



# **Minster Centre**

## **MA/PG Dip Professional Practice Counselling and Psychotherapy (*Advanced Clinical Practice*)**

# **Programme Handbook 2017**

**Validated by Middlesex University, London**

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## Information in alternative formats

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This handbook can be found on the student intranet at [www.minsterstudents.co.uk](http://www.minsterstudents.co.uk)

If you have a disability which makes reading this handbook or navigating our website difficult and you would like to receive information in an alternative format, please contact the Registrar, Julia Culver [juliac@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:juliac@minstercentre.org.uk).

We can supply sections from this publication as:

- a Word document with enlarged type — sent by email or supplied on a memory stick
- printed copy on non-white paper
- printed copy with enlarged type

Other formats may be possible. We will do our best to respond promptly. To help us, please be as specific as you can and include details of your disability.

## Purpose and status of your student handbook

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The purpose of this handbook is to provide you with information about your programme of study and to direct you to other general information about studying at the Minster Centre and information about Middlesex University who validate the programme of study. It should be used in conjunction with the student Intranet and the Aids to Study for your course.

The material in this handbook is as accurate as possible at the date of production however you will be informed of any major changes to the information in this handbook in a timely manner.

Your comments on any improvements to this handbook are welcome - please email them with the name of the handbook to the Registrar, Julia Culver [juliac@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:juliac@minstercentre.org.uk)

This handbook is available on the Intranet, with hard copies available in the library and student kitchens.

Please also read the *Aids to Study* which provides detailed information about work submitted for assessment and is also available on intranet, and in the library and common rooms. The various forms you will need to complete along the way (regarding essays, placements, etc.) are all available on our intranet with hard copies available in the pigeon holes on the upstairs landing.

## The University Regulations

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This handbook must be read in conjunction with the Middlesex University Regulations available online at [www.mdx.ac.uk/regulations](http://www.mdx.ac.uk/regulations)

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## Academic calendar

**The calendar for the 2017 academic year, including all term dates, deadlines, weekends, Board of Study and Assessment Board dates will be available on the calendar on the student intranet <http://minsterstudents.co.uk/home/calendar/>.** If there are any date changes these will be made on the calendar so please check crucial dates such as written work deadlines there. Courses will begin in January of each year and will comprise 28 days in college in the first year. Days in college will be delivered in ten weekend blocks comprising full days. Students who are registered on the full MA will undertake two extra research teaching weekends and an extra day on both the November and December weekends - see below.

In Year 2 there will be one weekend teaching session comprising Saturday and Sunday.

| <b>Dates in college</b>   | <b>Topic</b>  |
|---|---|
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> year 2017</b>   |   |
| January 13/14/15  | What is Missing in your Practice<br>Diversity in the Therapy Room               |
| February 17/18/19   | Advanced Object Relations   |
| March 17/18/19  | Relational Psychotherapy<br>Shadow of the Therapeutic Relationship              |
| April 7/ 8/9  | Neuroscience, Trauma and the Body<br>Body Psychotherapy Part 1                  |
| May 19/20/21  | Attachment Theory<br>Dissociation to Traumatic Fragmentation                    |
| June 9/10/11 (MA students only)   | Research methods and Ethics 1   |
| July 7/8/9  | Distinctiveness of Jung's psychology  |
| August 4/5/6  | Trauma, Disability and Difference   |
| September 15/16/17  | Impasse in Psychotherapy,<br>Body Psychotherapy Part 2                          |
| October 6/7/8 (MA students only)  | Research methods and Ethics 2   |
| November 3 (MA students only), 4/5 (MA and PG Dip students )                  | Erotic Transference and Counter transference,<br>Finding your Voice around Race |
| November 25/26 (MA students only)   | Developing research proposals   |
| December 8 (MA students only), 9/10 (MA and PG Dip students )                 | Relational psychotherapy, intersubjectivity<br>Working with race and class      |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> year 2017</b>   |   |
| March 3   | Tutorial, skills and Supervision  |
| March 4/5 (MA students only)  | Dissertation research   |
| April 28  | Tutorial, skills and Supervision  |
| April 29  | Live Assessments  |
| July 21   | Tutorial, skills and Supervision  |
| October 13  | Tutorial, skills and Supervision  |
| Plus 7 hours dissertation supervision – students to organize with supervisors |   |

## ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

Module 1: Contemporary Theories

Module 2: Personal and Clinical Integration

Module 3: Practicum 1

Module 4: Practicum 2

Module 5: Dissertation

| Submissions   | Submission deadline   |
|---|---|
| <b><i>Students in their second year in 2017</i></b>   |   |
| 1000 word summary account of presentation (Module 2)  | 27 <sup>th</sup> January 2017                               |
| (Dissertation research proposal for Formative Assessment and Research Ethics Committee approval) (Module 5) | 24 <sup>th</sup> February 2017                              |
| Practicum 2 Case Study plus live assessment (Module 4)  | 24 <sup>th</sup> March 2017                                 |
| Dissertation (Module 5)   | 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2017                               |
| <b><i>Students starting in January 2017</i></b>   |   |
| Practice Essay (for Formative Assessment):<br>Object Relations  | 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2017                                 |
| AAI Reflective Account (Module 1)   | 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2017                                  |
| 40 minute presentation (Module 2)   | July through to November 2017<br>weekends                   |
| Clinical Practice and Supervision Portfolio (Module 3)  | 25 <sup>th</sup> August 2017                                |
| Clinical Practice and Supervision Review Meeting<br>(Module 3)  | September and October 2017<br>weekend in Supervision Groups |
| Contemporary Theories Essay (Module 1)  | 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2017                              |
| 1000 word summary account of presentation (Module 2)  | 26 <sup>th</sup> January 2018                               |
| (Dissertation research proposal for Formative Assessment and Research Ethics Committee approval) (Module 5) | 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2018                              |
| Practicum 2 Case Study (Module 4)   | 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2018                                 |
| Live Assessments  | 29 <sup>th</sup> April 2018                                 |
| Dissertation (Module 5)   | 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2018 (TBC)                         |

| COMMITTEE & ASSESSMENT BOARD MEETINGS   |
|---|
| <b>Board of Studies</b>   |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2017   |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2017  |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> September 2017 (MA Professional Practice ACP & Supervision only) |
| <b>Assessment Boards</b>  |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2017   |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2017   |

## INTRODUCTION TO THE MINSTER CENTRE

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The Minster Centre was founded in 1978 to provide an integrative training in counselling and psychotherapy, it is a Registered Charity and a Company Limited by Guarantee. The Minster Centre was one of the first institutions to offer an integrative training in counselling and psychotherapy. It has a long tradition of social commitment, and strives to consider the wider context of our mental and emotional worlds when working therapeutically. This includes thinking about gender, culture, class, ethnicity, sexuality, disability and oppression.

Our trainings bring together theory, practice and personal experience and you will be required to work with all three strands as you train. We are proud of the rigor of our training and the emphasis we place on experiential learning. Our curriculum offers our trainees the opportunity to explore and integrate many different ways of working, and we aim to develop therapists who are well equipped to work with a wide range of clients in today's world. The MA Professional Practice is designed for counsellors and psychotherapists who are already qualified and working and who wish to develop their professional skills at the same time as obtaining an academic qualification.

The Minster Centre is a member of the Humanistic and Integrative Psychotherapy College of the United Kingdom Council for Psychotherapy (the HIPC of the UKCP). The UKCP is the main professional body for psychotherapists. We are also organisational members of The British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP).

Our MA and PG Dip courses are also validated by Middlesex University.

The Minster Centre welcomes applications from people of all ethnic and cultural communities and sexual orientations. Disability is catered for wherever possible. Our application form makes clear that information requested on medical, psychiatric or addiction-related histories, and on previous criminal convictions, is intended to help us support students where appropriate rather than to discriminate against them.

### **Board of Trustees**

The members of the Board are: Tamar Posner (Chair), Christopher Brooks (Treasurer), Norma Clayton, Kea Horvers, Sean Titley and Susanna Wright.

Information about the Minster Centre regulations and procedures is available in this Handbook and on the student intranet. If you can't find the information you need, please contact:

- The Registrar, Julia Culver [JuliaC@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:JuliaC@minstercentre.org.uk) for timetabling or administrative issues.
- Charlotte Dunsby-Ferguson [Charlotte@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:Charlotte@minstercentre.org.uk) for financial matters.
- For queries or advice about the course or your progress please approach your Course Leader, Paul Martin.

If, for some reason, you would find it difficult to raise the issue with your Course Leader please approach another tutor or the Deputy Director of Training. Please use the opportunities we provide to give us feedback on the course including the end of year feedback forms and your representation at the Board of Studies. We encourage you to provide feedback directly to your tutors during the course so that they are aware of anything that you are finding difficult or unhelpful or anything you are particularly appreciating.

## INTRODUCTION TO MIDDLESEX UNIVERSITY

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Although you will enroll at and attend the Minster Centre the MA/PG Dip in professional Practice is validated by Middlesex University and therefore you are a student of both. . Within Middlesex University the programme is part of the Faculty of Science and Technology.

Being a Middlesex student means, in brief, the following:

- If you successfully complete the programme you will receive the Middlesex qualification of MA.
- You may attend the appropriate Middlesex University graduation ceremony.
- You do not receive a Middlesex ID card.
- You are not a member of the Middlesex University Students' Union.
- The Minster Centre is guided by Middlesex University Regulations which are available online at; <http://www.mdx.ac.uk/aboutus/Strategy/regulations/index.aspx> but has its own regulations and procedures for complaints, appeals and academic misconduct.

This list is not exhaustive and therefore please contact the Registrar, Julia Culver [Juliac@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:Juliac@minstercentre.org.uk) if you have any questions about your entitlements as a Middlesex student.

### The Middlesex University regulations

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Although it is not necessary to read the Regulations in their entirety you should know where you can find them (<http://www.mdx.ac.uk/about-us/policies/university-regulations> ) and also be aware of the following key details:

#### **Appeals**

Please note that the Minster Centre uses its own regulations for handling student appeals and therefore section G of the Middlesex University Regulations does not apply to you.

More information about the appeal process is included in this Handbook and is available on the Student Intranet or from the Registrar.

#### **Academic Misconduct**

Please note that the Minster Centre uses its own regulations for handling alleged academic misconduct and therefore section F of the Middlesex University Regulations does not apply to you. More information about the process is included in this Handbook and in the Aids to Study and is available on the student intranet.

More information about the Regulations regarding assessment is given in the section 'Progressing on your programme'.

The following are also important documents which relate to the academic relationship between the Minster Centre and Middlesex University:

#### **The Memorandum of Co-operation**

This is the formal agreement between Middlesex University and the Minster Centre on the delivery of the Programme. The Memorandum, among other things, sets out the responsibilities of both the Minster Centre and Middlesex University. In brief these include

responsibility for Middlesex University to validate the agreed qualifications and take overall responsibility for the academic standards of courses while the Minster Centre directs day to day delivery including admissions, teaching, assessment and provision of library and other learning resources. If you wish to view this document then please contact the Registrar, Julia Culver [Juliac@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:Juliac@minstercentre.org.uk)

### **Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) UK Quality Code.**

The QAA is an independent agency appointed by the UK Government to be responsible for upholding the academic quality and standards of all universities and colleges in the UK. The QAA produce the [UK Quality Code](#) which outlines the key expectations placed on all UK Higher Education providers. In particular there is a specific chapter on how institutions should manage partnership arrangements, such as the programme you are now enrolled on. This section is chapter [B10 'Managing higher education provision with others'](#).

The QAA also review higher education providers (including Middlesex) to ensure that it is operating in line with the Quality Code and providing the best academic experience for its students. The Minster Centre will be reviewed by the QAA in early 2017 as we are seeking specific course designation to allow our MA students to access postgraduate student loans. Students have been invited to contribute to this process, please see the intra net for a copy of the student submission <http://minsterstudents.co.uk/basic-information/board-of-studies-minutes/>

You can also learn more about Quality Assurance from watching two short [videos](#) designed specifically for students in Higher Education, which are available on line at: <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/AssuringStandardsAndQuality/what-is-quality>

The QAA published a subject benchmark statement for Psychotherapy and Counselling in 2013. This can be accessed at <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/Pages/Subject-benchmark-statement-counselling-psychotherapy.aspx>

## **Welcome to the School of Science & Technology**

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### **Welcome from the Dean**

Welcome to Middlesex University and to the School of Science & Technology. We are pleased that you have chosen to study with us and hope that you find your time with Middlesex enjoyable and stimulating. This programme handbook contains an overview of your programme and its modules – keep it safe so that you may refer to it throughout your time on the programme.

Your programme handbook along with other key documents, such as the Academic Regulations [mdx.ac.uk/regulations](http://mdx.ac.uk/regulations), sets out what you can expect from your experience at Middlesex University but also what is expected from you. From our side we will aim to deliver the best student experience we can so that you can build on your skills and knowledge and achieve your full potential. In return we expect you to engage actively in the learning process, to be fully committed to your studies and determined to succeed.

In your early weeks, this includes reading through this handbook and consulting the other information sources flagged here. You are not expected to absorb everything in detail, but to be aware of the main resource documents and their contents. Here at Middlesex we are very proud of our academic programmes and students and we look forward to celebrating your success at your Graduation Ceremony.

**Professor Martin Loomes, Dean of School of Science and Technology, Middlesex University**



## **Welcome from the Minster Centre Director**

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Hello and welcome to starting your, or to continuing your MA/PG Dip in Advanced Clinical Practice at the Minster Centre. We are a lively and questioning community of trainees, graduates and staff, committed to the quality of our work and to retaining and developing the Minster ethos.

Many trainees and visitors to the Minster Centre have commented on the friendliness of the place. Although we are a well-established and well-regarded training institution we have taken a conscious decision to remain small enough to offer a more personalised training. Our learning groups are relatively small and designed so that staff have an opportunity to know you well and vice versa. We are proud to offer a unique perspective of psychotherapy and counselling training, as we combine a strong theoretical integrative grounding with an emphasis on the importance of experiential learning and self-awareness. We hope that the Advanced Clinical Practice course will give you an important opportunity to reflect in depth on your therapeutic work and to consider new approaches to theory and practice.

On completion of your course you can join the graduate community of the Minster Centre and become involved in group Meetings and other Continuing Professional Development Opportunities. Some of our graduates contribute to the ongoing work of the charity, for instance by contributing to bursary or hardship committees, consultations or acting as Trustees.

Completion of your course may feel a long way away now, and you are probably much more concerned with what this next year or weekend will bring. Because we aim to nurture reflective practitioners who are able to think and practice autonomously, and to recognise the responsibilities of the work of psychotherapy and counselling, you can expect to find some challenges along the way. You will have to focus on your personal development, and this is likely to be both enriching and, at times, challenging. We will do our best to accompany you on the way.

This Student Handbook is important as it provides you with the details of your programme modules, learning resources, communication with Minster and other essential information. It is available on our intranet, with hard copies available in the library and student common rooms. It may be necessary to update it during the academic year, and we will let you know if we do.

Please also read the MA/PGDip Advanced Clinical Practice *Aids to Study* which is also available on intranet, and in the library and common rooms. The various forms you will need to complete along the way (regarding essays, placements, etc.) are all available on our intranet with hard copies available in the pigeon holes on the upstairs landing.

Wishing you a warm welcome to the Minster Centre.

*Lissie Wright*

Director

## CONTACTS AND COMMUNICATION

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### Programme staff list and contact details

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#### **The Minster Centre**

20 Lonsdale Rd

Queens Park

London NW6 6RD

Tel: +44 (0)20 7644 6240

**Use this postal address if you want to write to us.**

**The office is open from 9.30am to 5.30pm.**

#### **Director**

Lissie Wright

The Minster Centre

Email: [lissie@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:lissie@minstercentre.org.uk)

#### **Registrar**

Julia Culver

Tel: +44 (0)20 7644 6246

Email: [juliac@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:juliac@minstercentre.org.uk)

#### **Deputy Director**

Philip Reilly

Email: [PhilipR@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:PhilipR@minstercentre.org.uk)

#### **Deputy Director**

Alyson Jaffe

Email: [Alyson@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:Alyson@minstercentre.org.uk)

#### **Middlesex University Link Tutor**

David Henderson

#### **Minster Centre Institution Link Tutor**

Philip Reilly

Email: [PhilipR@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:PhilipR@minstercentre.org.uk)

### **Teaching staff**

All staff whose individual contact details are not shown can be contacted via [reception@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:reception@minstercentre.org.uk). If you wish to meet with a staff member please email them directly or via reception to arrange this in advance. Teaching staff will reply to emails as soon as they can but please be aware that they are all practicing therapists and work for the Minster Centre part-time. Although they will often respond more quickly, we ask them to aim for a response within a week outside of holiday times. If you are having difficulty contacting a tutor and need advice please contact the office.

#### **Core Teaching Staff**

Paul Martin

Andrew Sutton

Julia Denington

Clare Cohen

Course Leader / Course Supervisor

Course Tutor / Course Supervisor

Course Supervisor

ETG Facilitator

#### **Visiting Lecturers**

Professor Andrew Samuels

Anne Marie Keary

Judy Yellin

David Richards

Shadows of the Therapy Relationship

Body Psychotherapy

Working with Multiplicity in the clinic: from "Normal dissociation to traumatic fragmentation

Object Relations

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Chris Hauke  | The Distinctiveness of Jung's Psychology                     |
| Alyson Jaffe | Disability and difference                                    |
| Eugene Ellis | Finding your voice around race in the therapeutic space      |
| Frank Lowe   | Working with race and class in ourselves and in our patients |

### ***Research Teachers and Dissertation Supervisors***

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Dr Angela Cotter:   | Head of Research |
| Dr Patricia Bonnici |                  |
| Dr Valerie Thomas   |                  |

### ***Dissertation Supervisors***

A list of dissertation supervisors is available on the intranet.

### **Administrative staff**

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Julia Culver              | Registrar<br>Email: <a href="mailto:juliac@minstercentre.org.uk">juliac@minstercentre.org.uk</a>  |
| Betti Urmos               | Admissions Officer<br>Email: <a href="mailto:betti@minstercentre.org.uk">betti@minstercentre.org.uk</a>                                       |
| Nicola Muir               | Receptionist (building, room bookings, messages)<br>Email: <a href="mailto:reception@minstercentre.org.uk">reception@minstercentre.org.uk</a> |
| Polly Mortimer            | Librarian<br>Email: <a href="mailto:librarian@minstercentre.org.uk">librarian@minstercentre.org.uk</a>  |
| Amber Cross               | Operations Manager<br>Email: <a href="mailto:amber@minstercentre.org.uk">amber@minstercentre.org.uk</a>                                       |
| Charlotte Dunsby-Ferguson | Operations Assistant (fees)<br>Email: <a href="mailto:charlotte@minstercentre.org.uk">charlotte@minstercentre.org.uk</a>                      |
| Stuart Bell               | IT Officer<br>Email: <a href="mailto:stuart@minstercentre.org.uk">stuart@minstercentre.org.uk</a>   |

## **Your contact and personal details**

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If there are any changes to your contact details please tell Reception as soon as you can to ensure that all important communications reach you.

## **E-mail**

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We use e-mail as the main method of communication with students. You will need a working email address that you check regularly. If you are not receiving emails that have reached your peers please check your spam folders and settings before asking the office to check your contact details. Emails sent to groups can sometimes be intercepted by spam

filters and you will need to mark them as not spam to ensure similar emails reach you in future.

## **The Intranet**

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The Minster Centre intranet contains important information including:

- This handbook
- Reading lists for the modules
- Calendar of dates, deadlines
- The academic schedule of weekends and module groups
- Aids to Study
- Administrative and finance forms and procedures
- Complaints Procedure
- Information about training clients
- Library information
- Links to therapy-related resources
- Student forums

## **Data protection and privacy (Fair Processing Notice)**

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The information that you provide in your application and at enrolment is held on a computerised database. As you progress through the course we will add information about attendance, work submitted, assessments, and important communications. This may include sensitive personal data and could include photographs. The Centre needs to process student personal data in order to function effectively as an educational institution and to provide students with the support they require while undertaking their studies. Personal data is processed for a variety of reasons (as set out below) and all such personal data shall be collected and held in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 ('the Act').

The Centre provides this Fair Processing Notice (FPN) which informs you how your personal data will be processed and the purposes for which the data has been collected. It also explains how you can opt out of some aspects of the processing, where applicable.

### **Types of personal data processed**

Personal data the Centre may process:

- personal details (name, address, date of birth)
- phone numbers
- email addresses
- gender
- gender identity
- photographs
- financial information
- academic marks
- appraisals
- tutorial notes
- emails
- references
- disciplinary information
- criminal offence or conviction information

- health and disability information
- ethnicity data
- sexual orientation
- dietary requirements
- religious belief data
- caring responsibilities
- information regarding hobbies and interests
- any other legitimate personal data relating to academic and pastoral support.

Information about criminal offences, health, disability, ethnicity, sexual life and religion constitutes sensitive personal data (as defined within [s.2 of the Act](#)). This list is not exhaustive

### **How your personal data will be used within the Minster Centre**

To manage its operations effectively, provide services to you and meet certain legal requirements, the Centre will process and maintain your personal data. This may include data such as name, address, date of birth, programme studied, fee payments, information about assessments, progression and results. In addition to this, the Centre may process some sensitive personal data about you, such as details about your health or disability in order to make reasonable adjustments, and information concerning ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, domicile and disability for planning and monitoring purposes. Also, in some circumstances information about past criminal convictions will be processed.

Your personal data will be used within the Centre for admissions (e.g. assessment of applications, interviews, offers) training administration (e.g. registers, progress monitoring, timetabling, assessments), financial administration (e.g. fees, loans, bursaries), to provide you with services, such as the Library and computer facilities; provision of Student ID cards, and support, such as guidance to tutors and study advice. Any personal data shared in these ways will not be excessive. For example, the librarian will need to know what course you are registered on and contact details in case a book is overdue or missing but it does not need to see your academic results. This is not an exhaustive list.

The Centre will also use student personal data to produce non-identifiable statistical data for equality monitoring and improving the student experience.

### **Sharing your personal data (third party disclosures)**

The Centre may disclose appropriate student personal data, including sensitive personal data, to third parties, where there is legitimate need or legal reason to do so., This can occur when you are studying with us or afterwards. Such disclosure is subject to procedures to ensure the identity and legitimacy of such agencies. These third parties may include the following (please note that this is not an exhaustive list):

#### **Turnitin®**

The Centre does not currently use the Turnitin® UK system but may opt to do so in future to help assessors check students' work for improper citation and potential plagiarism. The system creates a textual similarity review by comparing students' work against a variety of sources. Students may therefore be required to provide a limited amount of personal data, for instance name, email address and course details and submissions, to Turnitin® when using the service.

This data will be stored on a server based on the United States under the "EU-US Privacy Shield". This means that the data will be managed to similar standards to those required under UK Data Protection legislation.

## **Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA), HE funding councils and other government bodies**

The Minster Centre currently holds Specific Course Designation so that students on the MA courses can access Disabled Students Allowance (DSA). This has so far not required us to provide data to HESA but may do so in future. HESA is the official agency for the collection, analysis and dissemination of quantitative information about higher education in the UK. In addition, the Centre is applying for designation; if we are successful future students on MA courses could access Postgraduate Student Loans. If this application is successful we will be required by law to provide some personal data from current and past students (including students on non- MA courses) to HE funding councils, government bodies and HESA. HESA holds coded information on students and staff in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and uses these records for statistical analysis, statistical data for research and commercial uses under strict conditions. Further information on this and on the categories of information held by HESA (for both Student and Staff) is available via the [HESA website](http://www.hesa.ac.uk/fpn). <http://www.hesa.ac.uk/fpn>

Included in the data collected by HESA are sensitive data (which are subject to stricter conditions of processing). This data is collected for participation monitoring required by government. The Centre will be obliged to ask staff and students for this information; you can refuse to give it.

