

MA Counselling and Psychotherapy Practice

- [Programme Overview](#)
- [Programme Aims](#)
- [Programme Intended Learning Outcomes \(ILOs\)](#)
- [Programme Content](#)
- [Assessment methods](#)
- [Work experience and placement opportunities](#)
- [Additional Costs Table](#)
- [Graduate Attributes](#)
- [Appendix 1: Programme Structure Diagram - MA Counselling & Psychotherapy Practice](#)
- [Appendix 2: Map of Intended Learning Outcomes](#)
- [Appendix 3: Map of Summative Assessment Tasks by Module](#)
- [Appendix 4: Module Descriptors](#)

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|------------------------------------|---|
| Awarding institution | Bath Spa University |
| Teaching institution | Bath Spa University |
| School | School of Education |
| Main campus | Newton Park - Distance Learning |
| Other sites of delivery | |
| Other Schools involved in delivery | N/A |
| Name of award(s) | MA Counselling & Psychotherapy Practice |
| Qualification (final award) | MA |
| Intermediate awards available | PgCert Counselling & Psychotherapy Practice PgDip Counselling & Psychotherapy Practice |
| Routes available | Single |

| | |
|---|--|
| Duration of award | Normally 1 year full time, 2 years part time or 3 years part time (September 2021 cohort only) |
| Sandwich period | No |
| Modes of delivery offered | Full time or part-time distance learning |
| Regulatory Scheme [1] | Taught Postgraduate Framework |
| Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body accreditation | n/a |
| Date of most recent PSRB approval (month and year) | n/a |
| Renewal of PSRB approval due (month and year) | n/a |
| UCAS code | n/a |
| Route code (SITS) | CPPMA |
| Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements (including date of publication) | Masters Characteristic Statement (2015) |
| Date of most recent approval | August 2018 |
| Date specification last updated | January 2021 |

[1] This should also be read in conjunction with the University's Qualifications Framework

Programme Overview

Key Features

- Flexible study arrangements allowing you to choose from a range of accredited short modules or longer programmes of study.
- Flexible learning linked to your specialist interest in counselling and psychotherapy practice.
- Range of specialist and generic career-based module titles

The MA Counselling & Psychotherapy Practice (MA CPP) gives students an academic qualification alongside their professional counselling training. This is a full-time programme, taken over 1 year or a part-time programme, taken over 2 years part time or 3 years part time (September 2021 cohort only).

This programme is suitable for counsellors and psychotherapists who have completed a recognised counselling or psychotherapy training qualification, and who are working or who have recently worked professionally as a counsellor or psychotherapist.

The aims of the programme are to recognise and enhance understanding of good professional practice and deepen theoretical knowledge, to engage in evidence-based practice and research and to enhance skills of reflection and reflexivity and develop self-awareness to support Continued Professional Development.

Applicants with a recognised counselling or psychotherapy training qualification, taken within the last 5 years, can apply to be considered for Accredited Prior (Experiential) Learning (AP(E)L).

All modules are completed through distance learning. Individual contact with a tutor is either face to face, by telephone or through online tutorials. There are also webinars/online seminars available.

Contact could be individual or in groups.

Throughout the programme, students can influence and shape the direction of their learning focus. Students are encouraged to become active, autonomous learners during their studies, developing their own original perspectives on the issues and topics discussed through wide reading and reflection on both their experience and the literature.

Programme Aims

1. To be able to recognise and enhance understanding of good professional Counselling & Psychotherapy Practice (CPP) and deepen theoretical knowledge of the CPP field.
2. To facilitate participants to become competent in analysing, evaluating and developing therapeutic work.
3. To enable participants to identify ways of improving intended or current professional practice.
4. To engage in evidence-based practice and research.

5. To enhance practitioners' skills of reflection and reflexivity and develop self-awareness to support Continued Professional Development.

Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

(NB These ILOs are at level 7 of the FHEQ)

A Subject-Specific Skills and Knowledge

A1 A critical awareness of professional understanding within the field of Counselling & Psychotherapy Practice (C&PP), and the capacity to identify its significance and relevance within national and global contexts.

A2 Critical reflection and evaluation of your own practice and that of others, as well as the ability to provide an evidence base in support of claims made for evolving competencies.

A3 An in-depth understanding of current issues and developments informed by scholarship and research, and the ability to apply this to professional situations.

A4 Knowledge and understanding of theoretical underpinnings associated with C&PP as presented in published research and related literature.

B Cognitive and Intellectual Skills

B1 The ability to articulate a clearly structured and cohesive original argument.

B2 The ability to design and manage a research project which is ethically compliant, academically rigorous and professionally relevant.

B3 Synthesis of ideas and information in an innovative format and application to new cases or research questions.

B4 Development of personal effectiveness, self-awareness and self-management.

C Skills for Life and Work

C1 Work Independently - Act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks in a professional context.

