

Course Length 4 years (full-time)
Places Available Approx 50
SCQF Level 10

Mental Health & Counselling BA (Hons)

UCAS Code CL85 BA/MHC

Key information

Typical Entrance Requirements

Higher BBC
A Level CC
ILC (H) BBC
UCAS Tariff 168*

*See page 118 for UCAS Tariff guidance

Essential subjects:

English or a literate subject (e.g. History).

Criminal record check required ✓

Want to know more?

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Key features

- Emphasis on developing competence in use of counselling skills
- Mental health service users actively engaged in the delivery of the course
- Work-based learning component
- Opportunity to work towards COSCA (in Scotland) accredited Certificate in Counselling Skills

What you study

The course includes modules on mental health, counselling skills, research, psychology and health studies. You are introduced to a broad range of perspectives on mental health and counselling, and learn approaches that are based on the evidence, and that also draw on the perspectives of people who have (or have had) mental health problems. An important element of the course is work placement. Note that students entering year 3 will have to provide the appropriate criminal records check documentation before being eligible to undertake placement, which is a core module.

How you learn

A variety of teaching methods is used to develop your knowledge and skills. Teaching is focused around a lecture programme supported by tutorials, practical exercises, case studies and seminars. There is a strong collaborative input from specialised health areas at Abertay including health professionals from a variety of backgrounds. This helps to provide you with a multi-disciplinary, collaborative experience of health and teamwork. You will typically spend around 12 hours per week attending classes and will undertake approximately 20 hours per week of private study. In year 4, the Honours project is your opportunity to produce a professional standard project report which integrates your learning and individual research interests.

How you are assessed

Assessment on this course is carried out via a combination of means including coursework, exam and work placement report. A broad range of coursework assessment is used throughout, including essays, poster presentations, laboratory reports, portfolios, and class tests. A stronger emphasis on examinations is a feature of assessment in the later years.

Career opportunities

Career opportunities are available in the NHS, social care sectors, voluntary organisations and education. The course may also provide a platform for further education and vocations within allied health professions and employment within community-based practice. Although this course provides the opportunity to work towards the COSCA accredited Certificate in Counselling Skills, the course is not intended to provide counsellor training.

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