### **Collection Notices**

The Scope of what is done with your personal information by HESA is set out in the following Collection Notices:

- [Student Collection Notice](#)
- [Staff Collection Notice](#)
- [Destinations of Leavers from HE \(DLHE\) Collection Notice](#)

The Collection Notices also contains the contact details for HESA for access requests to your information held by HESA.

### **National Student Survey**

If the Centre is successful in its application for specific course designation for postgraduate loans the Centre will also be required to pass data about its completing students to the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE), or their agents, in order for them to carry out the National Student Survey. This survey gives final year students the chance to give feedback on their experiences at the Centre which can inform the choices of prospective students. It is described in detail on the [National Student Survey website](http://www.thestudentsurvey.com/) <http://www.thestudentsurvey.com/> .

The Centre will pass your name and contact details to the agent carrying out the survey. The agent may then contact you to take part. You do not have to take part in the survey and you can opt out at any time by contacting the agent and providing them with verification of your identity by confirming your date of birth.

### **Higher Education (HE) institutions**

Where students are studying for a qualification validated by Middlesex University or involved in exchange or placement programmes, joint or double programmes, or similar study arrangements, the Centre may disclose their personal data, including sensitive personal data, to the partner institution (or related organisations) for the purposes of

administering the programme, assessment and any further purposes set out in the Centre's notification with the Information Commissioner.

### **External examiners**

Student data including personal data will be shared with External Examiners for the purpose of quality assurance and assessment.

### **Placements**

Where students attend Placements the Centre may disclose their personal data, including sensitive personal data, to the partner institution (or related organisations) for the purposes of administering the placement.

### **Sponsors, loan organisations (including the Student Loans Company) and scholarship schemes**

Where students have a sponsor, scholarship scheme or a loan provider, the Centre may disclose student personal data to these organisations to allow for fees to be paid, students to access loans or to determine whether support should continue. Personal data about students may be disclosed to third parties attempting to recover debt on behalf of the Centre where internal procedures have failed.

### **Parents, guardians and other relatives**

Other than in the most exceptional of circumstances, the Centre will not to disclose a student's personal data to parents, guardians and any other relative. If students have provided a nominated contact in the event of a medical problem or emergency then some personal data may be provided.

### **Published information**

Any award (such as a degree) made by the Centre or a validating body such as Middlesex University is a matter of public record rather than personal data, and as such will be publicly available and publicised at, for instance, graduation ceremonies.

It is possible photographs of students may also be taken during the course of their study. If you do not wish your photograph to be taken, please absent yourself from any pictures. Group photographs taken will assume the permission of individuals pictured for use in Centre publications and publicity materials, and publications produced by third parties authorised by the Centre. Attendance at graduation ceremonies will assume the permission of the attendees and photographs and recordings taken on the day may be publicised, for instance on the website.

### **Employment agencies, prospective employers and third parties requesting confirmation of awards**

The Centre will assume consent if the student provides the Centre's details as a referee. This includes confirmation of awards. Basic checks will be carried out on the requester.

### **Police, crime and taxation**

The Centre may be informed by the Police when students are convicted or cautioned, or if they receive a section 27 or fixed penalty fine. The Centre may also be obliged to provide information to the Police or other organisations that have a crime prevention or law enforcement function, such as Benefit Fraud Sections within Local Authorities, about students if it is necessary for the prevention or detection of a crime or the collection of taxes.

The Centre may also use third party companies as [data processors](#) to carry out certain administrative functions on behalf of the Centre. If so, a written contract will be put in place to ensure that any personal data disclosed will be held in accordance with the Data Protection Act and have appropriate security measures in place.

This is not an exhaustive list; any third parties will have access to student data only for the purpose of performing their function. Any disclosures to third parties not listed here will be made only where there is a legitimate reason to do so and in accordance with the law.

### **How your personal data will be used after you have finished your studies**

As well as maintaining student records for operational services during your course of study, the Minster Centre processes personal data in connection with external relations and development. The Centre may also wish to send you information about events, courses, products or services which may be relevant to you, and to keep you informed about Centre activities. If you do not wish the Centre to use your personal data in any of these ways, you should write to the Registrar ([JuliaC@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:JuliaC@minstercentre.org.uk))

After you have completed your programme of study your full student record will be kept for six years on last contact, after which a core record containing only key information will be retained.

You may wish to use the Minster Centre to provide a reference for you when you are applying to other institutions or for employment. If you provide the name of a member of staff for a reference, you should inform them of this so that they know you have given your consent for them to disclose your personal data.

### **Your rights**

You have certain rights and responsibilities around your personal data including:

- to be informed what personal data about you the Centre holds and what they are used for
- to access this personal data
- to update the personal data the Centre holds
- to be informed how the Centre is complying with its obligations under the Act
- to complain to the Data Protection Officer if you believe that the Data Protection policy has not been followed.

If you want to look at and check the accuracy of your personal data held centrally, you can call into the Training Office at the Minster Centre.

If you wish to access your personal data under the provisions of the Data Protection Act, you should [make a Subject Access Request](#).

### **Your responsibilities**

#### **Providing personal data to the Centre**

Students must ensure that all personal information provided to the Centre is accurate and up to date. You should notify any changes of address, corrections to contact details etc. to the Registrar ([JuliaC@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:JuliaC@minstercentre.org.uk))

#### **Processing personal data**

If you are processing personal data other than as part of your studies you should contact the Information Commissioner to ensure that you are doing so in compliance with the Data Protection Act as you will not be covered under the Centre's registration.



Any research involving the use of personal data should only be conducted following ethical approval.

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## YOUR PROGRAMME

### Admission requirements The admission criteria for the different subject options for this course differ.

Students wishing to enrol for the Supervision option must hold a professional qualification in counselling or psychotherapy (BACP or UKCP accredited course or equivalent) and must have been in practice for at least three years. Students following this subject option will need to practise supervision or work in a supervisory capacity during the course.

Students wishing to enroll for the Advanced Clinical Practice option must hold a professional qualification in counselling or psychotherapy (BACP or UKCP accredited course or equivalent) and must be able to demonstrate significant clinical experience, including at least one year of practice post qualification. Students opting for this subject must also demonstrate recent self-development work, usually personal therapy, and will be required to undertake weekly one to one therapy during the course.

Students wishing to enroll for the Managing a Clinical Service option must hold a professional qualification in counselling or psychotherapy (BACP or UKCP accredited course or equivalent) and will need to be working at least one day per week in a clinical service where they have management responsibilities.

In addition, **all students** who do not have a first degree will need to demonstrate that they can produce work to MA standards, either through results in previous professional training or through equivalent training or experience. For details of English language requirements see Criteria for admission in the Programme Specification at the end of this Handbook.

| Choose 1 specialty from following options   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| Option 1<br>Clinical Supervision  | Option 2<br>Advanced Clinical Practice   | Option 3<br>Managing a Clinical Service   |
| Year 1  |  |   |
| <b><i>Supervisory Theory</i></b><br>30 credits at level 7   | <b><i>Contemporary theories of psychotherapy and the re-evaluation of practice</i></b><br>30 credits at Level 7  | <b><i>Management and Leadership in a Clinical Service</i></b><br>30 credits at Level 7  |
| <b><i>Integrating Theory into Supervisory Practice</i></b><br>30 credits at level 7   | <b><i>Personal &amp; clinical integration for practising psychotherapists and counsellors</i></b><br>30 credits at Level 7   | <b><i>Clinical Issues in Managing a Service</i></b><br>30 credits at level 7  |
| <b>Clinical Supervision Practicum 1</b><br>(To include minimum 40 hours supervision practice & 20 hours supervision of supervision over the 2 years)<br>30 credits at Level 7 in Year 1 | <b>Advanced Clinical Practice Practicum 1</b><br>(To include minimum of 60 hours supervised clinical practice and 20 hours in house supervision over the 2 years)<br>30 credits at Level 7 in year 1 | <b>Managing a Clinical Service Practicum 1</b><br>(student must be working or have a placement of at least 1 day per week that has management of clinical services responsibilities)<br>30 credits at Level 7 in year 1 |

**Year 2**

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <p><b>Clinical Supervision (cont.)<br/>Practicum 2</b><br/>(To include minimum 50 hours supervision practice &amp; 20 hours supervision of supervision over the 2 years)<br/>30 credits at Level 7 in Year 2</p> | <p><b>Advanced Clinical Practice (cont.)<br/>Practicum 2</b><br/>(To include minimum of 60 hours supervised clinical practice and 20 hours supervision over the 2 years)<br/>30 credits at Level 7 in year 2</p> | <p><b>Managing a Clinical Service (cont.)<br/>Practicum 2</b><br/><i>(student must be working or have a placement of at least 1 day per week that has management of clinical services responsibilities)</i><br/>30 credits at Level 7 in year 2</p> |
| <p><b>Students may exit at this point with a PG Dip Professional Practice Counselling and Psychotherapy (Supervision) (Advanced Clinical Practice) or (Managing Clinical Services)</b></p>                       |  |   |

**Dissertation (15,000 words) (MA only)**  
 After learning about research approaches and methods, students will choose a dissertation topic relevant to their chosen specialty. Students will submit a research proposal for ethical approval at the end of year 1 or in year 2 before undertaking their research.

(Compulsory)  
 60 credits at Level 7

## Your timetable

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You will find your course timetables on the student intranet <http://minsterstudents.co.uk/home/calendar/> and also on the noticeboards in the student common rooms.

If you have any queries about your timetable then please contact your Course Leader, Paul Martin, or the Registrar, Julia Culver [juliac@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:juliac@minstercentre.org.uk)

Any changes to your timetable will be notified to you by email.

## Your assessment deadlines

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Deadlines for all written work are available in the Academic Calendar at the beginning of this Handbook, on the student intranet calendar and are included in the Aids to Study available on the intranet and in the library and common rooms.

**IMPORTANT:** Please note that assessment deadlines do occasionally change and while every effort has been made to ensure this is correct at the time of publishing you should check your email and the Intranet calendar to ensure that you are aware of any changes.

## Your learning resources

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### Library

The library is in a large ground floor room and provides space for quiet study and access to a computer terminal. The stock of books is refreshed annually and books can be borrowed. The library contains core books and a wider selection of relevant texts, an archive of journals, eight current journals (Therapy Today, The Psychotherapist, International Journal of Psychotherapy, Counselling and Psychotherapy Research, Journal of Humanistic Psychology, Existential Analysis, Self and Society, and the British Gestalt Journal), and an online library catalogue that you can access via the student intranet. You will also have access to electronic resources for each module which you can access via a drop box system.

You can also access PepWeb (the Psychoanalytic Electronic Publishing archive) and a number of other journals (including the *Journal of Humanistic Psychology* and *Psychotherapy Research*) to which we have electronic subscriptions. PepWeb is an archive of psychoanalytic literature, both books and journals, published from 1871 with full text versions of articles for most for the journals covered to 2012 and is regularly being added to.

The Minster Centre has a part-time librarian, Polly Mortimer, whose role is to maintain and support the self-access borrowing system, help students with access to online resources and run research skills sessions.

The Minster Centre has taken a conscious decision not to lock away books or to restrict access to them to times when the librarian is present. Because this is a shared resource belonging to all staff, current trainees and future trainees, the borrowing scheme operates on a trust system. It is based on the following principles:

- Recording the borrowing and returning of a book is done by using the EOS library management system. When Polly is not in, please write name of book, barcode etc. legibly on the clipboard.

- Ensuring that books are returned within two weeks (core texts) and four weeks (others), so that others can use them.
- 8 books maximum on loan at any one time.
- Books can be renewed/reserved through the library catalogue (where you can also search for a book). This is available through the intranet. Just enter your email address to log in.
- **If you do not log out a book so we can keep track of it or fail to return it you are taking from the resources available to your colleagues.**

Polly is also able to deal with requests and queries via e-mail – [librarian@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:librarian@minstercentre.org.uk). She is very happy to book one-to-one sessions on topics such as referencing, constructing bibliographies and literature searching. Polly works from approximately 11.30 am to 6.00pm Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and can be contacted at other times by email.

In addition to helping you with library use, Polly can locate and obtain copies of journal articles through the Psychiatric Libraries Co-operative Scheme (PLCS), this normally takes a few days and is a free service.

Further information about Minster Centre library services and other libraries that may be useful to you can be found on the Intranet.

The resources available through the Minster Centre will support your access to many of the books and articles you need. However you will need to buy some core texts which are essential reading and will need to be referred to frequently during the main modules, and you will need to allow time and costs for accessing other resources, especially to support writing essays and dissertations on specialised subjects. Planning ahead so that you can access PLCS, inter-library loans through your local library and visit the British Library may help you reduce costs.

We do not have access to Middlesex University library.

### **Usernames and passwords**

Access to the Minster intranet requires a username and password, which you will be sent in an email. Should you forget your password please click on the **Lost your password?** Link on the log in page of the Intranet. If you have problems accessing the Intranet please email [Stuart@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:Stuart@minstercentre.org.uk)

### **Printing and photocopying facilities**

Students have asked the Minster Centre to provide access to printing and photocopying facilities. This is difficult for a small organisation to provide in a way that is financially and administratively sustainable. Having upgraded out printing equipment over the summer we are trailing offering printing and photocopying via reception. If you would like a document printing or copying please either email reception on [reception@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:reception@minstercentre.org.uk), or hand it to the receptionist in person.

There may be times where reception is very busy with printing and copying requests or other work, so to ensure that your work is ready by the time you need it, please make your request at least 24 hours in advance of the time you need it. The cost for printing / photocopying will be 10p for black and white and 15p for colour. There will be a minimum charge of 50p per request. Payments need to be made when you collect your work. As this is a new process, it will be trialled until the end of the Spring term when we will review arrangements. We welcome your feedback during this time.

## **IT facilities**

Equipment for presentations including a laptop and a projector with speakers and a projector screen are set up in each of the large training rooms. Instructions on setting these up are available on the Intranet. There is wireless broadband access throughout the building. The broadband service has recently been upgraded and is of a high standard, however please do not use it for recreational viewing of films and TV as this could impact on the service for other students who may be doing presentations.

## **Other facilities (including room hire)**

Students may hire rooms to see training clients or conduct training supervision sessions at reduced rates. Further information on room bookings is available on the intranet at <http://minsterstudents.co.uk/basic-information/policies/room-booking-policy/>. Please note that we charge students for room use to see training clients to support the costs of running the low cost therapy service and, because rooms are in short supply at popular times, to ensure that rooms are booked and used only when needed.

## **Attendance requirements**

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Because of the experiential nature of learning required to develop your skills as a counsellor, psychotherapist, supervisor or clinical manager and the particular emphasis the Minster Centre places on experiential learning as part of all aspects of your training, absences cannot simply be made up by private study. If you do not attend all of your modules and groups you may not be able to achieve the learning outcomes required. You should therefore aim for 100 per cent attendance and you need to be aware that there is an 80% minimum attendance requirement. If you miss more than 20 per cent of any module or group – including experiential training groups and supervision groups – you will be given a grade X for that module and will not have your work assessed. In order to complete the course you will be required to retake the module or group and this is likely to mean retaking a part year before progressing. There will be additional fees for this. If, for reasons of ill health or other personal difficulty, you arrange well in advance – with the agreement of the tutor involved and the help of a fellow student – to share parts of a theory module through note-taking and/or recording, you will not necessarily be held to be absent. This may not be done for more than two sessions in total, and is subject to prior approval. Such arrangements may not be applied to experiential training groups, skills groups and supervision groups, or the personal and clinical integration module.

The definition of the X grade is “ineligible for assessment due to unsatisfactory attendance/participation but may be retaken with permission”. It is not a punishment for poor attendance but recognition that you have not been able to prepare yourself for assessment in the content of the module. Middlesex University regulations regarding attendance are in section C of the [University Regulations: www.mdx.ac.uk/regulations](http://www.mdx.ac.uk/regulations)

## **Notifying absence or late arrival**

If you are going to be absent from or late for any part of the course please contact [reception@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:reception@minstercentre.org.uk) or leave a message on 020 7644 6240. It is also helpful if you can send a message via a fellow student. Please note that reception is not usually staffed after 5pm on Friday. If you need to leave a message about weekend absence after 5pm on Friday you should send a message via a fellow student who is attending.

You should give notice if you are unable to attend any course for which you are registered; if the workshop is an integral part of the course you will normally be required to attend at a

later date. Failure to give adequate notice of non-attendance may lead to you being charged for the course but not credited with attendance. Attendance at a course session for which you are not registered (some courses offer alternative times) may not be credited as attendance. If your unplanned attendance makes the teaching group too large you may be asked to leave. Should you need to change your dates you should check if the course is full. If it is not you should rearrange your attendance time through the Registrar. If the course is full you must organise an exchange of places with another student on the alternative dates if possible, and inform the Registrar by email [Juliac@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:Juliac@minstercentre.org.uk)

### **Repeated non-attendance, non-notification of absence, leaving the course**

If you do not attend this will affect your fellow students and impact on the groups you normally attend, it is therefore important to attend as much as possible and to let your groups know what is happening if you cannot attend. As well as the 80% attendance requirement the notification of non-attendance is regarded as an important indicator of your awareness of the impact of your actions on others. If you are repeatedly absent and have not communicated with us, your Course Leader or another appropriate tutor will contact you to see how you are and ask what you would like communicated to other students and tutors. Similarly if you decide to leave the course or are asked to leave the course your Course Head will ask you to consider what you would like fellow students in your groups, and particularly ETGs, to be told. As a minimum your ETG will be told if you are not going to be returning.

### **How to help enhance your programme**

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Please talk to your tutors or Course Leader about anything you think could be improved – it may be that they can make changes easily or explain why things have been designed as they are. There are also other ways you can feed back and help enhance the quality of your programme. These are described below. Please use these channels and please also take the opportunity to raise any concerns or suggestions directly with the person concerned as you go along.

#### **Board of Study**

This is a forum where student representatives and staff meet to discuss Minster Centre courses. This includes any issues groups of students may be having on the course but is also an opportunity for student representatives and staff to talk about things that are going well and future developments. The Board also looks at student survey results and the reports from External Examiners. Minutes are made of the discussions and decisions and you can read these on the student intranet. The minutes are also considered by the Minster Centre Training Committee and School of Science and Technology at Middlesex University as part of the annual report.

The membership of a Board of Study includes:

- student representatives (for more information about being a student rep see below)
- Director
- Middlesex University Link Tutor (because Middlesex University validates Minster Centre MAs)
- Minster Centre Link Tutor (who channels communications with Middlesex)
- other training staff depending on topics under discussion
- The Registrar

You will be asked to elect **student representatives for each year and course by** the end of week 2 to ensure that the interests of students on the programme are represented. Your

Course Leader will remind you to select representatives who should then inform the Training Admin office. Training will be provided for student representatives.

As well as attending Boards of Study, student representatives are also responsible for feeding back the outcomes of any meetings or events they attend. Student representatives should contact you before Boards of Study to ask for your feedback. They can also be asked to give their feedback on other issues relevant to students on a more ad-hoc basis.

### **Meeting dates**

There are three Board of Studies meetings for all courses each year. Attending these gives the student representatives an opportunity to hear feedback and about developments across the board. In addition, one meeting for Supervision and Advanced Clinical Practice students will be organized annually.

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017 10.30am-12pm

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2017 10.30am-12pm

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2017 4:45pm (ACP and Supervision only)

November 2017 tbc

In the event of a change of date student representatives will be emailed. The dates of Board of Study meetings and all other key dates are also available on the calendar on the student intranet <http://minsterstudents.co.uk/home/calendar/>.

### **Student surveys**

At the end of the academic year you will be emailed links to electronic surveys that will include standard questions and space for individual comments.

The aim of this feedback process is to give you the opportunity to give your views on the quality of your programme of study and your wider experience of being at the Minster Centre. You should comment on your own experience of the quality of teaching, teaching materials received, content, organisation, etc. Do not comment on the progress of other students.

The feedback will be seen by the Director and Deputy Directors of Training, Head of Years, and other tutors including the tutor of the module commented on, and administrative staff. Your contribution will help us to identify what you think is going well and what we need to address to continue to improve the quality of training for you and future students. This feedback is very valuable and appreciated by training staff, please take time to fill in the surveys.

A report on the results of the end of year surveys will be an item for discussion at the Autumn term Board of Study and will, where necessary, be reported upon during the quality/annual monitoring process. Summaries of the feedback will be made available to students together with more information about how we have responded. Student representatives will be asked to let us know how useful these are to students. The whole feedback process will also be reviewed on a regular basis, to ensure that it is effective in helping provide a good quality experience for students.

### **How we consider your feedback**

The feedback you give through your student reps, through surveys and at Boards of Study meetings plays an important part in reviewing the Supervision Diploma and the MA/PGDip Professional Practice during the year and at the end of the academic year. We regularly make changes to the programme and facilities as a result of student feedback. Recent changes have included improving the library facilities, increasing access to electronic



resources, reviewing and adjusting written work requirements and deadlines, improving the complaints procedure, clarifying guidance on confidentiality and what to expect from Experiential Training Groups, reviewing where posts are advertised to support increasing diversity on the teaching staff, revising the timing for Bursary applications, providing hot water urns and more tables in student common rooms.

## **Complaints**

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If you have a suggestion or a complaint please raise it with the person concerned in the first instance. If you feel unable to do so or are not satisfied with the outcome, you should raise it with your Course Head who will normally offer to facilitate a three way meeting with the person concerned as a means of resolving the issue.

Your Course Head will also automatically inform the Director or one of the Deputy Directors of the concern you have raised.

The Minster Centre operates a Students' Complaint and Grievance Procedure which can be used when other avenues for mutual understanding have been explored. The document outlining this is available on the intranet or on request from your Course Head.

The guiding principles behind our procedure are that complaints will be:

- treated seriously, consistently and fairly;
- dealt with quickly, simply and at the appropriate level as far as is possible;
- progressed through two stages – an informal stage and, if necessary, a formal stage;
- dealt with and resolved, wherever possible, at the informal stage.

The complaints and grievance procedures of the Minster Centre must be followed and have been fully exhausted before you can follow the Middlesex University "Complaints in relation to collaborative partner institutions" which can be found in the [Middlesex University regulations: www.mdx.ac.uk/regulations](http://www.mdx.ac.uk/regulations) . The Centre also subscribes to the Office of the Independent Adjudicator for Higher Education. Please see <http://www.oiahe.org.uk/> for more information.

## **PROFESSIONAL, STATUTORY AND/OR REGULATORY BODY REQUIREMENTS**

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### **Ethical values and conduct**

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All students are expected to adhere to the Minster Centre Code of Ethics and Practice.

#### **The Minster Centre General Code of Ethics**

This is binding upon all Minster Centre members, whether practitioners, trainers, supervisors or other staff.

1. We respect the dignity, worth and uniqueness of all individuals. We are committed to the promotion and protection of basic human rights, the integrity of the individual and the promotion of human growth, development and welfare. We affirm the self-determination, personal power and self-responsibility of clients and students.
2. We are concerned for the best interests of all clients and students. We make every effort to protect the welfare of those who seek our services. We use our skills and knowledge only for purposes consistent with these values and do not knowingly permit their misuse by others.

