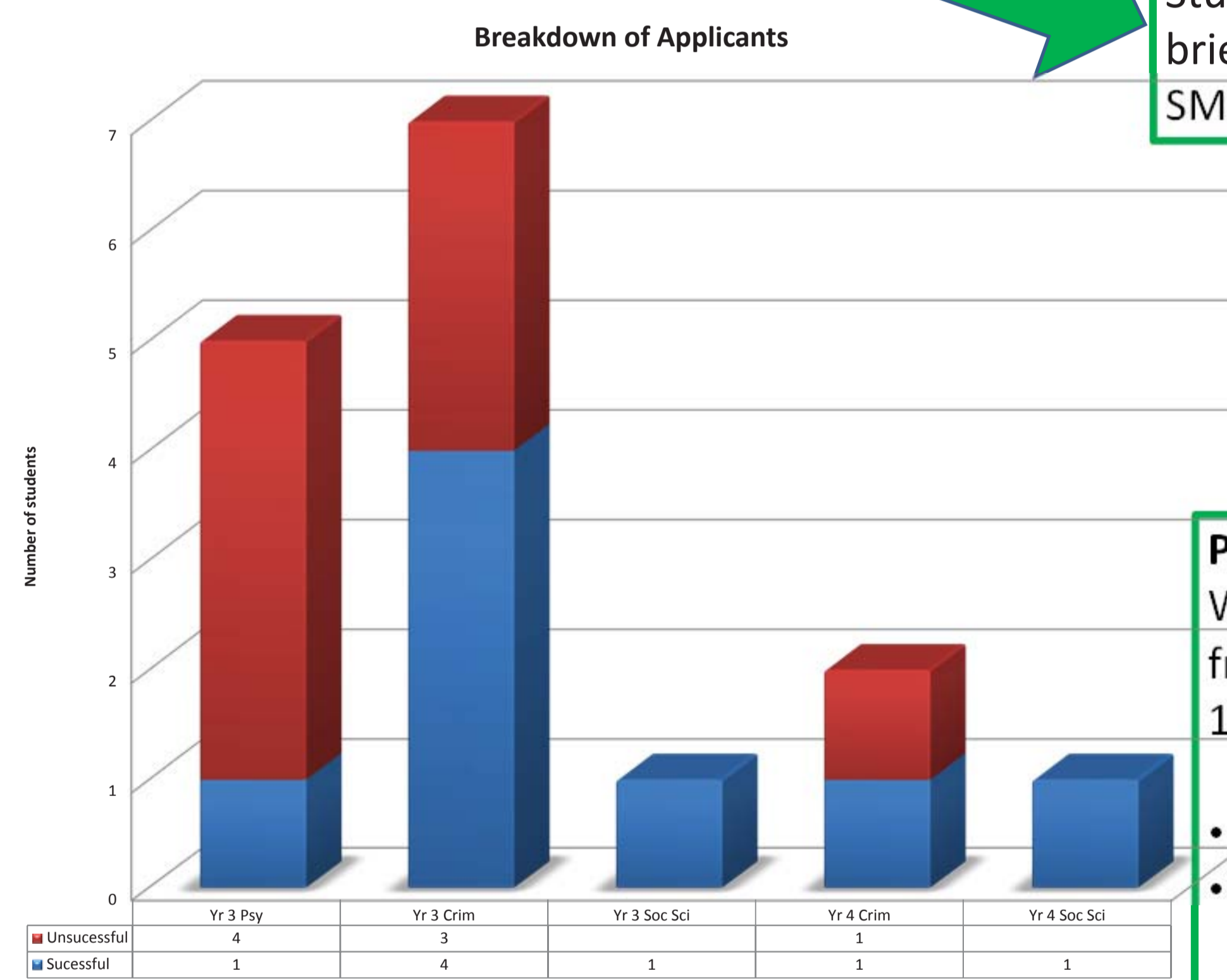
Unsuccessful Candidates (6 students)
 Students received feedback on their application and Assessment Centre performance.

Student Quote
“Even though I was unsuccessful the experience was brilliant. I have an Assessment Centre coming up, so I feel a lot more prepared and confident now”

Outcomes & Benefits:

- Students (successful and unsuccessful) feel more comfortable applying for positions and attending Assessment Centres.
- Successful applicants got the chance to develop professional links with local organisations and network within their sector.
- Students feel confident to follow up with organisations to develop additional skills.
- Community links are increased through working with local organisations, increasing the reputation of the University and our students.

Successful Candidates (8 students)
 Students attended a pre placement briefing and assisted in setting SMART goals for their placement



Placement
 Work Shadowing placements ran from Monday 14th April – Thursday 17th April and providers included:

- Scottish Court Service
- L & B Criminal Justice Authority
- Remploy
- Score Scotland
- Lifeline
- Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council (EVOC)
- Nari Kallyan Shangho (NKS)

Employer Feedback
“I commend the level of support that did not make the administration over complicated and didn’t distract me in any way from my day job”

“[student] was very impressive as an individual and represented the University exemplary”

“[student] read appropriate material between meetings/activities and was flexible and responsive to the timetable I had put together”

Student Feedback
“My positive experience has encouraged me to apply for more placements. Before this scheme I had not considered placements as being very worthwhile, however this opportunity certainly opened my eyes to the amount of experience & enjoyment which can be obtained by getting involved!”

“Having experienced a ‘placement’, I’m going to try and gain more work experience as having the practical side of things provides you with a more rounded approach to your degree subject.”

“Certainly have more confidence when applying for jobs in future, with the experience I have gained”

Post Placement Debrief
 Careers Adviser meeting

- Review placement outcomes
- Next steps planning

CV workshop

- Review and update CV post-placement

Poster Contributors: Lyn Kennedy, Munwar Hussain, Sharon Homan & Lisa Bews