MA Counselling and Psychotherapy Practice

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Awarding institution	Bath Spa University
Teaching institution	Bath Spa University
School	School of Education
Main campus	Newton Park
Other sites of delivery	Corsham Court
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 or 3 years part time
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	July 2018

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

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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 a period of up to 3 years.

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.

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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.

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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 The skills to be an autonomous learner (including time management) that demonstrate the exercise of initiative, personal responsibility and decision making in complex and unpredictable situations and the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.

C2 Team working skills necessary to succeed in the global workplace, with an ability both to work in and lead teams effectively, as well as the ability to act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.

C3 Communication skills that show the ability to communicate clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences. This will be informed by knowledge at the forefront of the academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice. You will be able to draw conclusions drawn from dealing with complex issues systematically.

C4 IT skills and digital literacy that demonstrate the ability to develop new skills to a high level and to approach complex issues systematically and creatively.

Intermediate awards

PgCert Intended Learning Outcomes

A1, A4, B1, B4, C1, C4

PgDip Intended Learning Outcomes

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

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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* (either EDU7101-30 or EDU7102-15 & EDU7103-15)

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	O	
7	EDU7114-60	Independent Study	60	O	
7	EDU7116-30	Counselling Ethics and the Law	30	O	
7	EDU7115-30	Reflecting on Clinical Practice	30	C	
7	EDU7101-30	Research Methods in Social Science	30	R*	
7	EDU7102-15	Research and the Professional Part 1	15	R*	
7	EDU7103-15	Research and the Professional Part 2	15	R*	
7	EDU7104-60	Dissertation	60	C	

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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.

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Graduate Attributes

	Bath Spa Graduates...	In Counselling & Psychotherapy Practice, this means…
1	Will be employable: equipped with the skills necessary to flourish in the global workplace, able to work in and lead teams.	Being able to exhibit the skills of a practitioner whose practice is embedded in the global field of counselling and can inform the development of this in colleagues.
2	Will be able to understand and manage complexity, diversity and change.	Being responsive to the changing landscape within the field of counselling and psychotherapy, and able to adapt own practice accordingly.
3	Will be creative: able to innovate and to solve problems by working across disciplines as professional or artistic practitioners.	Developing international networks both within own subject area and more broadly across the counselling and education sectors.
4	Will be digitally literate: able to work at the interface of creativity and technology.	Demonstrating an ability to use technology in the development of own practice and that of others. This may be through the use of online counselling practice.
5	Will be internationally networked: either by studying abroad for part of the their programme, or studying alongside students from overseas.	Drawing on the international networks at BSU to build and extend relationships within the sector on a global level.
6	Will be creative thinkers, doers and makers.	Creating learning experiences through everyday interactions and being curious and innovative in own practice. This will be apparent in meeting requirements of professional bodies to complete a range of Continuing Professional Development courses.
7	Will be critical thinkers: able to express their ideas in written and oral form, and possessing information literacy.	Demonstrating criticality in their reading and writing activities, and an ability to disseminate this to others within the C&PP field at relevant Conferences and through professional journals.
8	Will be ethically aware: prepared for citizenship in a local, national and global context.	Recognising the importance of following ethical standards in practice and research, and understanding the ethical dimension which underpins professional codes of practice and in particular, the BACP Ethical Framework.

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Modifications

Module-level modifications

Code	Title	Nature of modification	Date(s) of approval and approving bodies	Date modification comes into effect

Programme-level modifications

Nature of modification	Date(s) of approval and approving bodies	Date modification comes into effect

Attached as appendices:

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

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

YEAR 1

Trimester 1	Trimester 2	Trimester 3
EDU7114-60 Independent study – 60 credits (equivalent to 60 cps AP(E)L)		
OR no AP(E)L		
EDU7113-30 Independent Study – 30 credits (start Sept submit May)		
	EDU7116-30 Counselling Ethics & the Law – 30 credits (start Feb submit Sept)	