3. We respect the privacy of the individual and preserve the confidentiality of any information obtained through our professional practice or research. In general, and subject to the requirements of the law, we take care to prevent the identity of individuals or organisations being revealed deliberately or inadvertently without permission.
4. While demanding for ourselves freedom of inquiry and communication, we accept the responsibility this freedom implies with regard to competence and concern for the best interests of clients, research participants, students, colleagues and society. We recognise the boundaries of our own competence and do not practise outside the limits of our qualifications. We do not pretend knowledge we do not have. We refer clients on to other professionals whenever appropriate.
5. We do not practise, condone, facilitate or collude with any form of discrimination on the basis of race, colour, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, national origin, marital status, political belief, mental or physical disability or any other preference or personal characteristic, condition or status. We recognise the existence of oppression in various parts of the world and accept the need for special training in dealing with certain groups.
6. We are open on the subjects of our training, qualifications, experience and supervision arrangements. We communicate about these in factual terms without value judgements.
7. Recognising that we are working in a field which is developing and highly active and in which new ideas frequently emerge, we make it our business to keep up to date by monitoring our own knowledge and capabilities; we have an ongoing commitment to develop our personal competencies.
8. We recognise that personal problems of our own may on occasion interfere with our professional effectiveness. We take care on such occasions to seek appropriate professional assistance, supervision, support or advice.

### **Code of Practice for Practitioners**

#### 1. Qualifications

Practitioners are required to disclose their qualifications when requested and not claim, or imply, qualifications they do not have.

#### 2. Terms and conditions and methods of practice

Practitioners are required to disclose on request their terms, conditions and, where appropriate, methods of practice at the outset of any therapeutic relationship with a client.

#### 3. Confidentiality

Practitioners are required to preserve confidentiality and to disclose, if requested, the limits of confidentiality and circumstances under which those limits might have to be broken to third parties.

3.1 Exceptional circumstances may arise which give the practitioner good grounds for believing that the client will cause serious physical harm to others or themselves, or have harm caused to him/her. In such circumstances the client's consent to a change in the agreement about confidentiality should be sought whenever possible unless there are also good grounds for believing the client is no longer able to take responsibility for his/her own actions. Whenever possible, the decision to break confidentiality agreed between a practitioner and clients should be made after consultation with a supervisor or an experienced practitioner. Clients are made aware of the legal limits of confidentiality at the outset of the working relationship.

3.2 Practitioners' discussion of clients with professional colleagues should be purposeful and respectful and presented so that the client's identity is protected and details irrelevant to the discussion are omitted or substantially disguised. Confidentiality is maintained in the storage and disposal of records.

#### 4. Professional relationships

Practitioners should consider the client's best interests when making appropriate contact with the client's GP, psychiatric services or other relevant professionals with the client's knowledge. Practitioners do not go beyond the limits of their competence, and refer clients to other professionals as may be appropriate.

#### 5. Relationships with clients and trainees

Practitioners are required to maintain appropriate boundaries with their clients and trainees, and to take care not to exploit them in any way. It is unethical for practitioners to engage in sexual activity with current or past clients and trainees. Practitioners only make contact with third parties such as friends or relatives of the client or trainee with their express knowledge. Every effort is made to avoid dual relationships that could impair professional judgement, increase the risk of exploitation or otherwise confuse the therapeutic or training relationship. Where possible, care is taken to ensure that the client is well prepared for termination of the working relationship.

#### 6. Research

Practitioners are required to clarify with potential research participants the nature, purpose and conditions of any research in which they might become involved and to ensure that written informed and verifiable consent is given before commencement. All formal research undertaken in Minster's name must be approved by the Research Ethics Committee. Further information about the process involved in seeking approval is available from Angela Cotter, Chair of Research Ethics Committee, & Julia Culver, Registrar.

NB. MA students will be provided with training and support about the process of submitting a proposal for their dissertation research to ensure that the proposed research is attainable and ethical. Students will be required to submit a 3000 word research proposal for approval.

#### 7. Client anonymity

The anonymity of clients whose material is used for the purposes of publication, teaching and seminars is of paramount importance. When any form of publication of clinical material is being considered practitioners must obtain consent from clients whenever possible.

#### 8. Practitioner competence

Practitioners are required to maintain their ability to perform competently and to take necessary steps to do so. They should obtain supervision or consultation appropriate to their needs, monitor the limits of their competence and make appropriate referrals where necessary. Practitioners must be in receipt of regular supervision appropriate to their experience, client load and field of work. The practitioner's work environment must be appropriate to the services offered and conducive to the safety and privacy of the client.

#### 9. Indemnity insurance

Practitioners are required to ensure that their professional work is adequately covered by appropriate indemnity insurance.

#### 10. Detrimental behaviour

Practitioners are required to refrain from any behaviour that may be detrimental to the profession, to colleagues, to trainees or to their clients.

## **Confidentiality**

One of the most important boundaries of the therapeutic or supervisory relationship is around the need and expectations of confidentiality. We ask you to maintain “professional confidentiality” in relation to the personal material that you will be exploring with each other during, and after, your attendance on the course.

At its simplest level this means that you are free to talk about your own process and experience but not that of others who are on the course with you. In order for this course to have its maximum benefit we all have to feel confident that our confidences and experiences are not shared without our agreement. Please treat your fellow trainees with respect.

Theoretical seminars, supervision groups and experiential exercises in particular may contain highly personal and sensitive material. All students must take responsibility for maintaining the confidentiality of such material. This means that neither notes, nor recordings, nor any other material may be seen, heard, read or discussed by any person outside the group of people involved in that seminar or group without prior agreement. Please also take care not to put names or other identifying information into notes or recordings in case they are accidentally mislaid or stolen and pay attention to keeping them secure.

Your tutors and supervisors will discuss confidentiality with you at the beginning of the group. Please remember that material relevant to a particular group or individuals within it should not be discussed outside that group. If there are issues arising from a group or your contact with individuals please raise these, respectfully, within the relevant forums. You can also take experiences to your personal therapist, although as far as possible avoid giving unnecessary personal details which could reveal the identity of others.

Material concerning clients being seen by students must not be talked about in general teaching sessions but should be raised in supervision. Work that draws on client material and is submitted for assessment must always keep the identity of the client confidential.

**Exceptions to confidentiality:** where a student is aware that a fellow student is at serious risk of harming himself/herself or others then the student should encourage the fellow student to raise the issues themselves with the Course Leader or a tutor. If the fellow student is unable or unwilling to do so, the student should raise their concerns with the Course Leader, or failing that a member of the teaching team or the Director.

**Group confidentiality held by training staff:** *please be aware that training staff, including supervisors and ETG facilitators, hold group confidentiality and will share information about student progress and welfare within the staff group.*

## **Supervised hours of practice**

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You must maintain a log of your clinical hours which will need to be submitted in order to obtain your qualification. The format for your log is available on the intranet.

If you cannot complete the requisite number of hours by the end of your course you can apply for an extension to continue to accrue clinical hours after you have submitted your written work.

It is your responsibility to monitor clinical hours and arrange a tutorial with the Course Leader if you believe you will not complete in time. Circumstances that will justify an

extension include: problems in a placement in terms of delivering enough opportunities to practice; high number of DNAs due to client group e.g. substance misusers; changing placement agency; delays in securing a placement. Personal circumstances could include: pregnancy, breaks in clinical work due to illness or otherwise not being fit to practice. You and the Course Leader will agree an extension period appropriate to the circumstances, usually of up to one year from the date of the final training day. You should complete a clinical hours extension form (available from the Intranet) during the tutorial meeting and a copy will be placed in your student file. Support will be put in place for the time required to complete the extension and you should discuss the appropriate form of support at the tutorial. Depending on the circumstances and number of hours to be completed, this could include regular phone contact with a designated tutor to review progress and email contact for queries and ongoing support, or remaining in a Minster Centre supervision group.

At the end of the extension the student will need to inform the Course Leader and submit the clinical hours log. If a further extension is requested, this can only be considered in exceptional circumstances and this will be considered by the Course Leader.

### **Continuing Professional Development (CPD)**

The Minster Centre recognises the importance of further and continuous professional development – as an ethical practitioner you will need to continuously update your knowledge and skills to deliver the best possible therapeutic service to your clients. Professional Bodies, including BACP and UKCP require you to undertake CPD to minimum levels. See [www.bacp.co.uk](http://www.bacp.co.uk) and (for UKCP) [www.psychotherapy.org.uk](http://www.psychotherapy.org.uk). Towards the end of your training you will be supported in making decisions about how to progress your career.

## **Fitness for practice - Professional capabilities**

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As a qualified therapist and student on a post-qualification training course, you will be working with clients who are likely, at least at times, to be vulnerable. You will also be in a position of influence and power. It is therefore vital that you hold and continue to develop strong ethical values and demonstrate these in your behaviour. The BACP Ethical Framework [http://www.bacp.co.uk/ethical\\_framework/](http://www.bacp.co.uk/ethical_framework/) says:

“The fundamental values of counselling and psychotherapy include a commitment to:

- Respecting human rights and dignity
- Protecting the safety of clients
- Ensuring the integrity of practitioner-client relationships
- Enhancing the quality of professional knowledge and its application
- Alleviating personal distress and suffering
- Fostering a sense of self that is meaningful to the person(s) concerned
- Increasing personal effectiveness
- Enhancing the quality of relationships between people
- Appreciating the variety of human experience and culture
- Striving for the fair and adequate provision of counselling and psychotherapy services”

It then goes on to set out the ethical principles and moral qualities that are informed by these values and that counsellors and psychotherapists need to hold and foster. Similarly, the UKCP [www.psychotherapy.org.uk](http://www.psychotherapy.org.uk) and the Minster Centre itself have Codes of Ethics to help trainees and practitioners practice ethically. The Minster Centre’s Codes of Practice are available on the

student intranet.

Students may themselves identify times when they may not be fit to practice. Examples of circumstances which might lead to you needing to take a break from practice or to cease practice could include ill health, bereavement, criminal proceedings, a complaint, change of financial or personal circumstances. If you are aware that there are issues which might be affecting your fitness to practice, you should take these to supervision at the earliest opportunity. It may be that you and your supervisor can agree the best course of action, which might include a short break from practice or additional support. If there is any doubt about the best course of action, the supervisor wants to seek additional advice or you and your supervisor cannot agree on a course of action, your supervisor will consult with the Course Leader.

It is also possible that circumstances could arise where your supervisor feels you are not fit to practice. Supervisors will normally discuss this with you when the issue arises. In consultation with Course Leader a supervisor may advise or insist that you take a break from practice.

Because of the importance of ethical behaviour and awareness to the professions of counselling and psychotherapy, behaviour by a student which breaches ethical codes or appears to be in conflict with the ethical values that underpin them, or indicates a lack of moral awareness will be considered particularly seriously and can lead to an assessment of whether the trainee is currently, or may be in future, fit to practice or continue training. Examples of issues which are likely to raise concern include serious breaches of confidentiality, lack of respect for others, abusive behaviour, behaviour that has the potential to put others at risk or bring the profession into disrepute, dishonesty (including misleading representations of qualifications or experience, theft or financial misconduct, taking of shared resources including library books) or academic misconduct. This list is not comprehensive and other issues can lead to concern about ethical behaviour, fitness to practice or be in training.

If an agreed course of action has not been agreed or there has been a significant concern about ethical behaviour assessment of a trainee's fitness to practice will be carried out by a Fitness to Practice Panel (FtPP). A FtPP will be made up of the Course Leader, another member of the Post Qualification Training Committee, your supervisor and another supervisor and Chaired by a Deputy Director. A member of staff will collate the information to be reviewed by the panel and will send a letter to the student outlining the case for the referral to the FtPP and a request for a reflective statement and any evidence that the student wants the panel to consider. Once all the information has been collected a copy will be sent in confidence to the panel members and to the student. The FtPP will review the information in private and make recommendations which will be reviewed by the other Deputy Director or another senior member of staff nominated by the Director before being finalised. A letter informing the student of the results will be sent by email and in hard copy. A FtPP may require that a student should leave the course temporarily or permanently, cease their clinical practice temporarily or permanently), repeat parts of the course or undertake additional training or supervision (and pay the associated fees). All FtPP outcomes are reported back to, and monitored by, the Training Committee.

A student can appeal against the decision of a FtPP. An appeal is a request from a student that a decision of the FtPP should be reviewed because it is believed that an injustice has occurred (see below paragraph on grounds for an appeal). A successful appeal results in the FtPP reconvening to review its decision in the light of the new information although it does not necessarily mean that the original decision of the FtPP is changed. All appeals must be made through the Office to Registrar.

An appeal against a decision of the FfPP can only be made on the grounds that:

1. The FfPP process was not run in accordance with the agreed policy
2. There was an administrative error affecting the outcome
3. There is additional and relevant evidence that was not seen or was not available at the time the decision was made.

A successful appeal will result in the case being re-submitted to a FfPP with the inclusion of at least two additional members. This new panel will be chaired by the Director. The decision of the second panel is final.

## **Placements**

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(This section will not apply for most ACP students and is included here for information only.)

Students on the MA Professional Practice may need placements to undertake their clinical, supervision or clinical management practice (depending on the specialty you have opted for) unless they are already in a suitable role.

This evidence and experience of competence to practice is an essential part of your training. Placement experiences also accelerate and deepen your professional learning and understanding, and serve to increase your employability.

In order to accrue your practice hours, you may need to volunteer on one or more clinical placement. For students following the Advanced Integrative Clinical Practice or Supervision options, you will need to work with at least one training client or supervisee with whom you can audio-record sessions to bring to supervision and for your live assessment. You will need to keep a track of all the hours you accrue, as you will need to self-certify your grand total when you qualify. Further information on Placements and working with Training Clients/Supervisees is available on the intranet.

### **Finding a placement**

You will be responsible for securing a placement but advice and guidance is available from the Placement Coordinator and Course Leader. The Placement Coordinator sends out plenty of information, including a database of organisations offering placements and CV/interview advice.

The Placement Coordinator has a database of organisations that offer placements which will be made available when you are accepted onto the course. Details of new placement opportunities are displayed on the notice board in the downstairs student kitchen and are emailed by the Placement Coordinator as they emerge throughout the academic year.

Other sources of placement opportunities include: the BACP website (for student members only), MIND, drug and alcohol services, university counselling services, hospitals with psychotherapy services, women's centres, voluntary organisations, hospices, Guardian Society section volunteer page, GP practices. Please don't limit your search to this, think laterally and adventurously....

### **Criteria for a good placement**

It is important that a student on placement is adequately managed and supervised - some placements are better than others in this regard.

Placements should have a system in place for assessing whether clients or supervisees are suitable to be seen by trainees, and clients/supervisees should be informed that they will be seen by someone who is in training. If a student, in a later stage of training, is involved with making assessments, the placement should offer adequate support/and or training for this.

Placements hold clinical responsibility for clients and, ideally, should provide supervision (and for supervision trainees supervision of supervision). The supervisor must be an experienced practitioner and registered with either the UKCP or the BACP or equivalent. Ideally, they should have completed some training in supervision and/or have had considerable experience of supervisory work. Their theoretical orientation should also be compatible with an integrative training. Funding cuts in recent years means that increasingly, students can be asked to arrange for, and pay for, their own supervision. The Placement Coordinator can help with finding such a supervisor if need be, using the Minster Centre approved list. *Please see guidance for supervision on the intranet – on the 'Working with Clients' page.*

### **Insurance**

You will need to check the insurance arrangements covering your placement work. Normally this will be covered by the placement's insurance. If a placement requires you to take out your own professional liability insurance please contact the Placement Coordinator, Leon John, [Leon@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:Leon@minstercentre.org.uk), and the Course Leader who will advise you on how to proceed.

### **Placement paperwork**

It is important to let the Placement Coordinator and office know when you start and finish a placement. We need to know where you are. There are three forms relevant for this, found on the upstairs landing or on the intranet for downloading:

1. **Minster Centre Placement Agreement Form** (to be completed by student and placement organisation and supervisor when the placement begins)
2. **Placement Closure Form** (to be completed by student and placement organisation & supervisor/manager when the placement ends)
3. **Hours Tracking Form** (to be completed and returned **at qualification**. This serves as a self-certified record of *all* clinical hours – i.e. placement and training clients)

### **Training Clients**

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Training clients refers to clients that students work with as the basis for clinical papers for qualification – i.e. case studies and process reports and live assessment. Students work with training clients on a long-term basis (rather than short-term work typical of an organisation), and audio record each session. Training clients are supervised in Minster Centre supervision groups.

The majority of students find their training clients through the Minster Centre's own Low Cost Therapy Service, although it is possible at times for a placement to provide a suitable training client or for a private client to be a training client, provided all the necessary agreements are in place.

Please refer to the Low Cost Therapy Service Handbook, available on the Intranet, for more details on this. The LCTS is co-ordinated by Jane Knights and she can be contacted at [jane@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:jane@minstercentre.org.uk).

### **A note on hours**

Please bear in mind the following:

- Telephone counselling/supervision hours are acceptable, as long as they make up part of a clear contract of counselling/psychotherapy (rather than befriending or advice or helpline work). The same applies to computer visual communication, but



not email/online direct messaging. There is more on this under 'Working with Clients' on the student intranet. In all instances, the use of an alternative format for sessions must be discussed with your Minster Centre supervisor.

- DNAs: you can include 5% of DNA's in your total as long as you can demonstrate that this was discussed in supervision and the absences were addressed in the therapeutic work.
  - Client hours need to be with someone over 18 years of age and be one to one (i.e. not couples or groups. You can include 10% of sessions with clients between 16 and 18 (calculated in the same way as DNAs) provided these were held in a Children and Young Persons (CYP) placement or service that has been approved by the Course Leader (as meeting criteria of providing sufficient additional training and adequate supervision for working with that client group).
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## LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT

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The learning, teaching and assessment approaches used throughout your programme will encourage you to be actively involved in your learning and to co-operate with other students. We aim to give you prompt feedback on your learning as well as opportunities to reflect upon and learn from that feedback.

### Learning and teaching methods

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You will most often be taught in small groups in which you will be expected to take an active part and work both as an individual and as part of small groups. You will be expected to contribute to discussions, make presentations and participate in experiential exercises. Tutors will guide and facilitate your learning but you will be expected to be able to study independently, locating source material, researching for written work and organising yourself. For every hour of teaching you should expect to undertake around 3-4 hours of private study including reading, preparation for presentations and supervision, producing written work and research. In the second year of the MA you will be supported as an independent learner through the guidance of a research supervisor.

Your learning will also be supported by technology. You will have access to presentation equipment in the Centre and access to online resources when working away from it. At present this includes access to a student intranet which includes student forums, information about the course and the Centre, the library catalogue, electronic resources provided by your tutors and links to external resources including PepWeb and electronic access to some journals.

### Assessment methods

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Assessment is an integral part of learning and can be **formative** or **summative**.

**Formative** assessment is developmental in nature and is designed to give feedback to students on their performance and how it can be improved, this does not normally include a grade. Formative assessment is an important part of the learning process.

**Summative** assessment is designed to measure the extent to which you have achieved the learning outcomes of a module, this often results in a grade (or a pass/fail) being awarded. Summative assessment should assess achievement of learning outcomes in a secure, fair and accurate manner. On this programme this will mainly comprise marking of written work including essays, case studies and a dissertation but will also include a presentation, a live assessment and the observation by tutors of practice sessions and participation in groups and exercises.

At the Minster Centre assessment is a continuing process, combining both formal summative and informal formative elements, in which both staff and students are involved. The curriculum for each pathway within the MA course is integrated and designed to help you develop the knowledge, skills and aptitudes necessary to practice at an advanced level. The modules are designed to be complementary and cumulative, working together to develop and enrich your skills and knowledge. The assessment processes are designed to allow you to demonstrate your progress against learning outcomes and to ensure your work is evaluated from a variety of perspectives. In addition to the assessment of written work, which will be marked against criteria given in the Aids to Study, other types of assessment include:

## Peer assessment

Peer assessments generally take the form of feedback offered immediately following the observation of a piece of work or a presentation, or towards the end of a term or year and may be done verbally, in writing or a combination of the two.

## Student self-assessment

Students will be asked to write self-assessments reflecting on their progress in the Experiential Training Group towards meeting the learning objectives for the year spelled out in the subsection on Assessment Criteria below. All the tutors who have worked with a student will then respond in writing to the student's self-assessment, after which there will be a tutorial at which the student can discuss these assessments with the Course Leader and agree areas of focus on to continue their progress, or, if necessary, a course of remedial action should this be necessary.

## Tutors' assessments

Throughout seminars and groups tutors will provide ongoing, informal formative assessment. Students may also request a tutorial with a tutor or the Course Leader at any point. Towards the end of each year, in an exercise coordinated by the Course Leader, all the tutors who have worked with a student contribute to a decision on whether the student has successfully completed each module. This assessment is in addition to the grades awarded to written assignments and includes consideration of whether students have met the Assessment Criteria for the year set out below. For a list of requirements for the award of MA see the subsection below, '**Requirements for achieving awards**'.

**Please see the module narratives at the end of this handbook for more information about the specific learning arrangements for your modules.**

## Personal Development Planning

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Personal development planning (PDP) is a *structured* and *supported* process undertaken by a student to reflect upon their own learning and achievement and to plan for their personal, educational and career management. PDP can help you:

- develop self awareness,
- encourage you to identify your learning edges and focus on addressing them,
- support you in planning major pieces of work especially your dissertation
- keep records of achievements, clinical hours, etc. which will support achieving your qualification, accreditation and CPD after qualification, and your employability.

A number of aspects of the course will support your PDP. These include preparing self assessments, the writing of reflective journals and reflective accounts, the supervision portfolio which includes keeping supervision logs, clinical notes and records of practice hours, and research planning.

You are encouraged to take responsibility for your own PDP using a continuous cycle of reflection, recording, planning and action to review and record your achievements and identify what further actions you need to take. There are a number of formats you can use to structure your PDP and you are likely to have already used PDP structures in your employment and previous studies. It is important that you use an approach that suits your own learning style and resources. Keeping copies of your feedback on written work and self assessments, reflective accounts, tutorial notes, logs of clinical hours, records of placements, any CPD or related activities attended will back up your PDP summaries and support review and reflection., If you are not familiar with PDP an accessible guide to it is

Cottrell, S. 2015. *Skills for success: personal development and employability*. Third edition. Palgrave.

## **Submission, receipt, marking and return of assessment**

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### **Requirements and submission of coursework**

Further, detailed information on the requirements for written work and when and how you need to submit is provided in the Aids to Study which is available on the Intranet, in the library and in common rooms.

### **Live Assessments**

Live assessments are normally held in March. You will be contacted by the Office to arrange the timing of your assessment following the submission of the associated written work. Guidance on the marking of live assessments is available in Aids to Study.

### **Marking, second marking and marking moderation**

All written assessed work apart from the Live Assessment is either internally moderated or double marked. Marking of written work is usually undertaken by your tutors, and then moderated by a team of internal moderators. The External Examiner sees a sample of all the assessed work in all years and all of the Finalist work. Live Assessments are examined by externals and the feedback moderated. All results are considered and confirmed by the Assessment Boards.

Written work submitted in the first year of the MA is normally marked by your tutor. On occasions where one tutor will have a large number of scripts to mark, a suitably qualified alternative tutor may mark a proportion of the submitted work. A small team of moderators then review all work marked as distinction, pass, marginal and fail and a sample of all other submissions. All work is then sent to an external examiner who may look at any of the work, and always looks at distinctions and fails, and often reads many further scripts and the feedback that has been provided by markers in order to assess the standard of marking and to raise any inconsistencies or concerns. Final marks are agreed at Assessment Boards. The final case studies and dissertations submitted are blind marked and double marked and seen by an external examiner, with the exception of Live Assessments which are carried out by an external assessor.

If your work is marked as a fail you will receive detailed feedback and be offered an opportunity to resubmit. There will be a fee to cover remarking. In exceptional cases an alternative assessment method such as a viva may be offered. If you fail a piece of work more than once, repeatedly fail pieces of work during the course or repeatedly fail to submit work, you may be asked to repeat parts of the course (and pay the associated fees) or leave the course.