C2 Work with Others - Plan for and actively engage in inclusive collaboration with others to tackle and solve complex problems and develop original insights.

C3 Communicate with Impact - Communicate complex ideas clearly, effectively and impactfully with specialist and non-specialist audiences.

C4 Demonstrate Digital Fluency - Use digital skills productively, critically and ethically to enhance creativity and communication in a professional context.

Intermediate awards

PgCert Intended Learning Outcomes

A1, A4, B1, B4, C1, C4

PgDip Intended Learning Outcomes

A1, A2, A4, B1, B4, C1, C3, C4

Programme Content

This programme comprises the following modules:

Key:

Core = C (everyone on programme has to do it)

Required = R (for a pathway within the programme)

Required* = R*

Optional = O

Not available for this status = N/A

If a particular status is greyed out, it is not offered for this programme.

Subject offered as single programme

| MA in Counselling & Psychotherapy Practice | | | | Status | |
|--|------------|--------------------------------------|---------|--------|-------|
| Level | Code | Title | Credits | Single | Joint |
| 7 | EDU7113-30 | Independent Study | 30 | C | |
| 7 | EDU7116-30 | Counselling Ethics and the Law | 30 | C | |
| 7 | EDU7115-30 | Reflecting on Clinical Practice | 30 | C | |
| 7 | EDU7102-15 | Research and the Professional Part 1 | 15 | C | |
| 7 | EDU7103-15 | Research and the Professional Part 2 | 15 | C | |
| 7 | EDU7104-60 | Dissertation | 60 | C | |

Assessment methods

A range of summative assessment tasks will be used to test the Intended Learning Outcomes in each module. These are indicated in the attached assessment map, which shows which tasks are used in which modules.

Students will be supported in their development towards summative assessment by appropriate formative exercises.

Please note: if you choose an optional module from outside this programme, you may be required to undertake a summative assessment task that does not appear in the assessment grid here in order to pass that module.

Work experience and placement opportunities

All students will be working (or have recently worked) professionally as counsellors or psychotherapists. They will draw on their clinical practice and working experience to identify gaps in their professional knowledge; to deepen their theoretical knowledge and critical reflection, and engage in reflexive practice to enhance their professional practice.

Additional Costs Table

| Module Code & Title | Type of Cost | Cost |
|---------------------|--------------|------|
| N/A | | |

Graduate Attributes

| Graduate Attribute | While at Bath Spa, I will develop my ability to: | This programme will help me to do this through: |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Confidently Self-Aware | Reflect on and recognise my unique skills, strengths, and values and be able to apply and articulate them in a range of different contexts. | Continuous group work, class discussion and reflective practice in exercises, reading tasks and course assessment |
| Emotionally Attuned | Be mindful of how my actions and emotions impact those around me so I can better navigate difficult situations and build effective interpersonal relationships. | Supportive and collaborative learning environments where students can collaborate and develop their communications skills |
| Inclusive Collaborator | Contribute independently to collaborative projects while working effectively with others, valuing diversity and respecting individual differences. | Awareness of diversity in professional practice and the significance of this. The integration of discussions and tasks during and/or outside lectures to facilitate self-directed learning and collaboration. |

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--|---|
| Adaptable Innovator | Embrace challenges, taking risks where needed and applying individual and collective problem solving. | Emphasis on creative thinking and adaptability in the context of counselling & psychotherapy to improve professional practice |
| Critical Thinker | Keep an open mind, ask curious questions and think creatively to gain a deeper and broader understanding of global perspectives and the world around me. | Critical engagement with the literature, asking curious questions and reflection on professional practice |
| Forward Thinker | Set goals, plan ahead and utilise resources to support my personal ambitions and achieve my own version of success. | Linking the assignments to professional practice and understanding their practical implications. The dissertation can also be designed to support their own personal/professional goals |
| Ethical Leader | Act with empathy, making decisions grounded in ethical principles while advocating for sustainability and positive social change. | Knowledge and training around research ethics |
| Responsible Self-Starter | Be accountable for my actions and decisions while demonstrating creativity, proactivity, and a focus on solutions. | The dissertation and module assignments can be designed to create direct links to professional practice |
| Compassionately Resilient | Respond to setbacks with a reflective and positive attitude, flexibility and a self-caring approach. | Discussions and coursework offer opportunities to reflect on practice and find solutions to setbacks utilising all available skills and resources |

| | | |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| Digitally Resourceful | Utilise and responsibly leverage existing and emerging technologies to solve problems and communicate. | Modules require students to engage with technology to support their learning and assessment. They also have access to additional technological tools to support their research activities. |
|------------------------------|--|--|