YEAR 2

Trimester 1	Trimester 2	Trimester 3
EDU7115-30 Reflecting on Clinical Practice – 30 credits (start Sept – submit May)		
	EDU7101-30 Research Methods - 30 credits	EDU7103-15 Research and the Professional Part 2 – 15 credits (start June - submit Sept)
	OR	
	EDU7102-15 Research and the Professional Part 1 – 15 credits (start Feb – submit May)	

YEAR 3

Trimester 1	Trimester 2	Trimester 3
EDU7104-60 Dissertation – 60 credits (start Sept submit Sept)		

<u>Course Content</u>

180 Credits				
Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Delivery	Submission Date
EDU7113-30	Independent Study	30	Sept 2018-May 2019	May 2019
EDU7116-30	Counselling, Ethics & the Law	30	Feb 2019-Sept 2019	Sept 2019
EDU7115-30	Reflecting on Clinical Practice	30	Sept 2019-May 2020	May 2020
EDU7102-15	Research & the Professional Part 1	15	Feb 2020-May 2020	May 2020
EDU7103-15	Research & the Professional Part 2	15	June 2020-Sept 2020	Sept 2020
EDU7104-60	Dissertation	60	Sept 2020-Sept 2021	Sept 2021

120 Credits (60 credits APL)				
Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Delivery	Submission Date
EDU7115-30	Reflecting on Clinical Practice	30	Sept 2018-May 2019	May 2019
EDU7102-15	Research & the Professional Part 1	15	Feb 2019-May 2019	May 2019
EDU7103-15	Research & the Professional Part 2	15	June 2019-Sept 2019	Sept 2019
EDU7104-60	Dissertation	60	Sept 2019- Sept 2020	Sept 2020

90 Credits (90 credits APL)				
Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Delivery	Submission Date
EDU7102-15	Research & the Professional Part 1	15	Feb 2019-May 2019	May 2019
EDU7103-15	Research & the Professional Part 2	15	June 2019-Sept 2019	Sept 2019
EDU7104-60	Dissertation	60	Sept 2019-Sept 2020	Sept 2020

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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	O	X			X	X			X	X			X
7	EDU7114-60	Independent Study	O	X			X	X			X	X			X
7	EDU7116-30	Counselling Ethics and the Law	O	X			X	X			X	X			X
7	EDU7115-30	Reflecting on Clinical Practice	C	X	X		X	X			X	X		X	X
7	EDU7101-30	Research Methods in Social Science	R*	X	X		X	X			X	X		X	X
7	EDU7102-15	Research and the Professional Part 1	R*	X	X		X	X			X	X		X	X
7	EDU7103-15	Research and the Professional Part 2	R*	X	X		X	X			X	X		X	X
7	EDU7104-60	Dissertation	C	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

[2] C = Core; R = Required; R* = Required* either EDU7101 or EDU7102 & EDU7103; O = Optional

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Appendix 3: Map of Summative Assessment Tasks by Module

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Status (C, R, O) [3]	Assessment method													
				Coursework						Practical					Written Examination		
				Composition	Dissertation	Essay	Journal	Portfolio	Case Study	Performance	Practical Project	Practical skills	Presentation	Set exercises	Written Examination	In-class test (seen)	In-class test (unseen)
7	EDU7113-30	Independent Study (30 credits)	O			1x											
7	EDU7114-60	Independent Study (60 credits)	O			1x											
7	EDU7116-30	Counselling Ethics & the Law	O			1x											
7	EDU7115-30	Reflecting on Clinical Practice	C / O			1x											
7	EDU7101-30	Research Methods Social Science	R*			1x									1x		
7	EDU7102-15	Research and the Professional Part 1	R*			1x											
7	EDU7103-15	Research and the Professional Part 2	R*			1x											
7	EDU7104-60	Dissertation	C		1x												

[3] C = Core; R = Required; R* = Required* either EDU7101-30 or EDU7102-15 & EDU7103-15; O = Optional

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