### **Return of written coursework**

You will be given a date by when you can expect feedback on assessed work. We aim to return work within 4-6 weeks of submission. All results are provisional pending approval by the Assessment Board. You will receive written feedback from your tutors by email, pending approval and confirmation by the Assessment Board. Feedback and marks on final pieces of work submitted for the MA/PG Dip will not be returned until after the Assessment Board. Please keep a copy of your original submission and the feedback and marking sheets.

## Assessment Boards

Final decisions on results of assessments are taken by the Assessment Board. The members of the Assessment Board are the Director (Chair), the Middlesex Link Tutor, the Minster Link Tutor, at least one internal moderator and the External Examiner, supported by the Registrar.

### Overall assessment of readiness to progress

In addition to assessment of individual pieces of written work, consideration is given to whether students are ready to progress assessed against the criteria for experiential, clinical skills and self-development work *below*. This process is important because working in a therapeutic capacity draws not only on your academic ability but also your therapeutic skills and your capacity to be aware of and reflect on your own experience. The development and weaving together of these three strands is an essential part of training at the Minster Centre. Assessment of your progress against these criteria draws on what tutors (including supervisors and ETG leaders) have observed of you and your work across the year, as well as your written work. Towards the end of each part in Year 1 all the tutors who have worked with you will come together to discuss your progress facilitated by the Course Leader. The progress of students who, in the combined opinion of the meeting, are not ready to progress, or about whom there are concerns, will then be reflected on at a meeting of the Training Committee or a separate meeting between the Course Leader and Director/Deputy Directors and a decision made about whether you can progress or qualify. Trainees who are not felt ready to progress or qualify or who may progress but with conditions, will be informed of the decision and the reasons for it in a tutorial as soon as possible after the decision is made. Students who are not ready to progress may be asked to repeat one or more modules, submit additional work or undertake further supervision, take some time out of the course, or leave the course.

### External Examiners

External Examiners are one way we assure the academic quality of your programme. They are subject experts who help ensure that your Middlesex or Minster Centre award is comparable to that at other UK universities by reviewing the programme curriculum, the assessment and the learning resources. Among other things they review copies of submitted work and the assessment of it, attend the assessment board and write a report at the end of the year. You can obtain a copy of this report by contacting the Registrar [juliac@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:juliac@minstercentre.org.uk).

**The External Examiner for the MA Professional Practice is:** Victoria Alexander. Victoria was until recently the Programme Leader for the MSc in Therapeutic Counselling at the University of Greenwich.

**IMPORTANT: it is inappropriate for you or any other student to make direct contact with an External Examiner.** The appeal and complaints systems exist to allow you to express any concerns you have, including the marks you have been given for your performance.

You can read more about the role of External Examiners and quality assurance on the QAA website: <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/AssuringStandardsAndQuality/what-is-quality/pages/default.aspx>

## Assessment feedback

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The Minster Centre places a great deal of emphasis on providing feedback to support your learning. Feedback on your assessment (both formative and summative) will give you an opportunity to reflect on your work and can be used as the basis for learning and improvement. In all aspects of the course staff will be commenting on three strands: theoretical understanding, clinical/professional skills and awareness and capacity to reflect on your own experience. At times most people find one or more of these strands particularly difficult and it can be challenging to reflect on the feedback. Whether you produce work of a high standard or work that needs improvement to meet the standards required, staff will provide feedback on areas to develop and reflect on and facilitate your peers in providing feedback. This will support your development as a reflective practitioner.

**Feedback can take many forms and may be informal.** For example it may be given and discussed in a seminar or group or it may be more formal and sent as written feedback or given in a tutorial called for the purpose. During the course you will receive written feedback (which will be sent to you individually as an email attachment) on your written work and in response to self-assessments, individual tutorials with the Course Leader, immediate feedback from tutors and peers during theory seminars, skills and supervision groups and during the ETG peer feedback processes. It is important that you understand your feedback and you are encouraged to discuss feedback with your peers and staff.

Receiving feedback on your work is an essential and important part of learning and therefore all programmes provide regular opportunities for **formative assessment**, the purpose of which is to get detailed feedback on your performance so you get a regular update on how you are developing and to prepare you for any summative assessment.

Feedback on **summative assessment** will be offered in a variety of forms and all your work will be marked and moderated in line with the Code of Assessment Practice which can be found in section M of the University Regulations: [mdx.ac.uk/regulations](http://mdx.ac.uk/regulations)

**You will normally be provided with feedback within 30 working days of the published submission date.**

## Progressing on your programme

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### Academic levels

Academic levels reflect how complex and demanding the learning will be as well as the depth of study and how independent you are expected to be as a learner. All courses at the Minster Centre beyond the Foundation Courses are taught at Masters level (Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) level 7). FHEQ says that students studying at this level need to *display mastery of a complex and specialised area of knowledge and skills, employing advanced skills to conduct research, or advanced technical or professional activity, accepting accountability for related decision making including use of supervision.* You will be expected to take a high level of responsibility for your own studies.

### Your grades

The accompanying document to this Handbook, the Aids to Study, contains detailed information about the standards required for written work and the meaning of the grades given. This is available on the intranet and also in the library and in the common rooms. Written work is graded Distinction, Merit, Good Pass, Pass, Marginal and Fail. Middlesex University uses a 1-20 numerical grading scheme and Minster grades roughly correspond as follows – Distinction = 1-4, Merit = 5-8, Good Pass and Pass = 9-16, Fail = 17-20). Your written work and live assessments will be graded as part of the feedback to you about the quality of your submissions, however the overall MA is not classified.

| Grade              | Description  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>Distinction</b> | <p><i>For essays and dissertations</i></p> <p>An outstanding and original submission which demonstrates a systematic and comprehensive understanding of the subject and a thoughtful and critical approach to it that goes beyond conventional discussion of the topic. Well-structured and cogently argued. Appropriate evidence used to support arguments and generate new concepts or perspectives. Demonstrates that concepts/theories/methods have been assimilated. Imaginative and critical use of own material/experience demonstrating a high level of integration of theory, practice and personal experience. Demonstrates high levels of awareness and sensitivity to ethical issues. Fully research-aware.</p> <p><i>For reflective accounts, portfolios, clinical examples and case studies</i></p> <p>Where the submission is more directly related to clinical/professional practice submissions worthy of a distinction will show many of the same qualities of depth of understanding and originality however the emphasis will be on the application of understanding to practice and the demonstration of highly developed skills. Submissions will show a sophisticated understanding of clinical/professional concepts and a capacity to integrate theoretical understanding into practice in imaginative, nuanced and subtle ways. These submissions are likely to show a deep understanding of relational/organisational dynamics and demonstrate a capacity for high levels of sustained, non-defensive, self-awareness and reflection. Demonstrates high</p> |

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
|                  | levels of awareness and sensitivity to ethical issues and excellent use of supervision/peer discussion.   |
| <b>Merit</b>     | <p><i>For essays and dissertations</i><br/>A very competent submission showing good evidence of extensive reading, a good critical awareness of approaches/perspectives, a grasp of materials used and of arguments developed, a clear structure and evidence of good integration of theory, practice and personal experience. Ethical issues very well handled. Definitely research-aware.</p> <p><i>For reflective accounts, portfolios, clinical examples and case studies</i><br/>Submissions will show a very good and comprehensive grasp of relevant clinical/professional concepts and demonstrate thoughtful and sensitive application to practice. Demonstrates a good understanding of relational/organisational dynamics and a capacity for thorough, non-defensive, self-awareness and reflection. Very good use of supervision/peer discussion. Ethical issues very well handled.</p> |
| <b>Good Pass</b> | <p><i>For essays and dissertations</i><br/>A good submission showing above average understanding and familiarity with the material being presented. There is evidence of reading well around the topic and having a real grasp of the issues involved. The major points are discussed although relevant but less important considerations may be missing. Sufficient integration of theory, practice and personal experience. Research-aware. Ethical issues well handled.</p> <p><i>For reflective accounts, portfolios, clinical examples and case studies</i><br/>Good grasp of relevant clinical/professional concepts with their application to practice well demonstrated. Good understanding of relational/organisational dynamics and capacity for self-awareness and reflection well demonstrated. Good use of supervision/peer discussion. Ethical issues well handled.</p>               |
| <b>Pass</b>      | <p><i>For essays and dissertations</i><br/>A satisfactory submission showing an understanding of the subject matter and of the principal source material. Not just descriptive or too generalised, and containing elements of critique. Some evidence of integration of theory, practice and personal experience. Ethical issues adequately handled.</p> <p><i>For reflective accounts, portfolios, clinical examples and case studies</i><br/>Relevant clinical/professional concepts understood and demonstrates understanding of their application to practice. Demonstrates understanding of relational dynamics and sufficient self-awareness and reflection to practice safely and use supervision/group discussion. Sufficiently aware of ethical issues to handle them adequately.</p>  |
| <b>Fail</b>      | <p><i>For essays and dissertations</i> Does not meet the criteria. Instances of this would include the following. Shows some grasp</p>  |



|  |   |
|--|---|
|  | <p>of the factual material but does not apply this thoughtfully to the subject matter. Most features weak. Integration not shown. This will include papers which either concentrate on personal experience with little or no theory or practice incorporated or understood, or are taken from theory alone with little reference to practice or personal experience. Little structure or planning, use of irrelevant or muddled material. May not address the subject and may rely on a minimal range of information, references or analysis. No research awareness. Lack of awareness of ethical issues or not adequately handled.</p> <p><i>For reflective accounts, portfolios, clinical examples and case studies</i> Similar to the above but may also include not understanding key clinical /professional concepts adequately, not being able to articulate a clinical/professional stance, describing poor clinical/professional practice without adequate awareness or self-reflection. Lack of use of supervision/group discussion.</p> |
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**Further administrative grades** are also used to indicate re-assessment, deferrals and academic misconduct etc. The full scale is contained in the Middlesex Regulations available online at; <http://www.mdx.ac.uk/regulations>

If you have any questions about what your grades or status mean contact the Course Leader.

### **Programme regulations for progression and award**

To proceed from one year to the next students must have attended at least 80 per cent of each module, all summative assessed work must pass, and all other course requirements must have been fulfilled to a satisfactory level. All students wishing to progress into the next year must be up to date with the payment of their fees.

If any of the above criteria is not met, the situation will be discussed fully with the student and, where possible, a remedial plan will be agreed. The options for the remedial plan include resubmission of written work and modification of student attendance. Ultimately students may also be asked to leave the course. Further information on these options are discussed in later separate sections.

The conditions you must meet to be awarded an MA/PG Dip Professional Practice (Advanced Clinical Practice) are summarised below:

*The following all assessed as Pass or above:*

A 1000 word AAI Reflective Account

A 4000 word Contemporary Theories Essay

A 40 minute Presentation

A 1000 word reflective account of presentation

A Clinical Practice and Supervision Portfolio

Clinical Practice and Supervision Review Meeting

A 6000 word Practicum 2 Case study & Live Assessment

*PG Dip Professional Practice Counselling and Psychotherapy (Advanced Clinical Practice)*

A 15,000 word Dissertation

In addition to passing all the above formally assessed work:

- assessment by tutors of having reached an acceptable standard in experiential, skills and self-development work in accordance with the assessment criteria listed below
- A minimum of 60 hours supervised clinical practice
- Attendance of at least 80 per cent of the total course hours
- At least 40 sessions of personal individual psychotherapy in first year of training for the Advanced Clinical Practice option.

## **Assessment criteria for experiential, clinical skills and self-development work**

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The following summaries of the experiential learning objectives for each year of training are the criteria used by students in their self-assessments and by tutors in assessing whether students have completed the experiential, clinical/professional skill and self-development aspects of the year successfully and are ready to progress to the following year. These competences are **cumulative**, each year building on the learning from previous years, and **students must be meeting the criteria for their current year and all preceding years.**

### **Year 1 Part 1**

#### **Awareness of own process**

- Willingness to venture beyond their comfort zone to explore their own process
- Being able to feel or sense shifts in their own process and experience, and express and integrate strong feelings arising during the course
- Capable of reflecting upon their own process in terms of their personal history, patterns of interaction with others, significant features and themes in their life history
- Ability to take responsibility for their own feelings without needing to project, deny, etc.
- Openness to integrate their body, mind and feelings and showing they are aware of the bodily experience of feelings
- Being able to formulate this in relation to theory

#### **Understanding and use of theory**

- Understanding the core theories and themes being taught
- Internalising the theory sufficiently to start integrating it with practice
- Being aware of the theories behind power, difference and the body process
- Understanding and 'owning' their own political/social/cultural values
- Understanding and working with the interface between external events and internal processes
- Understanding psychotherapeutic ideas about difference
- Understand cultural difference in the context of counselling/therapy
- Attaining a basic grasp of how models might be used in practice
- Being able to identify different styles of working

#### **Intersubjective awareness**

- Sensitivity to qualities of relationship and the intersubjective field

- Having a developed sense of transference–countertransference and understanding the principle of experiencing body countertransference (Advanced Clinical Practice and Supervision options)
- Able to stay with the client through distressing or traumatic material (Advanced Clinical Practice option)
- Having the capacity to comment on the dynamic of a relationship in a facilitative way

### **Therapeutic flexibility and agency**

- Ability to attune and empathise
- Ability to inquire and to challenge
- Capacity to maintain an overview while following a process
- Capacity to manage organisational aspects of therapeutic work
- Ability to contain and make safe (ground) the strong feelings of the client/supervisee/team member
- Ability to read the bodily expression of the client's/supervisee's feeling state, and to direct their awareness to this (Advanced Clinical Practice and Supervision options)
- Ability to work with clients/supervisees with growing confidence using developed therapeutic skills (Advanced Clinical Practice and Supervision options)

## **Year 1 Part 2**

### **Awareness of own process**

- Ability to process feelings that arise during the course
- Ability to understand their own defenses in relation to issues that arise on the course, and to have developed a strong understanding of the use they make of them
- Ability to understand how their own internal world is created by an integration of their own environment and the internal structures that they developed to deal with this
- Ability to internally integrate feelings, thoughts and experiences from all parts of their lives
- Ability to articulate their experience of both conscious and unconscious processes in themselves
- Demonstrating mature awareness of their own needs and how to get appropriate support for ongoing personal and professional development
- Ability to be in touch with the depth of their own process and maintain reflective awareness of its implications

### **Intersubjective awareness with others**

- Ability to contain their own feelings sufficiently to focus on the other
- Ability to contain feelings about 'not knowing' with the other without straining for premature certainty
- Ability to keep a professional relationship within the appropriate boundaries, and to understand issues that might arise to challenge this
- Sensitivity to the qualities of a relationship and the intersubjective field
- Sophisticated awareness of transference–countertransference (Advanced Integrative Practice and Supervision options)
- Capacity to comment on the dynamic of a relationship in a facilitative way

### **Understanding of theory**

- Developing and being able to articulate their own ideas about the integrative, theoretical basis of their work
- Being able to demonstrate knowledge of how to work ethically
- Understanding the concept of 'difference' and its application to work with others
- Having a developed view of the cultural and personal values that underpin their own work
- Understand key concepts in psychotherapy, such as integration, transference and countertransference and theories of trauma (Advanced Integrative Practice and Supervision options)
- Know enough about mental health difficulties to be able to make useful client assessments and support others in doing so. You should be aware of current debates about the national occupational standards for the use of the term 'psychotherapy' and that it is likely these will involve an understanding of 'severe' presentations (Advanced Integrative Practice and Supervision options)
- Demonstrating that they understand and can use supervision of supervision or supervision (Advanced Integrative Practice and Supervision options)
- Continuing wide-ranging exploration of theory and the ability to take responsibility for deepening their knowledge in the field of psychotherapy/supervision/management
- Awareness of research methods, sources of information on research and how to use research in psychotherapy and counselling

### **Therapeutic flexibility and agency** (Advanced Integrative Practice and Supervision options)

- Ability to work at depth with a wide range of presenting issues and to continue exploring and developing their therapeutic skills
- Ability to articulate an assessment and therapeutic strategy in working with clients
- The ability to make a therapeutic alliance
- The ability to process the client–therapist relationship, both personally and in relation to theory, and the ability to articulate this
- The ability to use supervision fully, i.e. a willingness to be open about difficulties, and to focus on things that need attention
- The ability to access, reflect on and appropriately discuss unconscious processes in therapy, supervision and other relationships

### **Year 2**

In the second year, students will be continuing their studies as independent learners supported by their research supervisor. It is important to continue to bear in mind the first year criteria listed above, in addition there are criteria that are particularly relevant to completing the Masters dissertation. These are listed below.

- Continuing wide-ranging exploration of theory and the ability to take responsibility for deepening their knowledge in the field of psychotherapy/supervision/management
- Awareness of research methods, sources of information on research and how to use research in psychotherapy and counselling

## Your results

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At the end of each academic year, your results will be considered and confirmed by an Assessment Board. Once the Assessment Board has met you will be informed of your results or progression status by email within 5 working days (or any changes to if you have previously received your marks and feedback).

**The dates of Assessment Boards are published in the academic calendar on the intranet.** <http://minsterstudents.co.uk/home/calendar/>.

### Certificates

When you graduate, if you have registered and paid the fees for an MA or PG Diploma, you will receive an award certificate issued by Middlesex University. It will include the words “in collaboration with the Minster Centre”.

**Your MA/PG Diploma certificate will be sent to the Minster Centre by Middlesex University within 4 months of the date the qualification is awarded** (usually the Assessment Board date). Once it has arrived it will then be forwarded to you at the address we hold for you. It is therefore very important that you keep us updated of your address details if they change at any point.

Full details of the information which will appear on your certificate are set out in the Middlesex Regulations, section E13.5: <http://www.mdx.ac.uk/regulations>

### Diploma supplement

All students are issued with a diploma supplement (verified by Middlesex University if you have registered for the MA/PG Dip.) which will state the Minster Centre as the institution where you studied. Your diploma supplement will include the modules you have taken, grades achieved and state your qualification with the title but additionally it will also contain information on the nature, level, context, content and status of your studies undertaken and successfully completed. Diploma supplements are intended to help external parties such as employers or other higher education providers understand more about your programme in addition to your grades.

## Extensions, deferrals and resubmissions

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### Extenuating circumstances and requests for extensions or deferral of coursework

The assessed coursework is an integral and important part of the course and you are expected to organise your time to enable you to complete it and hand it in by the deadline. The deadlines are given at the start of the academic year to give you plenty of time to plan. If exceptional circumstances arise, i.e. circumstances that do not apply to other students and you could not reasonably have avoided or anticipated, such as illness or accident, which you judge will prevent you from meeting the deadline, you should inform the relevant module leader before the deadline and as soon as you can and email the Registrar [juliac@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:juliac@minstercentre.org.uk). In the case of final pieces of work, you must contact your Course Leader in writing before the deadline (with a copy to the Registrar). You may be required to provide evidence of the circumstances that have prevented you completing the work. Approval of an extension is not automatic. Module Leaders in consultation with the Course Leader may grant an extension at their discretion, this will normally be to the first

date that you could reasonably complete and submit the work. If you have an agreed extension and submit your work by the new deadline it will be graded as normal.

If you submit after the deadline without a previously agreed extension, your work will be marked as Pass, or Fail; a Good Pass, Merit or Distinction will not be awarded, no matter how high the standard of the work you have submitted.

If you fail to submit your coursework at all, you will fail the year and may be required to repeat it or asked to leave the course.

### **Work that does not meet the standards required**

Although no one anticipates failing an assessment, it is important that you are aware of what happens if you do. If you submit work that does not meet the standards required it will be marked as a fail, in which case you will normally be given one opportunity to revise it and resubmit. Your tutor will provide feedback on how it needs to be improved and agree the resubmission deadline. Normally you would be entitled to one re-assessment opportunity and there will be a fee to cover the costs of remarking. The highest mark that can be awarded to a resubmitted piece of work is a Pass. This is because your second submission will be made with the benefit of marking feedback.

If you do not pass on resubmission consideration will be given to whether you can progress further with the course. Depending on your overall progress you may be given an opportunity to re-take parts of the course or you may have to leave the course.

### **Progression to the next year when your written work has not passed**

The Assessment Board may allow students to progress to the next year of training on condition that a piece of written work not yet passed is completed to a satisfactory standard by an agreed date. This will normally only apply to students who have only failed one piece of work, have not previously failed a piece of work and have met all the other requirements of the course. In these circumstances the student will usually be required to resubmit and pass the piece of work over the winter break. In exceptional circumstances a student may be allowed to progress to the following year and resubmit the work during the year. Alternatively the Board may decide that a student must repeat the module concerned, defer progression until the written assignment is passed, or leave the course.

All students wishing to progress into the next year must be up to date with the payment of their fees.

### **Extensions to complete clinical/supervision hours requirements**

The Minster Centre recognises that, although the courses have been designed to support the timely completion of all course components, there will be circumstances that prevent the attainment of the required number of clinical hours by the end of the academic course.

In such cases extensions for clinical/supervision hours can be agreed. It is the student's responsibility to monitor their clinical hours, alert the Course Leader if they believe they will not complete in time, and apply for an extension. In such cases the procedures indicated below will be followed.

1. It is the student's responsibility to arrange a tutorial with the Course Leader to discuss a projected shortfall in clinical/supervision hours

2. The circumstances that justify an extension would either be professional or personal. Professional circumstances would include the following: problems residing with agency in terms of delivering enough opportunities to practice; high number of DNAs due to client group, e.g. substance misusers; changing placement agency; delays in securing a placement. Personal circumstances could include: breaks in clinical work due to illness or psychological stress
3. The student and Course Leader will agree an extension period appropriate to the circumstances of up to one year from the date of the final training day.
4. The clinical/supervision hours extension form (available from the intranet) is filled in during the tutorial meeting and a copy is placed in the student file.
5. Support will be put in place for the time required to complete the extension. The student and Course Leader will discuss the appropriate form of support at the tutorial. Depending on the circumstances and number of hours to be completed this could include regular phone contact with a designated tutor to review progress and email contact for queries and ongoing support or remaining in a Minster Centre supervision group.
6. At the end of the extension the student will meet with a designated tutor to handover required documentation with regard to clinical hours and to debrief.
7. If a further extension is requested, this can only be considered in exceptional circumstances and this will be considered by the Course Leader.

### Deferral of completion

MA Finalists can defer completion of their assessed work initially into a 3<sup>rd</sup> year. Students wishing to defer will need to contact the Course Leader to discuss their progress towards completion by 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017. If you wish to defer beyond a 3<sup>rd</sup> year you must discuss your detailed plans for completion with the Course Leader and have negotiated an agreement for a timely completion by 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017. Agreement for deferral beyond a 3<sup>rd</sup> year is not automatic. **Please note that the maximum period of Registration with Middlesex University for part time Masters is 5 years. You must therefore complete the programme within 5 years.**

### Temporary withdrawal

Students may also choose to withdraw temporarily between years or be asked by their Course Leader to slow down; taking a year out or taking only certain elements of the course in the following year. Requests for withdraw temporarily must be made in writing to your Course Leader by 1<sup>st</sup> November. **Please note that the maximum period of Registration with Middlesex University for part time Masters is 5 years. You must therefore complete the programme within 5 years.**

Students wishing to continue after such a break will need to apply for re-admission by 1<sup>st</sup> November of the following year. You will normally be asked to submit a personal statement and may be asked to attend an interview, contact the Registrar [Juliac@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:Juliac@minstercentre.org.uk) in advance of 1<sup>st</sup> November to establish what you are required to submit.

Please note that if you withdraw part way through a year you will be liable for the entire fees for that year. If you later wish to return, an assessment will be made with you of which parts of the year you will need to repeat; because of the nature of the course it is not possible to re-join part way through modules or join supervision or ETG groups mid-year. You also

need to be aware that there is no refund on MA fees and the Minster Centre has no discretion over these. These are handed over to Middlesex University.