Modifications

Module-level modifications

| Code | Title | Nature of modification | Date(s) of approval and approving bodies | Date modification comes into effect |
|------------|------------------------------------|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| EDU7113-30 | Independent Study | Assessment change | Approved by Chair's action on 2/12/2020 | 2021/22 |
| EDU7114-60 | Independent Study | Module deletion | Approved by Chair's Action on behalf of SQMC June 2021 | 2021/22 |
| EDU7101-30 | Research Methods in Social Science | Module deletion | Approved by | 2020/21 |
| EDU7113-30 | Independent Study | Change to contact and independent study hours | SQMC March 2024 | 2024/25 |

Programme-level modifications

| Nature of modification | Date(s) of approval and approving bodies | Date modification comes into effect |
|---------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Change to 2 year delivery | Curriculum Committee December 2021 | Academic Year 2021 |
| | | |
| | | |

Attached as appendices:

1. Programme structure diagram
2. Map of module outcomes to level/programme outcomes
3. Assessment map
4. Module descriptors

Appendix 1: Programme Structure Diagram - MA Counselling & Psychotherapy Practice

| | | |
|---|--|----------------------------|
| Full time study | | |
| Level 7 | | |
| Trimester 1 | Trimester 2 | Trimester 3 |
| Core Modules | | |
| EDU7115-30 Reflecting on Clinical Practice EDU7113-30 Independent Study | EDU7102-15 Research and the Professional Part 1 EDU7103-15 Research and the Professional Part 2 EDU7116-30 Counselling Ethics and the Law | EDU7104-60 Dissertation |
| Rule Notes: | | |

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Part time study | | |
| Level 7 - Year 1 | | |
| Trimester 1 | Trimester 2 | Trimester 3 |
| Core Modules | | |

| Part time study | | |
|--|--|------------------------------|
| EDU7115-30 Reflecting on Clinical Practice | EDU7116-30 Counselling, Ethics & the Law | EDU7113-30 Independent Study |
| Level 7 - Year 2 | | |
| Core Modules | | |
| EDU7102-15 Research & the Professional Part 1 | EDU7104-60 Dissertation | |
| EDU7103-15 Research & the Professional Part 2 | | |
| Rule Notes: EDU7104-60 is completed over trimester 2 and 3 for part time students | | |

Course Content

| <u>180 Credits</u> | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---------|
| Module Code | Module Title | Credits |
| EDU7113-30 | Independent Study | 30 |
| EDU7116-30 | Counselling, Ethics & the Law | 30 |
| EDU7115-30 | Reflecting on Clinical Practice | 30 |
| EDU7102-15 | Research & the Professional Part 1 | 15 |
| EDU7103-15 | Research & the Professional Part 2 | 15 |
| EDU7104-60 | Dissertation | 60 |

| <u>120 Credits (60 credits APL)</u> | | |
|--|------------------------------------|---------|
| Module Code | Module Title | Credits |
| EDU7115-30 | Reflecting on Clinical Practice | 30 |
| EDU7102-15 | Research & the Professional Part 1 | 15 |
| EDU7103-15 | Research & the Professional Part 2 | 15 |

| | | |
|------------|--------------|----|
| EDU7104-60 | Dissertation | 60 |
|------------|--------------|----|

| <u>90 Credits (90 credits APL)</u> | | |
|---|------------------------------------|---------|
| Module Code | Module Title | Credits |
| EDU7102-15 | Research & the Professional Part 1 | 15 |
| EDU7103-15 | Research & the Professional Part 2 | 15 |
| EDU7104-60 | Dissertation | 60 |

Appendix 2: Map of Intended Learning Outcomes

| Level | Module Code | Module Title | Status (C,R,O)[2] | Intended Learning Outcomes | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|----|----|----|-----------------------------------|----|----|----|--------------------------|----|----|----|
| | | | | Subject-specific Skills and Knowledge | | | | Cognitive and Intellectual Skills | | | | Skills for Life and Work | | | |
| | | | | A1 | A2 | A3 | A4 | B1 | B2 | B3 | B4 | C1 | C2 | C3 | C4 |
| 7 | EDU7113-30 | Independent Study | C | X | | | X | X | | | X | X | | | X |
| 7 | EDU7116-30 | Counselling Ethics and the Law | C | X | | | X | X | | | X | X | | | X |
| 7 | EDU7115-30 | Reflecting on Clinical Practice | C | X | X | | X | X | | | X | X | | X | X |
| 7 | EDU7102-15 | Research and the Professional Part 1 | C | X | X | | X | X | | | X | X | | X | X |
| 7 | EDU7103-15 | Research and the Professional Part 2 | C | X | X | | X | X | | | X | X | | X | X |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------|---|---|--|----|--------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 7 | ED U71 15- 30 | Refl ectin g on Clini cal Pract ice | C | | | 1 x | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | ED U71 02- 15 | Rese arch and the Prof essio nal Part 1 | C | | | 1 x | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | ED U71 03- 15 | Rese arch and the Prof essio nal Part 2 | C | | | 1 x | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | ED U71 04- 60 | Diss ertati on | C | | 1x | | | | | | | | | | | | |

[3] C = Core; R = Required; R* = Required*; O = Optional