

Presentation pattern: October to June

Module description

This 30-week long module focuses on counselling theory and practice with a critical approach to situate and (de)construct mental health/illness. The main sections in the module cover: mental health: the emergence of the talking cure, presenting problems (sadness and worry, trauma and crisis, relationships and intimacy, formulation), models of working (psychodynamic, humanistic, CBT, integrative/pluralistic), counselling in practice (therapeutic relationship, beyond the individual, technology based counselling, ethics and professional issues), contemporary issues: mental health and society (politics of research and evidence, mental disorder and criminal justice, living in a therapeutic culture).

Person specification

The person specification for this module should be read in conjunction with the [generic person specification](#) for an associate lecturer at The Open University.

As well as meeting all the requirements set out in the generic person specification, you should have:

- a degree in psychology, counselling or another relevant discipline
- a good knowledge of counselling theory and counselling practice and understanding of mental health
- relevant experience of counselling practice and/or therapeutic oriented work in mental health settings
- experience of teaching, ideally through distance learning, and familiarity with teaching using a virtual learning environment (VLE) and online tutorials or forums
- experience of using IT systems (as assignments will be submitted, marked and returned electronically) and the ability to navigate online resources and use them in teaching

and, at least one of the following:

- a postgraduate qualification in psychology with a substantial counselling and/or mental health component
- a postgraduate qualification/Diploma in counselling/psychotherapy
- Professional Registration or Accreditation in Counselling or Mental Health (e.g. BACP UKCP, HCPC).

It would be an advantage to have:

- experience of teaching counselling and/or mental health at (undergraduate) university level.

Module related details - a full explanation can be found on the website

Credits awarded to the student for the successful completion of a module:	60
Number of assignments submitted by the student:	4
Method of submission for assignments:	2
Level of ICT requirements:	2
Number of students likely to be in a standard group:	20
Salary band:	7
Estimated number of hours per teaching week:	6