All deferrals and withdrawals are presented to the next Assessment Board for approval.

### **Maximum period of study**

Under Middlesex University Regulations, Masters and PG Dip Registrations are subject to a maximum period of registration of 5 years. This means that you must complete the qualification within 5 years of Registration including any deferrals or temporary withdrawals. The Regulations state that the University may waive regulations governing the length of registration for individual students at its discretion. Please note that this would be a University decision and not one the Minster Centre can take. Students should not rely on being able to obtain a waiver. See page 23 of MU Regulations, available at [http://www.mdx.ac.uk/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0016/239020/Postgraduate-Taught-Programmes-16-17.pdf](http://www.mdx.ac.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0016/239020/Postgraduate-Taught-Programmes-16-17.pdf)

### **Academic misconduct**

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It is important that you are aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and section F of the Middlesex University Regulations gives guidance on this: [mdx.ac.uk/regulations](http://www.mdx.ac.uk/regulations).

**Plagiarism** is taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as your own. Remember plagiarism isn't just restricted to essays or reports it can also happen presentations and with visual work. It includes:

- copying – submission of someone else's entire work as your own. The original work could be from the internet, a classmate, or a student in a previous year.
- failing to indicate a direct quote (quotation marks should be used) in the text.
- paraphrasing or synthesising material from a book, journal article or internet site without acknowledging the source in the text.
- composing a paragraph by joining together sentences from a number of sources and not acknowledging them in the text.
- using your own previous work in another assignment without acknowledging it.
- using frameworks, diagrams, charts or tables from someone else's work without acknowledging the source
- using transcripts or recording of clinical work that is not your own.

The University and the Minster Centre takes plagiarism very seriously and you will face a penalty if found guilty of plagiarism regardless of whether it was unintentional or a first offence. You should therefore make sure that you understand how to reference properly so that you can use another author's work without plagiarising. Please see the Aids to Study where extensive guidance on referencing is provided.

Academic misconduct also covers cheating in examinations or formal assessments.

Minor and uncontested cases of academic misconduct will normally be managed by the Course Leader and will normally involve the failure and resubmission of the piece of work affected, which on remarking will not achieve a mark higher than a pass. Where more serious or contested academic misconduct, including repeated incidents, are alleged they will be referred to Course Leader to assess whether the allegations are supported by sufficient evidence. If the Course Leader judges they are, the student will be informed in



writing of the allegations and asked to respond within an agreed timetable of not less than 10 days. The Director or a person delegated by her will then decide whether to proceed further and if so will convene a panel, chaired by the Director, or a person delegated by her, of two tutors who were not involved in the original assessment. Tutors involved in the original assessment may be asked to attend. Students called before such a panel may bring a friend or advocate to the meeting and the advocate will be able to speak at the student's request.

If the case of academic misconduct is not upheld the work shall be assessed on its academic merit, and all record of the alleged misconduct shall be removed from the student's record. Where an allegation of academic misconduct is sustained, either by the admission of the student or following a Panel's investigation, a recommendation will be made to the Assessment Board which the Assessment Board can uphold or modify. Students can be asked to resubmit work which cannot receive higher than a pass grade on remarking, submit a new piece of work with a different title which can also not be marked higher than a pass, attend a viva voce on a piece of work, re-sit a module, repeat a year, receive a lower qualification or be expelled from the Minster Centre without qualification. Students will also receive a written warning that further offences will have serious consequences. The level of sanction applied will be governed by an assessment of the seriousness of the academic misconduct and the criteria used to assess this will parallel those set out in Middlesex University's Regulations Section F which is available on line at: <http://www.mdx.ac.uk/aboutus/Strategy/regulations/sectionf.aspx>.

Particular consideration will also be given to the importance of ethical values for practicing psychotherapists, supervisors and managers. Students whose academic misconduct demonstrates a serious lack of personal integrity or respect for ethical values may be subject to Fitness to Practice review or may be asked to leave the course with immediate effect.

If you have any questions regarding plagiarism or academic misconduct then please contact the Course Leader.

## **Appeals**

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Students are able to appeal against Assessment Board decisions, the outcome of academic misconduct cases and non-academic progression decisions. The Minster Centre uses its own regulations for handling student appeals.

### **Principles and grounds for appeal**

1. The Minster Centre regulations are applied fairly and consistently and in accordance with its equal opportunities policy.
2. All appeals procedures are made transparent through publication in the student handbook.
3. Privacy and confidentiality are assured unless disclosure is necessary to progress the appeal.

4. A student has the right to appeal against an academic decision made by the Minster Centre Assessment Board on the following grounds only:

- i) that his/her performance in the assessment was adversely affected by illness or other factors which he/she was unable, or for valid reasons unwilling, to divulge before the Minster Centre Assessment Panel reached its decision. This must be supported by documentary evidence such as medical certificates

that there has been a material administrative error, or that the assessment(s) was not conducted in accordance with the Minster Centre Regulations governing the course, or that some other material irregularity has occurred

5. A student has the right to appeal against non-academic Minster Centre decisions such as not allowing progression to an appropriate course or withholding permission to begin clinical work on the following grounds only:

- i) that his/her assessed performance was adversely affected by illness or other factors which he/she was unable, or for valid reasons unwilling, to divulge to the assessing tutors. This must be supported by documentary evidence such as medical certificates
- ii) that there has been a material administrative error, or that the assessment(s) was not conducted in accordance with the Minster Centre Regulations governing the course, or that some other material irregularity has occurred

6. Every effort will be made to resolve an appeal informally before the formal procedure is applied.

## **Procedure**

1. A student wishing to exercise a right of appeal must give notice in writing to the Course Leader, copied to the Director, using the appropriate forms (available on the Intranet). This must state the grounds and evidence on which the student wishes to appeal and must be submitted within 28 calendar days from being informed of the decision being appealed against.

2. The Course Leader and Director will acknowledge receipt of the formal notice and will, whenever possible, explore with the student if there are any further possibilities for informal resolution. If a resolution cannot be found two staff from a pool of Heads of Years/Courses will review the appeal.

3. If there is no evidence to support the appeal and/or the grounds for an appeal does not meet the criteria then the appeal will be dismissed and the student will be notified in writing.

4. If the appeal satisfies the grounds for either an academic or non-academic appeal the student will be informed.

5. Academic appeals that are upheld will lead to a requirement for the Assessment Board to review the decision. Non-academic appeals that are upheld will lead to a panel, comprising two tutors from a different year and an external professional, reviewing the original decision.

Students registered for an MA are able to appeal against the outcome of Minster Centre academic misconduct cases and appeal results to the University. The Middlesex University Regulations for Appeals apply and these are set out in Section G of the Regulations which is available on line at: [mdx.ac.uk/regulations](http://mdx.ac.uk/regulations)

If you are considering submitting an appeal to Middlesex University against an Assessment Board decision then please contact Philip Reilly the Minster Centre Link Tutor.

## **Modification of student attendance**

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If staff agree that the best course of action for a student involves modification of their attendance, designated members of staff (following recommendations by core staff working with a group and discussion at the Training Committee, or if between Training Committee meetings, following discussion with a Deputy Director or Director) will meet the student shortly after a meeting to discuss student progress. The student will be informed of the decision by tutors and the recommendation that the student makes changes in his/her attendance at the Minster Centre.

Recommended changes may include:

- taking a year out
- repeating one or more modules
- undertaking more therapy or practice experience or attending an experiential group
- slowing down by splitting a year or leaving a particular module until a more appropriate time in the student's personal development.

Such changes may be required at any time in the training. Where such changes are required of students, their fulfilment will then become a condition of continuing to train and gaining the MA or other qualification.

The meeting between staff and student may take two different forms:

- The teaching staff may be offering their thoughts as suggestions for negotiation with the student.
- The teaching staff may have reached a firm decision about the course of action to be followed, in which case the student can choose to engage with the proposals or withdraw from the training.

The status of the tutors' decision will be made clear by tutors at the outset of the meeting.

In either case there will be two members of staff present and the student may bring a friend or advocate to the meeting and the advocate will be able to speak at the student's request. The advocate/friend must not be a present or past tutor, trustee, member of staff at the Minster Centre.

The Minster Centre will produce a written record of the meeting which will normally be sent to all the attendees of the meeting with five working days of the meeting. All attendees will be asked to sign a written account of the meeting, agreeing to the accuracy of the record. If you feel the record is not accurate you can ask for amendments to be made. If all present

are agreed that the amendments improve the accuracy of the record they will be added. If all present do not agree you can still ask for an addendum to be included recording your comments.

### **Termination of student attendance**

In exceptional circumstances a student will be told that the Minster Centre requires them to stop attending the course. This decision will be reached by the Head of Year/Course in discussion with either the Training Committee or a Deputy Director or Director and normally after conferring with the members of staff working with the student. Such circumstances may include concerns about the student's capacity to successfully complete the course, the student's wellbeing or safety or the wellbeing or safety of others, the student's competence to practice, or concerns for their mental or physical health. The meeting to inform the student of this decision will be called as soon as possible after the decision has been made.

The student may bring a friend or advocate to the meeting and the advocate will be able to speak at the student's request. The advocate/friend must not be a present or past tutor, trustee, member of staff at the Minster Centre.

The Minster Centre will produce a written record of the meeting which will normally be sent to all the attendees of the meeting with five working days of the meeting. All attendees will be asked to sign a written account of the meeting, agreeing to the accuracy of the record. If you feel the record is not accurate you can ask for amendments to be made. If all present are agreed that the amendments improve the accuracy of the record they will be added. If all present do not agree you can still ask for an addendum to be included recording your comments.

A second meeting may be offered in order to give the student opportunity to ask for any further information or discuss the feedback and the issues involved. Depending on the purpose of a second meeting, two staff members may again be present, the content of the meeting may be recorded and the student asked to sign an agreement that the record is accurate.

Where issues of well being, safety or ethical behaviour are concerned, the Minster Centre may require the student to withdraw immediately.

In the case of actions that have been taken maliciously, with deliberate intent to harm another student, staff member or the Minster Centre, the right to dismiss the student immediately and take legal action if necessary will be exercised.

## SUPPORT

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Although you are expected to be an independent learner and to take responsibility for your own academic and personal life, there is help available to support you throughout your programme.

### Academic support

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#### Academic staff

Your tutors will direct your studies and ensure that you know what work you need to cover in any given module. Seek advice from tutors either during your regular attendance or by email or contact your Course Leader if you need further information and cannot locate it in the Handbook, Aids to Study or on the student intranet.. As well as organising a formal one-to-one tutorial and class tutorials, the Course Leader and tutors will do their best to meet you at other times when required.

If you feel you need additional academic support beyond what the Minster Centre can provide there is a list of tutors who can be employed privately on the Intranet. Students with disabilities, including long term health conditions, which may affect their capacity to study or complete assigned pieces of work *please see below*.

#### Link tutors

As stated on the front of this handbook the link tutor at the Minster Centre for the MA programme is Philip Reilly [PhilipR@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:PhilipR@minstercentre.org.uk) and the link tutor at Middlesex is David Henderson. Both tutors are jointly responsible for ensuring the MA programme is delivered according to the arrangements agreed when it was approved. Both link tutors attend the Board of Study meetings where they hear the views of students on the programme, however you can contact either if you have a query or suggestion.

#### Training Admin office

The Training Office is where you can go as a first point of call to for information or to seek advice.

### Disability Support

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The Minster Centre is committed to working towards accessible facilities for those with disabilities and impairments. It is important that you let us know what your needs are as soon as possible, preferably upon application, so we can seek to make reasonable adjustments for you. .

Students who register for an MA/PG Dip course are eligible to apply for Disabled Students Allowance (DSA) which provides grants to support the additional costs of studying if you have a disability.

#### For full details, please visit

[http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/DisabledPeople/EducationAndTraining/HigherEducation/DG\\_10034898](http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/DisabledPeople/EducationAndTraining/HigherEducation/DG_10034898).

If you have a Middlesex University student number, i.e. you are registered on a MA/PG Dip course, you can contact their Disability Services: [disability@mdx.ac.uk](mailto:disability@mdx.ac.uk), or 0208 411 2502.

Guidance for students who have specific learning needs, a long-term health condition, and/or a disability

## Disclosure

We are aware that sharing details of a disability, long-term health condition or specific learning difference can be hard. However we need to know how to best assist you in your studies, and therefore we encourage you to identify your needs, and provide us with as much information as possible. In the first instance this information will be shown to our Disability Co-ordinator Alyson Jaffe, Alyson@minstercentre.org.uk . If she feels it is necessary to facilitate your admission interview, the tutors conducting your interview will also be told of your specific needs. In the first instance please show that you have specific needs on your application form, so that we can provide reasonable adjustments for you.

It is important to let us know if you have any specific needs that impact on your learning and studying with us. For example, if you have mobility needs, require medical storage facilities, medical guidance and/or specialist support. Your application form requests this information, and it is helpful for us to know this in advance so that we can make any reasonable adjustments for you.

## Evidence

If you have a specific learning difference (e.g. dyslexia or dyspraxia) you will need to provide a copy of your diagnostic assessment report. You will probably have this from a previous learning environment. If you think you may have a specific learning difference but have not been assessed we advise you to make contact with a Specialist Teacher Assessor, or a Chartered Psychologist to undertake an assessment preferably before you begin studying with us. Unfortunately, The Minster Centre cannot offer advice or funding in regards to assessment.

If you have a long-term health condition or disability, please provide us with information about your specific needs, so that we can ensure that we can assist you with your studies at The Minster Centre. It would be helpful if you could provide us with a report from your doctor, consultant or another relevant professional.

If you develop a disability or health condition during your training with us, or have not previously disclosed one and now wish to do so, please contact Alyson Jaffe directly so that we can arrange to make reasonable adjustments for you.

You will find a list of useful contacts and resources further down in this section.

## **Disability Coordinator**

Once you have submitted your application form and given us the information that we need about your requirements, such as a diagnostic report identifying your learning needs, a medical professional report about your long-term health condition or disability, this will be passed to Alyson Jaffe. Alyson is the Disability Co-ordinator, and a Deputy Director of Training, who will explore how we can support you in your studies. Alyson may need to speak to you on the phone or meet with you in person, so that your needs are individually assessed, and a plan put in place that will benefit both you, as a student, and what can be met by The Minster Centre, as a small training organisation. This is likely to be separate to the interview process for selection onto our courses.

Alyson will act as an Advisor to staff and students. In the first instance, she will be the person who deals with all issues related to disability, and relevant information will be then given to your tutors, Heads of Year, and administrative staff. This information will be in the form of a Learning and Study Agreement, between the student and The Minster Centre, which will be agreed with Alyson and passed onto the relevant staff.

## **List of Useful Contacts and Resources**

### **Assistive Technology**

Many students with specific learning differences such as dyslexia or dyspraxia find assistive technology software and smartphone/tablet applications (Apps) helpful to support them in their study. For example, text-to-speech software will read aloud any digital text such as a document, email or webpage using a synthesised voice which can be helpful for proof reading.

The Diversity and Ability (DnA) resources webpage: [www.dnamatters.co.uk/resources/](http://www.dnamatters.co.uk/resources/) detail a variety of free, low cost and commercial assistive software and smartphone/tablet Apps. Each item includes overview information of how it can support study, a download link and a video or document user guide.

**The Association of Dyslexia Specialists in Higher Education (ADSHE)** – Find a specialist dyslexia or SpLD tutor - <http://adshe.org.uk/> email [John.Conway@rau.ac.uk](mailto:John.Conway@rau.ac.uk) to request a tutor.

**The Professional Association of Teachers with Students with Specific Learning Difficulties (PATOSS)** – Diagnostic Assessor Index [www.patoss-dyslexia.org/SupportAdvice/AboutTutorAssessorIndex/](http://www.patoss-dyslexia.org/SupportAdvice/AboutTutorAssessorIndex/)

**The British Psychological Society** – Directory of Chartered Psychologists for Educational Psychologist Assessments: [www.bps.org.uk/bpslegacy/dcp](http://www.bps.org.uk/bpslegacy/dcp)

### **DSA: Disabled Students Allowance**

Only students registered on the PgDip/MA programmes are eligible for this.

Further information and application forms can be obtained from: [www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowance-dsas/overview/https://www.dnamatters.co.uk/resources/dsa/intro/](http://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowance-dsas/overview/https://www.dnamatters.co.uk/resources/dsa/intro/)

### **Dyslexia Action Learning Fund**

Web: [www.dyslexiaaction.org.uk](http://www.dyslexiaaction.org.uk)

The Dyslexia Action Learning Fund provides funds to pay for specialist tuition at Dyslexia Action Centres for those with specific learning and literacy difficulties. To find out more about it please contact your nearest centre

[www.dyslexiaaction.org.uk/find-us](http://www.dyslexiaaction.org.uk/find-us).

They also provide assessment services, for which you will have to pay.

### **Educational Guidance Service**

208 Rochdale Road

Greetland

Halifax

HX4 8JE

Website: [www.egs.org.uk](http://www.egs.org.uk)

The Educational Guidance Service offer assessment services.

Tel: 01422 372222

### **Snowdon Trust**

Unit 18, Oakhurst Business Park, Southwater, West Sussex RH13 9RT

Tel: 01403 732 899

Email: [info@snowdontrust.org](mailto:info@snowdontrust.org)

Web: [www.snowdontrust.org](http://www.snowdontrust.org)

The scheme primarily helps physically disabled students and sensory impaired students in further or higher education or those training towards employment. Bursaries are made for one or two years and do not normally exceed £2,500. Awards are made for equipment, travel, sign language interpreters, note takers, special accommodation needs and other disability-related costs not met by statutory bodies. Applications are considered twice a year and closing dates are 31 May and 31 August.

### **Multiple Sclerosis Society**

The Grants Team, MS National Centre, 372 Edgware Road, Cricklewood, London NW2 6ND

Tel: 020 8438 0700 Fax: 020 8438 0701

Email: [grants@mssociety.org.uk](mailto:grants@mssociety.org.uk)

Web: [www.mssociety.org.uk](http://www.mssociety.org.uk)

The MS Society can give grants for people with MS if there is no other official funding available. They can help with adaptations to accommodation, wheelchairs and other specialised equipment. Grants are also available to aid the personal development of people providing care, which can include education grants. To find out more about financial assistance from the MS Society, contact your local branch or the grants team at the MS Society's national office in London.



## Financial Issues, fees payment, Hardship Fund and Bursaries

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The fees for the MA/ PG Diploma 2017 are:

|  | Course fee | Middlesex Registration Fee | Total  |
|--|------------|----------------------------|--------|
| <b>PG Diploma</b>                        | £3,869     | £690                       | £4,559 |
| <i>With member's discount</i>            | £3,289     | £690                       | £3,979 |
| <b>1st Year MA</b>                       | £2,690     | £690                       | £3,380 |
| <i>With member's discount</i>            | £2,328     | £690                       | £3,018 |
| <b>Final Year MA (starting Jan 2017)</b> | £2,320     | £690                       | £3,010 |
| <i>With member's discount</i>            | £1,972     | £690                       | £2,662 |

### What is included in your fees

Course fees include contact training hours, coursework assessment, clinical supervision of work with training clients and client referrals. Tuition fees do not include personal therapy, placement or private client supervision (if applicable), the provision of consulting rooms for seeing training clients, or assessment of resubmitted coursework.

Personal therapy can cost from £50 per session upwards in London, sometimes less outside London. In addition you will need to budget for the purchase of several key books a year (these are texts you will need to refer to frequently) and travel to the Centre, to placements and to therapy.

*Course fees are subject to annual inflation. Once you have started a course we will endeavour to keep fee increases in subsequent years as low as possible. Increases may occur to reflect changes to the course, changes in the requirements of accrediting organisations, inflation, staff pay rises or other increases to the cost of providing the course.*

*Please see the Fees sheet and your payment agreement form for further information.*

### Deposits and Payment Arrangements

In 2017, students starting the first year of the MA or starting the PG Diploma pay a **non-refundable** deposit of £700. Students progressing between years pay a **non-refundable** deposit of £275 to secure their places in the following year. Deposit levels are subject to change between years. If students on the PG Dip or the first year of the MA decide to leave before the start of the third weekend they are liable for the fees for the first two weekends only, after that they become liable for the full year's fees. All other students become liable for the full year's fees at the beginning of the academic year. This means that if you choose to leave during the course of a year you will be required to pay the full year's fees.

We offer three ways of paying: outright at the start of the year, (attracting a £50 discount for PG Dip and MA courses); in three installments paid in advance - i.e. to be paid by 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2017, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2017 and 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2017; or twelve equal payments to be made monthly by standing order January 2017 to December 2017 by 28<sup>th</sup> of each month. Termly and annual fees may be paid by bank transfer, cheque or credit card without surcharge (except AMEX). For further information on paying fees please refer to

<http://minsterstudents.co.uk/basic-information/fees-payments/> on the student intranet.

For payments by Bank Transfer please use the following account details:

**Bank: CAF Bank Ltd**

**Account name: The Minster Centre**

**Account number: 00022778**

**Sort Code: 40-52-40**

Please contact [Charlotte@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:Charlotte@minstercentre.org.uk) for further information.

**Please add a reference with your initial, surname and ACP (or a suitable abbreviation) so we can match your payment to your account. Please also ask anyone paying on your behalf to do this. This is important as you may otherwise make payments which we cannot identify and your account may not be credited.**

You will receive statements of account during the year which will show what we have charged you, all your payments so far and a total amount outstanding at the date of the statement. Please contact Charlotte immediately if you think there has been an error or there is something you do not understand so we can check and rectify it if necessary.

### **Difficulties with paying fees**

If you think you may have difficulty in paying your fees, please inform Charlotte Dunsby-Ferguson ([charlotte@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:charlotte@minstercentre.org.uk)), **phone: 020 7644 6248, as soon as possible**, so we can explore alternative payment arrangements. If you should face financial difficulty we aim, if at all possible, to avoid you incurring more debt or leaving unnecessarily, having already invested considerable effort and money. If you cannot pay your fees but are otherwise in good standing and progressing well on the course we will look at options for you to withdraw temporarily between years and return later. If you have Training clients we will provide sufficient supervision for you to bring the work to an appropriate end point and return them to the LCTS. However, you will not be able to progress to the next year, receive a training client or qualify until you have cleared any outstanding fees.

### **Arrears**

Please be aware that late or missing payments could lead to you having to cease training.

The following will apply if you have outstanding fees until they are cleared:

- We will not mark work submitted for assessment
- Your grades will not be presented to the Assessment Board
- You will not be able to participate in the Live Assessment
- You will not be able to progress onto the next academic year
- Certificates or Diplomas will not be awarded
- References will not be given for employment or placements and we will not make client referrals
- You will not be granted a Practice Agreement, or it may be withdrawn until you clear them

### **Hardship Fund**

The Minster Centre has a fund to offer financial support to trainees who experience unexpected difficulties during their training.

The fund is used to make grants to cover a proportion of fees for trainees who experience a change of circumstances, such as redundancy, which makes it difficult for them to continue training. Funding is normally offered to allow trainees to complete a year, to attain a qualification they are close to attaining or to complete work with a training client (by funding

supervision). Funds are awarded for one academic year with a further application needed for any subsequent year. Applications can be made to support study on any Minster Centre course and any year.

Applications are considered by the Minster Fund Committee which is made up of Trustees, graduates and members of training staff. The Fund Committee meets to consider applications once a term. Applications should be submitted by the final Friday of half term in any term. Late applications will not be considered.

The Fund Committee will consider financial need, the progress of the applicant, and the stage of training reached. Priority will normally be given to applicants who are further on in their training. When funds allow, trainees in the early years of training may be offered support to help complete a year and then asked to defer until they are in a position to fund continuing training.

