

MA Advanced Counselling Theory and Research

Module Description and Assessment Component 2023/2024

Part One = 120 credits (60 credits per semester)

ECAC 7001 Contemporary Counselling Theory (30 credits; compulsory) Semester One - Begins November Wednesdays 4-7pm

You will learn to critically consider the theoretical basis and evidence base for the therapeutic approaches to supporting different populations and a critical understanding of how to communicate specialist knowledge to non-expert audiences. Using cutting edge developments in the field of counselling you will be able to apply the key skills of critical appraisal and understanding.

- Comp 1 Written Systematic Review 5,000 words (70%)
- Comp 2 Briefing Paper 1,500 words (15%)
- Comp 3 Presentation 10-minute presentation on briefing paper to a lay audience (15%)

ECAC 7004 Advanced Research Methods in Counselling (30 credits; compulsory) Semester One - Begins October Tuesdays 4-7pm

This module focuses on developing practical research skills and an understanding of ethical issues within the counselling field. You will have the opportunity to gain hands on experience of preparing and applying research materials to small scale studies. You will develop an understanding of how to plan and design research and deciding on the appropriate methods for the counselling field.

- Comp 1 Presentation Research Ethics 15 minutes (20%)
- Comp. 2. Written qualitative results write up (30%)
- Comp 3 Research Proposal 2,000 words (30%)
- Comp 4: Practical Skills Assessment – In class 60-minutes (20%)

ECAS 7006 Ethical and Professional Challenges (30 credits; optional) Semester One- Begins November Thursdays 4-7pm

In this module, you will explore the range of ethical challenges and debates within the field of applied psychology and counselling. The BPS, BACP and NHS ethical frameworks will be explored to help develop a critical understanding of the role of ethics in applied research.

- Comp 1 Written Reflective Report 2,500 words (30%)
- Comp 2 Written Essay 5,000 words (70%)

ECAC 7002 Human Flourishing & Resilience (30 credits; optional) Semester Two-
Begins end of January 2024 Wednesday 4-7pm – PLEASE NOTE THE NEW DAY

This module focuses on the understanding of human flourishing and encourages self-reflection on personal resilience, self-care and wellbeing. You will gain a critical understanding of the theoretical approaches to understanding human flourishing, how to identify, develop, and evaluate appropriate interventions to enhance resilience and flourishing as well as understanding the associated ethical considerations. You will engage in reflection about your own strategies for coping and building resilience.

- Comp 1 Reflective Essay 5,000 words (70%)
- Comp 2 Research Proposal (30%)

ECAS 7002 Professional Research Skills (30 credits; optional) Semester Two -Begins
Late January 2024 Tuesdays 4-7pm

This module provides the opportunity to work as a part of a professional research team to design and conduct a real life research study. You will develop practical research skills such as; questionnaire and scale development, experimental task creation, interview/focus group skills, data protocols and applied research ethics.

- Comp 1 Portfolio of research competencies plus reflective piece
 - Element 1: evidence log and professional portfolio of five competencies (50%)
 - Element 2: 1,500 word reflective piece (20%)
- Comp 2 15 minutes (10 minutes presentation plus five minutes questions) (30%)

ECAS 7003 Behaviour Change in Context (30 credits; optional) Semester Two-Begins
Late January 2024 Thursdays 4-7pm

This module focuses on developing a critical understanding of the science underpinning behaviour change. Focusing on the individual, societal and global factors that influence human social and health behaviours. You will consider real world issues and explore potential causes and solutions to these at an individual, societal and global level.

- Comp 1 Written Systematic Review 5,000 words (70%)
- Comp 2 Written Research Proposal 2,500 words (30%)

Part Two = 60 credits : ECAS 7007 Applied Research Dissertation (60 credits;
compulsory)

Following successful completion of Part 1, all students will be required to complete their own independent research project through the 60 credit Applied Research Dissertation in Part 2.

- Comp 1 Individual Presentation 30 minutes (25%)
- Comp 2 Written Dissertation 12,000 words (75%)