In the event that funds available are in excess of what is needed for this purpose, bursaries can be offered to reduce fees for promising applicants who otherwise would not be able to train with us.

You will find further information about the fund and how to apply on the intranet or contact [JuliaC@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:JuliaC@minstercentre.org.uk)

### **Minster Centre Bursaries**

The Minster Centre established a Bursary Scheme in 2015, in accord with our ethos of inclusivity and our commitment to offering opportunities for training to all members of the community. In the field of psychotherapy and counselling generally, the figures that are available suggest the numbers of individuals from ethnic minorities or with disabilities working as therapists is disproportionately low. Training to be a psychotherapist or counsellor is expensive and it is therefore likely that one of the most significant barriers, perhaps the principal barrier, to access to training at the Minster Centre and elsewhere for under-represented groups is the cost of training.

Bursaries are awarded to support people who could not otherwise train when Minster Centre reserves allow. The Trustees determine each year the number of bursaries to be awarded. Bursaries are currently offered for Foundation, Diploma in Counselling and MA in Integrative Psychotherapy and Counselling courses. Further information about the bursary scheme is available on the Minster Centre website

[http://www.minstercentre.org.uk/MC\\_Bursary\\_Scheme.asp](http://www.minstercentre.org.uk/MC_Bursary_Scheme.asp)

**Students are considered for bursaries at the time of application to the Minster Centre only and cannot be considered should circumstances change during their course of study. Bursaries will not be backdated.**

### **Career Development Loans**

You should apply 3 months before your course starts to give the bank enough time to process your application.

Professional and Career Development Loans are bank loans to pay for courses and training. You may be able to borrow between £300 and £10,000.

### **How to apply**

- Find out which banks offer the loan and order an application pack by calling the National Careers service on **0800 100 900**

- Fill in the application form and send it to the bank
- The bank will decide if you qualify for a loan
- You take out the loan with the bank and agree to their repayment conditions.

If you intend to apply for a CDL please inform [Charlotte@minstercentre.org.uk](mailto:Charlotte@minstercentre.org.uk) as soon as possible

## **Student Union membership**

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As you are not attending a Middlesex University campus you are, unfortunately, not a member of Middlesex University Students' Union (MUSU).

Additionally as the Minster Centre currently does not have its own Students' Union then you are also not eligible to be a member of the National Union of Students (NUS). More information on starting a Students' Union is available on line at; <http://www.nus.org.uk/en/About-NUS/Who-We-Are/Membership/>

## **Personal psychotherapy**

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If you choose the Advanced Clinical Practice option, if you are not already engaged in psychotherapy, you must make arrangements to do so as soon as you join the course. Psychotherapy should take place for at least 40 weeks per year at a frequency of at least once a week for students in the first year, it is highly recommended that you continue with personal therapy in the second year. Sessions should be of at least 50mins duration. Therapy must be one to one. You will need to meet the costs of therapy yourself.

Your psychotherapy should be with a qualified and experienced, UKCP-registered practitioner or equivalent. Please note that we will not approve therapists who are not registered with a professional body this is because we want your therapist to be covered by professional standards and ethical and complaints policies and procedures. Your therapist must not be in any other professional or personal relationship with you, and should not normally be a Minster member of staff because your therapist must have no direct contact with you at the Minster Centre i.e. they must not teach you, be your ETG leader or supervise you. If you are choosing a new therapist when starting here as a student, please choose your therapist from outside the Minster Centre staff. If the therapist also trained at the Minster Centre, they should normally have completed their MA/Advanced Diploma at least three years ago and should be UKCP Registered. If any of these requirements cause any problems for you, please contact your Course Leader in the first instance. Should it be that, at the time of application, a student is already in psychotherapy with a member of staff or Minster Centre graduate of less than three years post-qualification experience, or a new member of staff joins with a client who is also a student, the position will be discussed with the people concerned and a decision made by the Director on a case-by-case basis. The important underlying principle in such a case is that the therapist must have no direct training contact with any student who is also a client of theirs.

Should a new student already be in therapy with a practitioner accredited by another professional body such as the BACP, BCP or BPS, rather than the UKCP, it may be possible to remain with this practitioner, at least during the first year of your joining the course; and the final decision on this will rest with the Director.

You must submit your psychotherapist's name, address, phone number and email address on your therapist approval form at the beginning of the year, this must be approved and

signed by your Course Leader. It is your responsibility to ensure that your arrangements for therapy meet the requirements outlined above. Students must notify the office if their therapist's address changes and their Course Leader if they change their therapist. Should the Minster Centre feel that a student's personal development is unsatisfactory, the situation will be discussed with the student and a change of therapist may be recommended or required. However, the student's therapist will never be approached for an opinion or report aside from checking with your therapist that you have attended at least 40 hours annually.

UKCP requires that their members do not practice forms of therapy that they have not experienced themselves. One implication of this is that if you wish in future to seek UKCP Registration and see clients more than once a week you need to have had therapy where you saw the therapist more than once a week at some stage.

## **Other therapeutic experiences and training**

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Although we are not antagonistic to other schools of training, we advise students against entering into other forms of psychotherapy or counselling or training or group training while training at the Minster Centre. This does not apply to couples therapy or family therapy with the student's partner or children. Students entering the course who are already in a therapy group outside the Minster Centre should continue until it is convenient and appropriate to leave but should aim to do so as soon as possible and normally by the end of the first term at the latest.

Students who are attending or wishing to attend any psychotherapeutic experience or training outside the Minster Centre, aside from their personal therapy or couple therapy, must discuss this with the Course Leader and if they wish to proceed submit a request in writing and await a written response before proceeding. If, against the advice of Minster Centre staff, students still feel it important to undertake therapeutic work or training outside the Minster Centre, it would be best if they were to suspend their Minster Centre training for the duration and resume after completion of the other therapeutic work or training.

**PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION AND  
CURRICULUM MAP FOR MINSTER CENTRE  
MA PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE  
COUNSELLING AND PSYCHOTHERAPY**



|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>1. Programme title</b>         | MA Professional Practice Counselling and Psychotherapy (Supervision) (Advanced Clinical Practice) or (Managing Clinical Services) |
| <b>2. Awarding institution</b>    | Middlesex University  |
| <b>3. Teaching institution</b>    | Minster Centre  |
| <b>4. Programme accredited by</b> |   |
| <b>5. Final qualification</b>     | MA  |
| <b>6. Academic year</b>           | 2015  |
| <b>7. Language of study</b>       | English   |
| <b>8. Mode of study</b>           | Modular – taught & experiential with clinical practice, part-time   |

**9. Criteria for admission to the programme**

**The admission criteria for the different subject options for this course differ.**

Students wishing to enroll for the Supervision option must hold a professional qualification in counselling or psychotherapy (BACP or UKCP accredited course or equivalent) and must have been in practice for at least three years. Students following this subject option will need to practice supervision or work in a supervisory capacity during the course.

Students wishing to enroll for the Advanced Clinical Practice option must hold a professional qualification in counselling or psychotherapy (BACP or UKCP accredited course or equivalent) and must be able to demonstrate significant clinical experience, including at least one year of practice post qualification. Students opting for this subject must also demonstrate recent self-development work, usually personal therapy, and will be required to undertake weekly one to one therapy during the course.

Students wishing to enroll for the Managing a Clinical Service option must hold a professional qualification in counselling or psychotherapy (BACP or UKCP accredited course or equivalent) and will need to be working at least one day per week in a clinical service where they have management responsibilities.

In addition, **all students** who do not have a first degree will need to demonstrate that they can produce work to MA standards, either through results in previous professional training or through equivalent training or experience.

**English Language** You must have competence in the English language; we normally require Grade C GCSE or an equivalent qualification. If English is not your first language you will need to demonstrate a capacity to study in English – either through your written and practical work during the first two years of professional training at the Minster Centre or, if applying to enter after professional training elsewhere,

we follow the same requirements as Middlesex University nursing courses. The most common English Language requirements for international students are IELTS 7 (with minimum 6.0 in all four components) or TOEFL internet based 87 (with at least 21 in listening & writing, 22 in speaking and 23 in reading). For the full range of equivalent English language qualifications please download the full range of English language qualification equivalents from <http://www.mdx.ac.uk/international/students/apply/entry/index.aspx>

## 10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to provide professional training that equips students with the in-depth knowledge and advanced professional skills required to be effective clinical supervisors, advanced integrative practitioners or managers of a clinical service (depending on the specialism chosen) and to understand and be able to engage with research relevant to psychotherapy, counselling, and the management of clinical services.

The Minster Centre approach to integration is not bringing various approaches together to make a unified whole, but to develop in trainees a profound knowledge of established theories and practice and of themselves which they can integrate into skillful clinical or professional practice. As well as theoretical understanding, students will also have an understanding of the interface between psychotherapy and the social/political issues.

We aim to produce graduates for whom self-awareness, advanced practice skills and theoretical understanding, inform each other.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>11. Programme outcomes</b>   |   |
| <p><b>A. Knowledge and understanding</b></p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of :</p> <p>A1: the social/cultural/economic/political context of professional practice</p> <p>A2: In-depth knowledge of values and ethical frameworks of professional practice</p> <p>A3: In-depth knowledge of main theoretical models relevant to their practice specialism</p> <p>A4: Good comprehension of the epistemology and methods of the main research approaches used to develop knowledge in professional practice</p>  | <p><b>Teaching/learning methods</b></p> <p>Students gain knowledge and understanding through didactic methods, discussion, experiential group exercises in small and large groups, reading and written work.</p> <p><b>Assessment method</b></p> <p>Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by grading of written work using essays, presentations, case studies, external assessment of process reports, tutor and peer feedback on presentations and reviews.</p>   |
| <p><b>B. Cognitive (thinking) skills</b></p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <p>B1: Synthesize best practice approaches/strategies/ interventions from a range of appropriate resources such as: current research; supervision; theoretical knowledge and professional body guidance</p> <p>B2: Critically evaluate evidence base for professional practice</p> <p>B3: Critically evaluate risk in professional practice</p> <p>B4: Provide a critically justified rationale for an appropriate research design for a small scale research study</p>                       | <p><b>Teaching/learning methods</b></p> <p>Students learn cognitive skills through didactic methods, discussion, group exercises, reading and written work</p> <p><b>Assessment method</b></p> <p>Students' cognitive skills are assessed by assessment of written work using essays, case studies, presentations and process reports as well as a written self-assessment process</p>  |
| <p><b>C. Practical skills</b></p> <p>On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <p>C1: Make clear contracts and arrangements for professional work</p> <p>C2: Keep appropriate professional records and/or produce high quality professional documentation</p> <p>C3: Resolve complex dilemmas or problems arising in professional activity ethically and effectively</p> <p>C4: Develop appropriate mechanisms for evaluating and/or measuring professional service delivery and for designing improvements</p> <p>C5: Carry out the tasks required for a small-scale research study</p> | <p><b>Teaching/learning methods</b></p> <p>Students learn practical skills through exercises in small and large groups, discussion, observed practice and feedback, and supervised clinical or professional practice.</p> <p><b>Assessment method</b></p> <p>Students' practical skills are assessed by essays, clinical examples, case studies, process reports, portfolios, live assessment and case presentations, participation in practicum groups, written self-assessment processes, and a review by all tutors working with a trainee, of their progress against assessment criteria for each year. Assessment criteria include consideration of practical and interpersonal skills and personal development.</p> |



|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>D. Graduate skills</b></p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <p>D1: Communicate persuasive and coherent arguments both verbally and in written form</p> <p>D2: Demonstrate advanced capabilities as an independent learner</p> <p>D3: Work effectively both as a member of a group and as an autonomous individual</p> <p>D4: Demonstrate originality in academic work</p> <p>D5: Make decisions in complex situations, and sometimes with incomplete information</p> | <p><b>Teaching/learning methods</b></p> <p>Students acquire graduate skills through didactic methods, discussion, group participation, presentations, reading, self-assessment, clinical supervision and carrying out research.</p> <p><b>Assessment method</b></p> <p>Students' graduate skills are assessed by observation, peer and self-assessment, formal marking of written submissions and presentations.</p> |
|--|--|

|   |
|---|
| <p><b>12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)</b></p> |
| <p><b>12. 1 Overall structure of the programme</b></p>  |

## 12.2 Levels and modules

Starting in academic year 2010/11 the University changed the way it references modules to state the level of study in which these are delivered. This is to comply with the national Framework for Higher Education Qualifications. This implementation will be a gradual process whilst records are updated. Therefore the old coding is bracketed below.

Year 1 Level 7 (4)

COMPULSORY

OPTIONAL

PROGRESSION  
REQUIREMENTS

**Clinical Supervision**

Supervisory Theory (30 credits)

Integrating Theory in Supervisory Practice (30 credits)

Clinical Supervision Practicum 1 (30 credits)

*or*

**Advanced Clinical Practice**

Contemporary Theories of Psychotherapy and the re-evaluation of practice (30 credits)

Personal and Clinical Integration for practicing psychotherapists and counsellors (30 credits)  
Advanced Clinical Practicum 1 (30 credits)

*or*

**Managing a Clinical Service**

Clinical Issues in Managing a Service (30 credits)

Management and Leadership in a Clinical Service (30 credits)

Managing a Clinical Service Practicum 1 (30 credits)

Progression depends on successful completion of all the modules for the subject option chosen.

- 80% attendance
- Students following the Advanced Integrative Clinical Practice option must also meet Personal Therapy requirements.

- Students must also meet the progression criteria for experiential, clinical skills and self-development work relevant to their subject option see page 28.

| Year 2 Level 7 (4)  |          |  |
|---|----------|--|
| COMPULSORY  | OPTIONAL | PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS   |
| <p>Students must take the following:</p> <p>Dissertation (60 credits)</p> <p><b>Clinical Supervision</b><br/>Clinical Supervision Practicum 2 (30 credits)</p> <p><i>or</i></p> <p><b>Advanced Clinical Practice</b><br/>Advanced Clinical Practicum 2 (30 credits)</p> <p><i>or</i></p> <p><b>Managing a Clinical Service</b><br/>Managing a Clinical Service Practicum 2 (30 credits)</p> |          | <p>Progression depends on successful completion of all the modules for the subject option chosen.</p> <p>80%attendance</p> <p>Students following the Advanced Clinical Practice option must also meet Personal Therapy requirements Students must also meet the progression criteria for experiential, clinical skills and self-development work relevant to their subject option see page 28.</p> |

**12.3 Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)**

| <b>Module level</b> | <b>Module code</b> |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| N/A                 | N/A                |

**13. A curriculum map relating learning outcomes to modules**

See Curriculum Map attached

**14. Information about assessment regulations**

After consultation with Middlesex University, the Minster Centre uses its own grading system. Student's summative assessment tasks will be graded as part of the feedback to students about the quality of their submissions. The overall award is not classified.

**15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)**

Students are expected to complete practicums which will require clinical or management employment or placements. Students are responsible for organising their own placements but are provided with advice and support on how to go about this.

**16. Future careers (if applicable)**

Upon completion of the MA, students will have completed professional training which will support working as an advanced/M level practitioner, supervisor or clinical manager. Depending on the options chosen and levels of previous training, the MA may contribute towards the training element of UKCP registration as a psychotherapist. The MA also enables further study at doctoral level.

**17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)**

Students write self-assessments which are responded to in writing by module tutors and then discussed in tutorials. Tutors are available for extra tutorials to support written or clinical work in addition to the focused workshops provided.

**18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)****19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)**

The QAA benchmark statement for counselling and psychotherapy (2013)

**20. Reference points**

The following reference points were used in designing the programme:

- Middlesex University Learning and Teaching Policies and Strategy.
- Course and individual accreditation, supervision and training standards and requirements of the UKCP/HIPC and the BACP.
- Minster's own view of integration in psychotherapy and counselling.
- Middlesex University Learning and Quality Enhancement Handbook.
- The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ).
- QAA benchmark statement for counselling and psychotherapy (2013).

**21. Other information**

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the student programme handbook and the University Regulations.

## Curriculum map for MA Professional Practice Counselling and Psychotherapy

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

### Programme learning outcomes

| Knowledge and understanding   | Practical skills  |
|---|---|
| A1: Comprehensive grasp of social/cultural/economic/political context of professional practice  | C1: Make clear contracts and arrangements for professional work   |
| A2: In-depth knowledge of values and ethical frameworks of professional practice  | C2: Keep appropriate professional records and/or produce high quality professional documentation                                |
| A3: In-depth knowledge of main theoretical models relevant to practice specialism   | C3: Resolve complex dilemmas or problems arising in professional activity ethically and effectively                             |
| A4: Good comprehension of the epistemology and methods of the main research approaches used to develop knowledge in professional practice   | C4: Develop appropriate mechanisms for evaluating and/or measuring professional service delivery and for designing improvements |
|   | C5: Carry out the tasks required for a small-scale research study   |
| Cognitive skills  | Graduate skills   |
| B1: Synthesise best practice approaches/strategies/interventions from a range of appropriate resources such as: current research; supervision; theoretical knowledge and professional body guidance | D1: Communicate persuasive and coherent arguments both verbally and in written form   |
| B2: Critically evaluate evidence base for professional practice   | D2: Demonstrate advanced capabilities as an independent learner   |
| B3: Critically evaluate risk in professional practice   | D3: Work effectively both as a member of a group and as autonomous individual   |
| B4: Provide a critically justified rationale for an appropriate research design for a small scale research study  | D4: Demonstrate originality in academic work  |
|   | D5: Make decisions in complex situations, and sometimes with incomplete information   |

| Module  | Programme outcomes |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---|--------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|   | A1                 | A2 | A3 | A4 | B1 | B2 | B3 | B4 | C1 | C2 | C3 | C4 | C5 | D1 | D2 | D3 | D4 | D5 |
| Supervisory Theory 30 c   | x                  |    | x  | x  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | x  | x  |    |    |    |
| Integrating Theory in Supervisory Practice 30 c                                       | x                  | x  |    |    | x  |    |    |    | x  |    | x  |    |    | x  | x  | x  | x  |    |
| Clinical Supervision Practicum 1 30c  | x                  | x  |    |    | x  | x  | x  |    | x  | x  | x  | x  |    |    |    | x  |    | x  |
| Clinical Supervision Practicum 2 30c  | x                  | x  |    |    | x  |    | x  |    | x  |    | x  | x  |    |    |    | x  |    | x  |
| Contemporary Theories of Psychotherapy and the revaluation of practice 30c            | x                  |    | x  | x  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | x  | x  |    |    |    |
| Personal and Clinical Integration for practicing psychotherapists and counsellors 30c | x                  | x  |    |    | x  |    |    |    | x  |    | x  | x  |    | x  | x  | x  | x  |    |
| Advanced Clinical practicum 1 30c   | x                  | x  |    |    | x  | x  | x  |    | x  | x  | x  | x  |    |    |    | x  |    | x  |
| Advanced Clinical practicum 2 30c   | x                  | x  |    |    | x  | x  | x  |    | x  |    | x  | x  |    |    |    | x  |    | x  |
| Clinical Issues in Managing a Service 30 c  | x                  | x  | x  |    | x  | x  | x  |    | x  |    | x  |    |    | x  | x  | x  | x  |    |
| Management and Leadership in a Clinical Service 30 c                                  | x                  |    | x  | x  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | x  | x  |    |    |    |
| Managing a Clinical Service Practicum 1 30c   | x                  | x  |    |    | x  | x  | x  |    | x  | x  | x  | x  |    |    |    | x  |    | x  |
| Managing a Clinical Service Practicum 2 30c   | x                  | x  |    |    | x  | x  | x  |    | x  |    | x  | x  |    |    |    | x  |    | x  |
| Dissertation 60c  | x                  | x  | x  | x  | x  | x  |    | x  |    |    |    |    | x  | x  | x  | x  | x  |    |

**PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION AND  
CURRICULUM MAP FOR MINSTER CENTRE  
POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA  
PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE COUNSELLING  
AND PSYCHOTHERAPY**



|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>1. Programme title</b>         | Postgraduate Diploma Professional Practice Counselling and Psychotherapy (Supervision) (Advanced Clinical Practice) or (Managing Clinical Services) |
| <b>2. Awarding institution</b>    | Middlesex University  |
| <b>3. Teaching institution</b>    | Minster Centre  |
| <b>4. Programme accredited by</b> |   |
| <b>5. Final qualification</b>     | Postgraduate Diploma  |
| <b>6. Academic year</b>           | 2015  |
| <b>7. Language of study</b>       | English   |
| <b>8. Mode of study</b>           | Modular – taught & experiential with clinical practice, part-time   |

**9. Criteria for admission to the programme**

**The admission criteria for the different subject options for this course differ.**

Students wishing to enroll for the Supervision option must hold a professional qualification in counselling or psychotherapy (BACP or UKCP accredited course or equivalent) and must have been in practice for at least three years. Students following this subject option will need to practice supervision or work in a supervisory capacity during the course.

Students wishing to enroll for the Advanced Clinical Practice option must hold a professional qualification in counselling or psychotherapy (BACP or UKCP accredited course or equivalent) and must be able to demonstrate significant clinical experience, including at least one year of practice post qualification. Students opting for this subject must also demonstrate recent self-development work, usually personal therapy, and will be required to undertake weekly one to one therapy during the course.

Students wishing to enroll for the Managing a Clinical Service option must hold a professional qualification in counselling or psychotherapy (BACP or UKCP accredited course or equivalent) and will need to be working at least one day per week in a clinical service where they have management responsibilities.

In addition, **all students** who do not have a first degree will need to demonstrate that they can produce work to MA standards, either through results in previous professional training or through equivalent training or experience.

**English Language** You must have competence in the English language; we normally require Grade C GCSE or an equivalent qualification. If English is not your first language you will need to demonstrate a capacity to study in English – either through your written and practical work during the first two years of professional training at the Minster Centre or, if applying to enter after professional training elsewhere,

we follow the same requirements as Middlesex University nursing courses. The most common English Language requirements for international students are IELTS 7 (with minimum 6.0 in all four components) or TOEFL internet based 87 (with at least 21 in listening & writing, 22 in speaking and 23 in reading). For the full range of equivalent English language qualifications please download the full range of English language qualification equivalents from <http://www.mdx.ac.uk/international/students/apply/entry/index.aspx>

**10. Aims of the programme**

The programme aims to provide professional training that equips students with the in-depth knowledge and advanced professional skills required to be effective clinical supervisors, advanced integrative practitioners or managers of a clinical service (depending on the specialism chosen).

The Minster Centre approach to integration is not bringing various approaches together to make a unified whole, but to develop in trainees a profound knowledge of established theories and practice and of themselves which they can integrate into skillful clinical or professional practice. As well as theoretical understanding, students will also have an understanding of the interface between psychotherapy and the social/political issues.

We aim to produce practitioners for whom self-awareness, advanced practice skills and theoretical understanding, inform each other.

**11. Programme outcomes**

**A. Knowledge and understanding**

On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of :

A1: the social/cultural/economic/political context of professional practice  
 A2: In-depth knowledge of values and ethical frameworks of professional practice  
 A3: In-depth knowledge of main theoretical models relevant to their practice specialism

**Teaching/learning methods**

Students gain knowledge and understanding through didactic methods, discussion, presentations, experiential group exercises in small and large groups, reading and written work.

**Assessment method**

Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by grading of written work and presentations, using essays, case studies, external assessment of process reports, tutor and peer feedback on presentations and reviews.

**B. Cognitive (thinking) skills**

On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:

B1: Synthesise best practice approaches/strategies/ interventions from a range of appropriate resources such as: current research; supervision; theoretical knowledge and professional body guidance  
 B2: Critically evaluate evidence base for professional practice  
 B3: Critically evaluate risk in professional practice

**Teaching/learning methods**

Students learn cognitive skills through didactic methods, discussion, group exercises, reading , presentations and written work

**Assessment method**

Students' cognitive skills are assessed by assessment of written work using essays, case studies, presentations and process reports as well as a written self-assessment process

**C. Practical skills**

On completion of the programme the successful

**Teaching/learning methods**

Students learn practical skills through exercises



|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>student will be able to:</p> <p>C1: Make clear contracts and arrangements for professional work</p> <p>C2: Keep appropriate professional records and/or produce high quality professional documentation</p> <p>C3: Resolve complex dilemmas or problems arising in professional activity ethically and effectively</p> <p>C4: Develop appropriate mechanisms for evaluating and/or measuring professional service delivery and for designing improvements</p> | <p>in small and large groups, discussion, observed practice and feedback, and supervised clinical or professional practice.</p> <p><b>Assessment method</b></p> <p>Students' practical skills are assessed by essays, clinical examples, case studies, process reports, portfolios, live assessment and case presentations, participation in practicum groups, written self-assessment processes, and a review by all tutors working with a trainee, of their progress against assessment criteria for each year. Assessment criteria include consideration of practical and interpersonal skills and personal development.</p> |
|--|---|

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>D. Graduate skills</b></p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <p>D1: Communicate persuasive and coherent arguments both verbally and in written form</p> <p>D2: Demonstrate advanced capabilities as an independent learner</p> <p>D3: Work effectively both as a member of a group and as an autonomous individual</p> <p>D4: Demonstrate originality in academic work</p> <p>D5: Make decisions in complex situations, and sometimes with incomplete information</p> | <p><b>Teaching/learning methods</b></p> <p>Students acquire graduate skills through didactic methods, discussion, group participation, presentations, reading, self-assessment, clinical supervision and carrying out research.</p> <p><b>Assessment method</b></p> <p>Students' graduate skills are assessed by observation, peer and self-assessment, formal marking of written submissions and presentations.</p> |
|--|--|

|   |
|---|
| <p><b>12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)</b></p> |
| <p><b>12. 1 Overall structure of the programme</b></p>  |

## 12.2 Levels and modules

Starting in academic year 2010/11 the University changed the way it references modules to state the level of study in which these are delivered. This was to comply with the national Framework for Higher Education Qualifications. This implementation will be a gradual process whilst records are updated. Therefore the old coding is bracketed below.

Year 1 Level 7 (4)

| COMPULSORY  | OPTIONAL | PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS  |
|---|----------|---|
| <p><b>Clinical Supervision</b><br/> Supervisory Theory (30 credits)<br/> Integrating Theory in Supervisory Practice (30 credits)<br/> Clinical Supervision Practicum 1 (30 credits)</p> <p><i>or</i></p> <p><b>Advanced Clinical Practice</b><br/> Contemporary Theories of Psychotherapy and the re-evaluation of practice (30 credits)<br/> Personal and Clinical Integration for practicing psychotherapists and counsellors (30 credits)<br/> Advanced Clinical Practicum 1 (30 credits)</p> <p><i>or</i></p> <p><b>Managing a Clinical Service</b><br/> Clinical Issues in Managing a Service (30 credits)<br/> Management and Leadership in a Clinical Service (30 credits)<br/> Managing a Clinical Service Practicum 1 (30 credits)</p> |          | <p>Progression depends on successful completion of all the modules for the subject option chosen.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•80% attendance</li> <li>•Students following the Advanced Clinical Practice option must also meet Personal Therapy requirements.</li> <li>•Students must also meet the progression criteria for experiential, clinical skills and self-development work relevant to their subject option see page 28.</li> </ul> |

| Year 2 Level 7 (4)  |          |  |
|---|----------|--|
| COMPULSORY  | OPTIONAL | PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS   |
| <p>Students must take the following:</p> <p>Depending on specialist subject chosen)</p> <p><b>Clinical Supervision</b><br/>Clinical Supervision Practicum 2 (30 credits)</p> <p><i>or</i></p> <p><b>Advanced Clinical Practice</b><br/>Advanced Clinical Practicum 2 (30 credits)</p> <p><i>or</i></p> <p><b>Managing a Clinical Service</b><br/>Managing a Clinical Service Practicum 2 (30 credits)</p> |          | <p>Progression depends on successful completion of all the modules for the subject option chosen.</p> <p>80%attendance</p> <p>Students following the Advanced Clinical Practice option must also meet Personal Therapy requirements.</p> <p>Students must also meet the progression criteria for experiential, clinical skills and self-development work relevant to their subject option see page 28.</p> |

**12.3 Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)**

| <b>Module level</b> | <b>Module code</b> |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| N/A                 | N/A                |

**13. A curriculum map relating learning outcomes to modules**

See Curriculum Map attached

**14. Information about assessment regulations**

After consultation with Middlesex University, the Minster Centre uses its own grading system. Student's summative assessment tasks will be graded as part of the feedback to students about the quality of their submissions. The overall award is not classified.

**15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)**

Students are expected to complete practicums which will require clinical or management employment or placements. Students are responsible for organising their own placements but are provided with advice and support on how to go about this.

**16. Future careers (if applicable)**

Upon completion of the PG Dip, students will have completed professional training which will support working as an advanced level practitioner, supervisor or clinical manager. Depending on the options chosen and levels of previous training, the PG Dip may contribute towards the training element of UKCP registration as a psychotherapist.

**17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)**

Students write self-assessments which are responded to in writing by module tutors and then discussed in tutorials. Tutors are available for extra tutorials to support written or clinical work in addition to the focused workshops provided.

**18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)****19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)**

The QAA benchmark statement for counselling and psychotherapy (2013)

**20. Reference points**

The following reference points were used in designing the programme:

- Middlesex University Learning and Teaching Policies and Strategy
- Course and individual accreditation, supervision and training standards and requirements of the UKCP/HIPC and the BACP
- Minster's own view of integration in psychotherapy and counselling
- Middlesex University Learning and Quality Enhancement Handbook
- The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
- QAA benchmark statement for counselling and psychotherapy (2013)

**21. Other information**

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the student programme handbook and the University Regulations.

## Curriculum map for PG Dip in Professional Practice Counselling and Psychotherapy

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

### Programme learning outcomes

| Knowledge and understanding   | Practical skills  |
|---|---|
| A1: Comprehensive grasp of social/cultural/economic/political context of professional practice  | C1: Make clear contracts and arrangements for professional work   |
| A2: In-depth knowledge of values and ethical frameworks of professional practice  | C2: Keep appropriate professional records and/or produce high quality professional documentation                                |
| A3: In-depth knowledge of main theoretical models relevant to practice specialism   | C3: Resolve complex dilemmas or problems arising in professional activity ethically and effectively                             |
|   | C4: Develop appropriate mechanisms for evaluating and/or measuring professional service delivery and for designing improvements |
| Cognitive skills  | Graduate skills   |
| B1: Synthesise best practice approaches/strategies/interventions from a range of appropriate resources such as: current research; supervision; theoretical knowledge and professional body guidance | D1: Communicate persuasive and coherent arguments both verbally and in written form   |
| B2: Critically evaluate evidence base for professional practice   | D2: Demonstrate advanced capabilities as an independent learner   |
| B3: Critically evaluate risk in professional practice   | D3: Work effectively both as a member of a group and as autonomous individual   |
|   | D4: Demonstrate originality in academic work  |
|   | D5: Make decisions in complex situations, and sometimes with incomplete information   |

| Module  | Programme outcomes |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---|--------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|   | A1                 | A2 | A3 | B1 | B2 | B3 | C1 | C2 | C3 | C4 | D1 | D2 | D3 | D4 | D5 |
| Supervisory Theory 30 c   | X                  |    | X  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | X  | X  |    |    |    |
| Integrating Theory in Supervisory Practice 30 c                                       | X                  | X  |    | X  |    |    | X  |    | X  |    | X  | X  | X  | X  |    |
| Clinical Supervision Practicum 1 30c  | X                  | X  |    | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |    |    | X  |    | X  |
| Clinical Supervision Practicum 2 30c  | X                  | X  |    | X  |    | X  | X  |    | X  | X  |    |    | X  |    | X  |
| Contemporary Theories of Psychotherapy and the re-evaluation of practice 30c          | X                  |    | X  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | X  | X  |    |    |    |
| Personal and Clinical Integration for practising psychotherapists and counsellors 30c | X                  | X  |    | X  |    |    | X  |    | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |    |
| Advanced Clinical practicum 1 30c   | X                  | X  |    | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |    |    | X  |    | X  |
| Advanced Clinical practicum 2 30c   | X                  | X  |    | X  | X  | X  | X  |    | X  | X  |    |    | X  |    | X  |
| Clinical Issues in Managing a Service 30 c  | X                  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |    | X  |    | X  | X  | X  | X  |    |
| Management and Leadership in a Clinical Service 30 c                                  | X                  |    | X  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | X  | X  |    |    |    |
| Managing a Clinical Service Practicum 1 30c   | X                  | X  |    | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |    |    | X  |    | X  |
| Managing a Clinical Service Practicum 2 30c   | X                  | X  |    | X  | X  | X  | X  |    | X  | X  |    |    | X  |    | X  |

## MODULE NARRATIVES

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|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Module Title</b>      | <b>Contemporary Theories of Psychotherapy and the Re-evaluation of Practice</b>   |
| <b>Level</b>             | 7   |
| <b>Credits</b>           | 30  |
| <b>Module Leader</b>     | Paul Martin & Andrew Sutton   |
| <b>Accredited by</b>     | The MA (Advanced Clinical Practice) can be used towards the training requirements for registration with the United Kingdom Council for Psychotherapy (UKCP).  |
| <b>Restrictions</b>      | Taken in combination with the Personal and Clinical Integration Module  |
| <b>Aims</b>              | This module provides the opportunity for students to develop in-depth knowledge of some of the most significant contemporary theories of psychotherapy, including relational psychoanalysis, attachment theory and neuroscience. Students will be able to develop their skills in critically evaluating theoretical concepts and also in critically reflecting on the impact of wider socio-political contexts on therapeutic practice. This module aims to develop the students' skills in integrating advanced concepts in their clinical practice and being able to justify their therapeutic interventions from a sophisticated theoretical and research-informed position.   |
| <b>Learning outcomes</b> | At the end of this module the successful student will be able to:<br><i>Knowledge</i><br>LO1. Articulate, evaluate and critique contemporary theories of psychotherapy demonstrating a systematic understanding of the importance of the new insights generated by this thinking for clinical practice<br>LO2. Articulate and evaluate their own therapeutic approach with reference to contemporary theory and clinical examples<br>LO3. Appreciate developmental, intersubjective, cultural and transgenerational themes of their own and others' life histories<br>LO4. Critically reflect on the interrelation between psychotherapy and social/political theory and social and cultural norms including issues of diversity and inequality.<br><i>Skills</i><br>LO5. Integrate theory and research, clinical experience and personal process as an intrinsic and routine part of their psychotherapy practice<br>LO6. Understand the principles of working at depth and relationally with a range of presenting issues and clinical contexts |
| <b>Syllabus</b>          | The course will begin by critically reflecting on the theoretical backgrounds of the participants in the group and the impact on their practice – what are the givens, the jewels, the constraints and the taboos of their current practice? The course will then review the key Object Relations and Humanistic concepts that underpin recent developments in psychotherapeutic theory.<br>Students will move on to consider the concept of the super ego and the impact of super ego on their personal lives and their capacity to learn before looking at the role of the body (both the client's body and the therapist's body) in psychotherapy.   |

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | <p>We will then consider the Relational Turn; the paradigm change in psychoanalysis and psychotherapy that moved away from an emphasis on libidinal drives (in psychoanalysis) or facilitating environment (in many Humanistic approaches) towards the centrality of relationships. Students will consider Attachment Theory and its implications, those of infant observation and neuroscience for affect regulation and self, other configurations and intersubjectivity. We will look at trauma and the body and how dissociated or unformulated experience can be embodied and communicated within the therapeutic dyad. Finally we will focus on the light the inter-subjective model throws on issues such as gender, sexuality, adolescence, psychosis and trans-generational patterns. Attention will be paid to issues of diversity and inequality and the impact of societal and cultural norms on psychotherapeutic thinking and practice.</p>  |
| <p><b>Learning, teaching and assessment strategy</b></p> | <p><i>Teaching</i><br/> Students will be asked to come to the first session having critically reflected on their original theoretical training and how it influences their current practice and to present this to their group as a starting point for personal and group reflection.<br/> Teaching will include tutor and student presentations, experiential exercises and ground discussion of specific reading, audio and visual material provided by the trainer.<br/> Students will develop an informal notebook of applications of the concepts, their own process and clinical experience.</p> <p><i>Diversity</i><br/> Teaching will specifically include issues relating to the experience of ethnicity, class, sexuality, gender, disability and health.</p> <p><i>Assessment Criteria</i><br/> Coursework 100% no examination.</p> <p><i>Formative Assessment</i><br/> Ongoing tutor and peer feedback is built into each meeting of the group. Students will also write a mid-module self-assessment which will form the basis of mid-module tutorials.</p> <p><b>Summative Assessment</b><br/> <b>A 4000 word essay</b> that critically evaluates one or more aspects of contemporary psychotherapy theory and its relevance to clinical practice. It must include discussion and critique of theoretical concepts from attachment and intersubjectivity thinking and an examination of how they have influenced the student's own understanding of their therapeutic position. The essay must demonstrate:<br/> (LO1) a systematic understanding of the importance of the new insights generated by contemporary theory for clinical practice<br/> (LO2) linked to an articulation and evaluation of the student's own therapeutic approach<br/> (LO3) An appreciation of developmental, intersubjective, cultural or transgenerational themes from the student's own or others' life histories and<br/> (LO4) a capacity to critically reflect on the interrelation between psychotherapy and social/political theory.<br/> (LO5) integrate theory and research, clinical experience and personal process as an intrinsic and routine part of their psychotherapy practice<br/> (LO6) understanding of working at depth and relationally.<br/> <b>A 1000 word reflective account</b> of the experience and learning from</p> |



|                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
|                                      | <p>completing the Adult Attachment Interview (AAI) and the ways the experience might inform their work with clients. (LOs 2&amp;3)<br/> <b>At least 80% attendance is required to pass this module.</b></p>   |
| <b>Assessment weighting</b>          | 80% Essay 20% AAI reflective account  |
| <b>Indicative learning materials</b> | <p>Anderson, F.S. (2008). <i>Bodies in Treatment: the Unspoken Dimension</i>. Analytic Press (New York).</p> <p>Aron, L. (1996). <i>A Meeting of Minds: Mutuality in Psychoanalysis</i>. Analytic Press (New York).</p> <p>Benjamin, J. (2004). 'Beyond Doer and Done to: An Intersubjective View of Thirdness'. <i>Psychoanalytic Quarterly</i>, 73:5-46.</p> <p>Davies, J.M. (2004). Whose Bad Objects Are We Anyway? Repetition and Our Elusive Love Affair with Evil <i>Psychoanalytic Dialogues</i>, 14(6): 711–732</p> <p>De Young, Patricia A. (2003). <i>Relational Psychotherapy: A Primer</i>. Routledge (London).</p> <p>Fowlie &amp; Sills (eds) (2011). <i>Relational Transactional Analysis, Principles in Practice</i>. Karnac. (London).</p> <p>Gomez, L. (1997). <i>An Introduction to Object Relations</i>. Free Association Books (London).</p> <p>Hesse, E. and Main, M. (2000). 'Disorganized Infant, Child, and Adult Attachment: Collapse in Behavioral and Attentional Strategies <i>Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association</i>, 48:1097-1127.</p> <p>Mearns, D. &amp; Cooper, M. (2005). <i>Working at Relational Depth in Counselling and Psychotherapy</i>. Sage (London).</p> <p>Mitchell, Stephen (1988). <i>Relational Concepts in Psychoanalysis</i>. Harvard University Press.</p> <p>Mitchell S.A. (1997). <i>Gender and Sexual Orientation in the Age of Postmodernism: The Plight of the Perplexed Clinician</i> Chapter 8 in <u>Influence &amp; Autonomy in Psychoanalysis</u> <i>Analytic Press pp. 231 - 262</i></p> <p>Robertson, J. &amp; J. (1969). 'JOHN, Aged Seventeen Months, for Nine Days in a Residential Nursery' DVD Concorde Media.</p> <p>Siegel, Daniel J. (1999). <i>The Developing Mind: How relationships and the brain interact to shape who we are</i>. Guilford Press (New York).</p> <p>Schore A. (2003). <i>Affect Regulation and the Repair of the Self</i>. Norton (New York).</p> <p>Wallin, D.J.(2007). <i>Attachment in Psychotherapy</i>. Guilford Press (New York).</p> <p>Winnicott, D.W. (1969): 'The Use of an Object and Relating Through Identifications' in <i>Playing and Reality</i> (Penguin Books, 1971) pp. 101 - 111.</p> <p>Yellin, J. (2007): Such Stuff As Dreams Are Made On: Sexuality as Re/Creation in Kate White (Ed.) <i>Sexuality and Attachment in Clinical Practice</i>. Karnac Books (London).</p> |

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| <b>Module Title</b>      | <b>Personal and Clinical Integration for practicing psychotherapists and counsellors</b>  |
| <b>Level</b>             | 7   |
| <b>Credits</b>           | 30  |
| <b>Module Leaders</b>    | Paul Martin & Andrew Sutton   |
| <b>Accredited by</b>     | The MA (Advanced Integrative practice) can be used towards the training requirements for registration with the United Kingdom Council for Psychotherapy (UKCP)  |
| <b>Restrictions</b>      | Taken in combination with Contemporary Theories and re-evaluation module  |
| <b>Aims</b>              | This module provides the opportunity for students to advance their understanding of the inter-relationship between their knowledge of contemporary psychotherapeutic theories, their own personal history and current life situation, and their clinical practice. Students will be facilitated in developing their understanding of the complexities inherent in therapeutic practice and this will include an examination of their use of self as a means of monitoring ongoing relational processes. Students will also be facilitated in developing their reflexive capacity in order that they can make productive and effective use of their own self-awareness and insight into therapeutic process. This module aims to produce ethical and effective advanced practitioners with the capacity to hold the paradoxical tension between intrapsychic reality and interpersonal reality   |
| <b>Learning outcomes</b> | <p>At the end of this module the successful student will be able to:</p> <p><i>Knowledge</i></p> <p>LO1. Critically analyse the complexity, uncertainty and ambiguity of clinical situations and be able understand how these dynamics impact their clinical practice.</p> <p>LO2. Critically evaluate their clinical practice and be able to reflect on their use of self, drawing on and critiquing contemporary theoretical thinking including ideas about attachment and intersubjectivity and clinical concepts such as impasse, enactment, dissociation, affect regulation, mentalisation.</p> <p>LO3. Demonstrate the ability to engage in complex ethical decision making, drawing on relevant codes of practice and professional values.</p> <p><i>Skills</i></p> <p>LO4. Demonstrate the use of therapeutic skills in forming and sustaining intimate, boundaried therapeutic relationships in which they are able to use embodied experience, intersubjective awareness and capacity for reflexivity to identify and engage with relational dilemmas as they arise.</p> <p>LO5. Demonstrate the capacity to identify countertransference (CT), including embodied CT, as potentially valuable clinical information and demonstrate the development of high level clinical judgement to assess and reflect on when it is appropriate to disclose CT as part of a collaborative dialogue with a client.</p> <p>LO6. Demonstrate the development of the capacity to hold the paradoxical tension between intrapsychic reality (both their client's and their own) and interpersonal reality.</p> <p>LO7. Develop and practice to an advanced level the capacity to reflect on feedback and supervision, even when experienced</p> |

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|   | as novel and challenging.  |
| <b>Syllabus</b>                                   | <p>Participants will study (largely experientially) the process of psychotherapy in the light of contemporary theories. They will begin by reflecting critically on their therapeutic practice so far, identifying their assumptions, shibboleths, touchstones, taboos, limitations, fears and learning edges. Using live practice sessions, participants will then explore the range of practice within the group and reflect on their personal responses to them.</p> <p>We will then begin to explore clinical dilemmas that arise when the therapist's personal and professional process meets the client's process. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How can the therapist become aware of and use their countertransference to guide and monitor their interventions?</li> <li>• How can the therapist use their embodied countertransference as a way to trace charged or dissociated aspects of the therapeutic process?</li> <li>• How does the therapist's attunement to a client's body/mind narrative resonate with their own body/mind narrative?</li> <li>• How would a therapist recognise and work with impasse and enactment?</li> <li>• How does the therapist's attachment style interact with the client's attachment style?</li> <li>• How do we understand the process of self and mutual affect regulation?</li> <li>• How might a therapist allow the client to impact and change them while still holding their therapeutic position?</li> </ul> |
| <b>Learning, teaching and assessment strategy</b> | <p><i>Teaching</i><br/>Students will have one or more integration sessions each weekend of study. These will include check-ins where students will be supported to develop very advanced levels of self-awareness and reflexivity about their own personal process and history, and group exercises, practice sessions and discussions where students and tutors will work collaboratively to reflect on therapeutic dynamics. Students will be encouraged to develop an informal notebook of applications of theoretical concepts, their own experiences and their clinical practice. Students should draw on this when preparing their clinical essay. Electronic reading lists will be provided for students where articles, book chapters and video links will be made available.</p> <p><i>Diversity</i><br/>As diversity is seen as an essential part of the therapist's and client's subjectivity, exploration of issues relating to the experience of ethnicity, class, sexuality, gender, disability and health will form an integral part of the learning.</p> <p><i>Assessment Criteria</i><br/>Coursework 100% no examination.</p> <p><i>Formative Assessment</i><br/>The nature of this module entails detailed self, peer and tutor feedback during each teaching session.</p> <p><b><i>Summative Assessment</i></b><br/><b>A 40 minute presentation</b> delivered to an audience of tutor and peers on a piece of complex clinical work taken to supervision. The</p>               |

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|   | <p>presentation will need to include a final 10 minutes of responding to questions and feedback. It will need to demonstrate LOs: 1, 3,4,5,6 and 7.</p> <p><b>A 1000 word summary statement of their presentation</b> that makes explicit links to contemporary theory. This element of the assessment needs to meet LO2.</p> <p><b>At least 80% attendance is required to pass this module.</b></p>  |
| <p><b>Assessment weighting</b></p>          | <p>.<br/>80% presentation, 20% summary statement</p>  |
| <p><b>Indicative learning materials</b></p> | <p>Aposhyan, S (2004). <i>Body-Mind Psychotherapy: Principles, Techniques and Practical Applications</i>. Norton (New York).</p> <p>Aron, L. &amp; Sommer F. Anderson (eds) (2000). <i>Relational Perspectives on the Body</i> Hillside, NJ: The Analytic Press (New York).</p> <p>Balick, A. (2009). <i>Relational Ethics Beyond the Sex and Gender Binary: an integrative relational approach</i> Chapter 4 in Lynne Gabriel &amp; Roger Casemore (eds): <i>Relational Ethics in Practice: Narratives from Counselling and Psychotherapy</i>, Routledge (London).</p> <p>Black, M. (2003). 'Enactment: Analytic Musings on Energy, Language and Personal Growth.' <i>Psychoanalytic Dialogues</i>, 13:5, 633-655.</p> <p>Bromberg, P. M. (2006). <i>Awakening the dreamer. Clinical journeys</i>. The Analytic Press (Mahwah, NJ).</p> <p>Davies, J.M. (1998). Between the disclosure and foreclosure of erotic transference - countertransference -Can psychoanalysis find a place for adult sexuality? <i>Psychoanalytic Dialogues</i>, 8 (6): 747-766</p> <p>Ehrenberg, D. B. (1992). <i>The intimate edge. Extending the reach of psychoanalytic interaction</i>. Norton (New York) .</p> <p>Holmes, J. (2009). <i>Exploring in Security: towards an attachment oriented psychoanalytic psychotherapy</i>. Routledge (Hove).</p> <p>Howell, E (2005). <i>The Dissociative Mind</i>. Routledge (New York).</p> <p>Maroda, K.(2010). <i>Psychodynamic Techniques: Working with Emotion in the Therapeutic Relationship</i> Guilford Press (New York).</p> <p>Mitchell, S. (1993). <i>Hope and Dread in Psychoanalysis</i>. Basic Books (New York).</p> <p>Mitchell S.A. (1997). Gender and Sexual Orientation in the Age of Postmodernism: The Plight of the Perplexed Clinician Chapter 8 in <i>Influence &amp; Autonomy in Psychoanalysis</i>. Analytic Press (New York).</p> <p>Muller, R (2010). <i>Trauma and the Avoidant Client - Attachment-Based Strategies for Healing</i>. Norton (New York).</p> <p>Ogden, P., Minton, K &amp; Pain, C. (2006). 'Window of Tolerance: the Capacity for Modulating Arousal' and 'Principles of Treatment: Putting Theory into Practice' - Chapters 2 and 8 in <i>Trauma and the Body: A Sensorimotor Approach to Psychotherapy</i>. Norton (New York).</p> <p>Ringstrom, P.A. (2007). Scenes That Write Themselves: Improvisational Moments in Relational Psychoanalysis. <i>Psychoanalytic Dialogues</i>, 17(1): 69–99</p> <p>Symington, N (1993) <i>Narcissism: a new theory</i>. Karnac (London).</p> |

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| <b>Module Title</b>      | <b>Advanced Clinical Practicum 1</b>   |
| <b>Level</b>             | 7  |
| <b>Credits</b>           | 30   |
| <b>Module Leader</b>     | Paul Martin, Andrew Sutton, Julia Denington  |
| <b>Accredited by</b>     | The MA (Advanced Clinical Practice) can be used towards the training requirements for registration with the United Kingdom Council for Psychotherapy (UKCP)  |
| <b>Restrictions</b>      |  |
| <b>Aims</b>              | <p>This module represents the skills-in-practice component of the course and, in combination with the other modules in this option, is designed to lay the foundations for integrative psychotherapeutic practice. Students will be supported to reflect on their use of key skills and competencies required for effective and ethical practice including: conducting ongoing risk assessments; resolving complex dilemmas; and selecting and justifying appropriate integrative interventions. The aim of this module is to promote the students' development as ethical integrative practitioners who are able to draw on their own capacity for reflexivity to make productive therapeutic use of the relational encounter.</p> <p>NB: The course requires that the student engages in a minimum of 60 hours supervised clinical practice with long term clients and 20 hours in-house supervision across the two Practicum modules.</p>   |
| <b>Learning outcomes</b> | <p>On satisfactory completion of the module the student will:</p> <p><i>Skills</i></p> <p>LO1. Conduct client assessments (including ongoing risk assessments) and begin to develop coherent integrative treatment formulations.</p> <p>LO2. Select and critically justify appropriate integrative interventions</p> <p>LO3. With supervisory support analyse and resolve complex dilemmas arising in clinical practice from an ethical integrative perspective.</p> <p>LO4. Present their clinical work regularly and non-defensively identifying key issues for discussion and reflect critically on their own work and feedback from supervision</p> <p>LO5. Start to reflect on and apply a more integrated understanding of the connection between theory, practice and their personal process in their clinical work.</p> <p>LO6. Begin to be able to reflect on and use in clinical practice an understanding of the therapeutic encounter as an encounter between two subjects and use their capacity for reflexivity when engaging with the relational dilemmas that arise.</p> <p>LO7. Be able to identify and use their countertransference (including embodied countertransference) as valuable information and begin to assess whether it is or isn't appropriate to use as part of a collaborative dialogue with the client.</p> |

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| <b>Syllabus</b>                                   | <p>Students will provide one-to-one weekly therapy to long-term training clients, audio record the work and bring it to in-house supervision groups. They must undertake at least 60 hours supervised clinical practice with long term clients, working with at least one training client for 40 hours, and 20 hours in-house supervision across the two Practicum modules. They will consider theoretical and ethical issues as they arise related to the casework brought to the group. Through listening to audio recordings of their own and their peers' work with clients, and offering and receiving feedback from their supervisor and peers, they will be supported in deepening their understanding of key clinical concepts and their capacity for critical reflection, and their capacity to use advanced integrative clinical skills.</p>   |
| <b>Learning, teaching and assessment strategy</b> | <p>Supervision of client work will be provided in small groups. Supervision will include regular presentation and discussion of work with designated training clients including the playing of audio-recordings and the discussion of transcripts, role-plays, practice sessions, different theoretical perspectives. Students will be expected to submit a regular supervision log to their supervisor.</p> <p><i>Diversity</i><br/>Teaching will specifically include discussion of issues relating to the experience of difference including ethnicity, class, sexuality, gender, and disability.</p> <p><i>Assessment Criteria</i><br/>Coursework 100% no examination.</p> <p><i>Formative Assessment</i><br/>Students will receive formative assessment through regular feedback from peers and supervisors within their groups. Students will submit a 1000 word example of a self-reflective account of learning from one supervision session part way through the module for formative feedback.</p> <p><b>Summative assessment:</b><br/>Students will present a <b>portfolio</b> for assessment. This will include: a log of clinical hours completed during the year, copies of their supervision logs (LO4) a 3000 word critical, self-reflective account of learning from three supervision sessions including at least one where the student presented a clinical recording, one where assessment of a client was discussed and one where an ethical issue was discussed (LOs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5). Attend a <b>review meeting</b> (30 minutes per student) with supervisors and peers to present and discuss their portfolio reflecting on the role of their own subjectivity on their clinical work and their use of counter transference. (LOs 6 &amp; 7).</p> <p><b>At least 80% attendance is required to pass this module</b></p> |
| <b>Assessment weighting</b>                       | 80% Portfolio, 20% Review meeting  |

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| <p><b>Indicative learning materials</b></p> | <p><b>Ethics and Codes of Practice</b><br/> BACP (2013). The ethical framework for good practice in Counselling and Psychotherapy. BACP <a href="http://www.bacp.co.uk/ethical_framework">http://www.bacp.co.uk/ethical_framework</a><br/> The Minster Centre (2013) Basic General Code of Ethics &amp; Code of Practice for Practitioners. <a href="http://minsterstudents.co.uk/basic-information/codes-of-practice">http://minsterstudents.co.uk/basic-information/codes-of-practice</a><br/> UKCP (2009) UKCP ethical principles and Code of Professional Conduct. <a href="http://www.psychotherapy.org.uk/UKCP_Documents/standards_and_guidance/32_UKCP_Ethical_Principles_and_Code_of_Professional_Conduct_approved_by_BOT_Sept_09.pdf">http://www.psychotherapy.org.uk/UKCP_Documents/standards_and_guidance/32_UKCP_Ethical_Principles_and_Code_of_Professional_Conduct_approved_by_BOT_Sept_09.pdf</a><br/> or later revisions</p> <p><b>Use of Supervision</b><br/> Carroll, M. &amp; Gilbert, M.C. (2005). <i>On being a supervisee. Creating learning partnerships</i>. Vukani Publishing (London).<br/> Frawley-O'Dea, M.G. &amp; Sarnat, J.E. (2001). <i>The supervisory relationship: a contemporary psychodynamic approach</i>. Guilford Press (New York).</p> <p><b>Clinical concepts</b><br/> Aron, L (1996). <i>A Meeting of Minds: Mutuality in Psychoanalysis</i>. Analytic Press (New York).<br/> Benjamin, J. (2004): 'Beyond Doer and Done to: An Intersubjective View of Thirdness'. <i>Psychoanalytic Quarterly</i>, 73:5-46.<br/> Davies, D &amp; Neal C. (eds) (2000). <i>Pink Therapy Vol 2: Therapeutic Perspectives on a Working with Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Clients</i> Open University Press.<br/> Davies, J.M. &amp; Frawley, M.G. (1994): <i>Treating the Adult Survivor of Childhood Sexual Abuse</i>. Basic Books (New York).<br/> Herman, J. (1997). <i>Trauma &amp; Recovery: The Aftermath of Violence from Domestic Abuse to Political Terror</i>. Basic Books (New York).<br/> Liotti, G. (2004). Trauma, Dissociation, and Disorganized Attachment: Three Strands of a Single Braid. <i>Psychotherapy: Theory, research, practice, training</i>, 41, pp. 472-486.<br/> Maroda K. J. (2004). <i>The Power of Countertransference</i>. The Analytic Press (Hillside, NJ).<br/> Ogden, T.H. (1994). The Analytic Third: Working with Intersubjective Clinical Facts. <i>International Journal of Psycho-Analysis</i>, 75:3-19.<br/> Winnicott, D.W. (1969): 'The Use of an Object and Relating Through Identifications' in <i>Playing and Reality</i> (Penguin Books 1971) pp.101-111.</p> |
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| <b>Module Title</b>      | <b>Advanced Clinical Practicum 2</b>   |
| <b>Level</b>             | 7  |
| <b>Credits</b>           | 30   |
| <b>Module Leader</b>     | Paul Martin, Andrew Sutton, Julia Denington  |
| <b>Accredited by</b>     | The MA (Advanced Clinical Practice) can be used towards the training requirements for registration with the United Kingdom Council for Psychotherapy (UKCP)  |
| <b>Restrictions</b>      | Successful completion of Advanced Clinical Practice 1  |
| <b>Aims</b>              | <p>This module represents the further skills-in-practice component of the course and, in combination with the other modules in this option is designed to build upon the foundations of integrative psychotherapeutic practice laid down in Practicum 1. In this module students will be facilitated in developing an advanced set of competencies including the abilities to: conduct independent clinical assessments; assess limits to own competence; and demonstrate systematic understanding of key clinical concepts in relation to own practice. The module also aims to enhance students' awareness of the co-created nature of the psychotherapeutic encounter.</p> <p>NB: The course requires that the student engages in a minimum of 60 hours supervised clinical practice with long term clients and 20 hours in-house supervision across the two Practicum modules.</p>   |
| <b>Learning outcomes</b> | <p>On satisfactory completion of the module the student will:</p> <p><i>Skills</i></p> <p>LO1. Be able to carry out independent assessments of long term clients</p> <p>LO2. Have a critical understanding of their own therapeutic position and the role of their own subjectivity in the co-creation of the therapeutic relationship and will demonstrate deep and systemic understanding of key clinical concepts and be able to use them as ways to understand and guide their work with clients.</p> <p>LO3. Be able to reflect critically and in detail on an individual session and interventions within it, tracking a client's process and considering, linked to theory, the basis for making particular interventions, their impact, alternatives that might have been considered and the therapeutic outcome of the section of work within a larger whole.</p> <p>LO4. Be able to present work non-defensively, demonstrating an ability to tolerate uncertainty and learn from difficulties.</p> <p>LO5. Demonstrate an awareness of personal limitations and those of therapy.</p> <p>LO6. Identify their needs in supervision and be capable of organising and engaging with appropriate ongoing supervision and CPD.</p> |
| <b>Syllabus</b>          | <p>The course requires that the student engages in a minimum of 60 hours supervised clinical practice with long term clients and 20 hours in-house supervision across the two Practicum modules.</p> <p>Students will consider theoretical and ethical issues as they arise related to the casework brought to the group. Through listening to recordings and discussing transcripts of their own and their peers' work with clients, and offering and receiving feedback from their supervisor and peers, they will be supported in deepening their understanding of key clinical concepts, their capacity for critical reflection, and their capacity to use advanced clinical skills.</p>   |



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| <p><b>Learning, teaching and assessment strategy</b></p> | <p>Supervision of client work is provided in small groups. Supervision will include regular presentation and discussion of work with clients including the playing of audio-recordings and the discussion of transcripts, role-plays, practice sessions, reflection on different theoretical perspectives. Students will be expected to submit a regular supervision log to their supervisor.</p> <p><i>Diversity</i><br/>Teaching will specifically include discussion of issues relating to the experience of difference, including ethnicity, class, sexuality, gender and disability.</p> <p><i>Assessment Criteria</i><br/>Coursework 100% no examination.</p> <p><i>Formative Assessment</i><br/>Students will receive formative assessment through weekly feedback from peers and supervisors within their groups.</p> <p><b>Summative assessment</b><br/>A <b>log of clinical hours</b> completed during the year<br/>A <b>case study of 6000 words</b> based on a minimum of 40 hours' work with one training client. This must demonstrate safe, ethical practice and a systematic and critical understanding of the application of integrative psychotherapeutic theory to clinical practice. The case study will include a detailed line by line analysis of a 10 minute segment of a therapy session. (LO1, LO2, LO3, LO4, LO5, LO6).<br/><b>Live assessment</b> – the student will present an audio recording of the same session segment to an external examiner and reflect on their line-by-line analysis with them.(LO2,LO3,LO4,LO5,LO6).<br/><b>At least 80% attendance is required to pass this module</b></p> |
| <p><b>Assessment weighting</b></p>                       | <p>Case Study 70%, Live Assessment 30%</p>   |
| <p><b>Indicative learning materials</b></p>              | <p><b>Ethics and Codes of Practice</b><br/>BACP (2013). The ethical framework for good practice in Counselling and Psychotherapy. BACP<br/><a href="http://www.bacp.co.uk/ethical_framework">http://www.bacp.co.uk/ethical_framework</a><br/>The Minster Centre (2013). Basic General Code of Ethics &amp; Code of Practice for Practitioners. <a href="http://minsterstudents.co.uk/basic-information/codes-of-practice">http://minsterstudents.co.uk/basic-information/codes-of-practice</a><br/>UKCP (2009). UKCP ethical principles and Code of Professional Conduct.<br/><a href="http://www.psychotherapy.org.uk/UKCP_Documents/standards_and_guidance/32_UKCP_Ethical_Principles_and_Code_of_Professional_Conduct_approved_by_BOT_Sept_09.pdf">http://www.psychotherapy.org.uk/UKCP_Documents/standards_and_guidance/32_UKCP_Ethical_Principles_and_Code_of_Professional_Conduct_approved_by_BOT_Sept_09.pdf</a><br/><i>or later revisions.</i></p> <p><b>Use of Supervision</b><br/>Creaner, M. (2013). <u>Getting the best out of supervision in counselling and psychotherapy: a guide for the supervisee.</u> Sage (London).<br/>Safran, J., Muran, C., Stevens, C. and Rothman, M. (2007). A relational approach to supervision: addressing ruptures in the alliance. In</p>   |

C.A. Falender & E.P. Shafranske (eds.) *Casebook for clinical supervision a competency based approach*. APA pp. 137-157.

### **Assessment**

Bager-Charleston, S. & van Rijn, B. (2011). Understanding assessment in counselling and psychotherapy. Learning Matters.

Joyce, P. & Sills, C. (2010). Skills in Gestalt Counselling and Psychotherapy. Sage (London).

### **Clinical Concepts**

Lewis Aron (1996). 'On Knowing and Being Known – Theoretical and Technical Considerations Regarding Self-Disclosure'. Chapter 8 in *A Meeting of Minds: Mutuality in Psychoanalysis*. Analytic Press (New York) pp. 221 – 253.

Balick, A. (2009). Relational Ethics Beyond the Sex and Gender Binary: an integrative relational approach Chapter 4 in Lynne Gabriel & Roger Casemore (eds): *Relational Ethics in Practice: Narratives from Counselling and Psychotherapy*, Routledge (New York), pp. 32 -43.

Bateman, A & Fonagy, P (2004). *Psychotherapy for Borderline Personality Disorder: mentalization-based treatment* Oxford University Press

Black, M. (2003). 'Enactment: Analytic Musings on Energy, Language and Personal Growth.' *Psychoanalytic Dialogues* 13:5, 633-655.

Davies, D & Neal C. (eds) (2000). *Pink Therapy Vol. 3: Issues in Therapy with Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual and Transgender Clients* Open University Press (Buckingham).

Davies, J.M. (1998). Between the disclosure and foreclosure of erotic transference - countertransference -Can psychoanalysis find a place for adult sexuality? *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 8 (6): 747-766, 1998.

Davies, J.M. & Frawley, M.G. (1994). 'Eight Transference – Countertransference Positions.' Chapter 9 in *Treating the Adult Survivor of Childhood Sexual Abuse*. Basic Books (New York).

Gerson, S. (1996). 'Neutrality, Resistance, and Self-Disclosure in an Intersubjective Psychoanalysis' *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 6(5):623-645, 1996 (Symposium on the Meaning and Practice of Intersubjectivity in Psychoanalysis.)

Hirsch, I. (2008). *Coasting in the Countertransference*. The Analytic Press (New York).

McLaughlin, J.T. (1991). 'Clinical and Theoretical Aspects of Enactment' in *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*, 39:595-614

Ogden, T.H. (1994). The Analytic Third: Working with Intersubjective Clinical Facts. *International Journal of Psycho-Analysis*, 75:3-19.

Pizer, S.A. (2004). 'Impasse Recollected in Tranquility: Love, Dissociation, and Discipline in the Analytic Process.' *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 14(3):289–311.

Ringstrom, P.A. (1998). 'Therapeutic impasses in contemporary psychoanalytic treatment: Revisiting the double bind hypothesis.' *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, 8(2):297-315, 1998 Symposium on Impasses, Binds, and Conflict in the Analytic Process

Sumerel, M.B. *Parallel Process in Supervision* - ERIC Clearinghouse on Counselling and Student Services Greensboro NC. April 1994, ED372347

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| <b>Module Title</b>      | <b>Dissertation (MA only)</b>  |
| <b>Level</b>             | 7  |
| <b>Credits</b>           | 60   |
| <b>Module Leaders</b>    | Angela Cotter & Paul Martin  |
| <b>Accredited by</b>     | The MA (Advanced Clinical Practice) can be used towards the training requirements for registration with the United Kingdom Council for Psychotherapy (UKCP)  |
| <b>Restrictions</b>      |  |
| <b>Aims</b>              | <p>This module aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote understanding of the importance of research to the clinical and professional development of psychotherapy and counselling.</li> <li>• Engender enthusiasm for the process of research using a range of qualitative methods.</li> <li>• Develop skills in students sufficient to carry out a reflective research project relevant to the practice of psychotherapy and counselling.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Learning outcomes</b> | <p>At the end of this module the successful student will be able to:</p> <p><i>Knowledge</i></p> <p>LO1. Clearly and accurately situate their topic of inquiry within the wider literature.</p> <p>LO2. Understand and critique research methodologies and critically justify a research method appropriate to their research question.</p> <p>LO3. Critically evaluate ethical issues in the design and execution of a research project and design appropriate strategies to manage these.</p> <p>LO4. Critically evaluate findings from an inquiry with particular reference to the implications for psychotherapeutic practice.</p> <p><i>Skills</i></p> <p>LO5. Demonstrate the ability to maintain critical reflexive awareness through all stages of an inquiry</p> <p>LO6. Demonstrate competence in a range of skills required to manage all stages of the process of inquiry including sampling, data collection and data analysis.</p> <p>LO7. Communicate a coherent and critically reflective account of their inquiry, with a clear sense of audience, that adheres to academic conventions.</p>  |
| <b>Syllabus</b>          | <p>Students will study research approaches relevant to their specialist option such as IPA, Narrative, Grounded Theory, Action Research, Reflexive, together with research ethics.</p> <p>Students will present a research proposal which sets out their chosen topic and its relevance to their specialist option practice of psychotherapy or counselling, the proposed research method and the approach to ethical issues. This has to be approved before students can proceed further.</p> <p>Dissertation topics may cover any area relevant to psychotherapy or counselling including therapist or client experiences, specific groups of clients, specific psychological issues, supervision, training, management of clinical services. Students may undertake work based exclusively on existing literature or based on fieldwork such as interviews, surveys or observations. In all cases the work must go beyond description to offer reflective and critical discussion which contributes to knowledge in the field. Students will need to reflect on the link between their own subjectivity and the subject of the dissertation; the implications of the study for their own work and for</p> |

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|   | clinical, supervision or management practice more generally and the links between theoretical concepts and research methods.   |
| <b>Learning, teaching and assessment strategy</b> | <p><i>Teaching</i><br/>Students will receive <b>7 hours</b> of one-to-one dissertation supervision but can opt to combine this in small groups.<br/>Students will attend compulsory taught sessions on research methods, ethics and reflexivity, followed by workshops on developing research proposals.<br/>Students will then submit research proposals for approval. Students will receive detailed feedback on the proposed topic, methods and ethical issues and whether they are approved to proceed with the research. Once the proposal has been approved students will attend a workshop on turning their proposals into action and work with a dissertation supervisor to complete their research. They can also attend optional research clinics where they can work in small groups with a tutor on any aspect of their research.</p> <p><i>Diversity</i><br/>Teaching will specifically include consideration of issues relating to ethnicity, class, sexuality, gender, disability and health.</p> <p><i>Assessment Criteria</i><br/>Coursework 100% no examination.</p> <p><i>Formative Assessment</i><br/>Ongoing tutor and peer feedback is provided based on student's contributions in workshops and group discussions. Students will submit a research proposal and receive written feedback before proceeding further. Proposals which do not meet the standards required can be resubmitted. Students will also receive feedback from their dissertation supervisors and can attend optional research clinics where they will work in small groups with peers and tutors on particular issues that arise as they undertake the research and write up.</p> <p><b>Summative Assessment</b><br/><b>A 15,000 word dissertation</b> on a topic of the student's choice that is relevant to their specialist option and that demonstrates mastery of a complex and specialist topic, critical understanding of research methods and ethical issues and a capacity for sustained critical reflexive awareness. The dissertation should be clearly written and adhere to academic conventions including referencing (LO1-7).</p> |
| <b>Assessment weighting</b>                       | 100% coursework.   |
| <b>Indicative learning materials</b>              | <p>Copies of examples of completed and published research will be handed out during workshops for group discussions and students will be able to access examples of previous research carried out by students at the Minster Centre.</p> <p><b>Indicative reading list</b><br/>Blaxter L., Hughes C., Tight M. (2010). <i>How to Research</i>. Fourth Edition. Open University Press (Maidenhead).<br/>Castonguay L.J., Muran J.C., Angus L.E., &amp; Hayes J.A. (2010). <i>Bringing Psychotherapy Research to Life: Understanding Change Through the Work of Leading Clinical Researchers</i>. APA (New York).</p>  |

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- Clandinin D.J. & Connolly F.M. (2000) *Narrative Inquiry: Experience and Story in Qualitative Research*. Jossey-Bass Publishers (San Francisco).
- Creswell J.W. (2007). *Qualitative Inquiry and Research Design: Choosing Among Five Approaches*. 2nd edition. Sage (London).
- Etherington K. (2004). *Becoming a Reflexive Researcher: Using ourselves in research*. Jessica Kingsley (London).
- Finlay, L. & Evans K. (2009) .*Relational-centred Research for Psychotherapists: exploring meanings and experience*. Wiley-Blackwell (Chichester).
- Langdrige, D (2007). *Phenomenological Psychology: Theory, Research and Method*. US: Prentice Hall
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- Lyons, E. & Coyle A. (2007) *Analysing Qualitative Data in Psychology*. Sage (London).
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- McLeod, J. (2003). *Doing Counselling Research*. Sage (London).
- McNiff, J. (2013). *Action Research Principles and Practice*. Third Edition. Routledge (London).
- Punch, K.F. (2006). *Developing Effective Research Proposals*. Second Edition. Sage (London).
- Smith, J., Flowers, P. and Larkin, M. (2009). *Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis: Theory, method and research*. Sage (London).
- Timulak, L. (2008). *Research in Psychotherapy and Counselling*. Sage (London).
- Wolcott H.F. (2009). *Writing Up Qualitative Research*. Sage (Los Angeles).