

MSc Counselling FAQs

Can I apply if I have a Certificate in Counselling, but no degree?

If you have a counselling certificate, without a degree, your application **may** still be considered. We would be looking for you to have extensive experience (over five years) within a counselling setting. Interview would be at the discretion of the Programme Leader. We'd also require evidence of the ability to study at level 11 (postgraduate). There are a number of ways that this might be demonstrated. It could be evidence of studying at level 10 (degree level), an OU course or similar, or a part-time Counselling skills course at level 9/10. We may also consider those who are employed in a graduate role, for example, a nurse who has not obtained a degree. In some cases we may ask you to provide an essay to demonstrate evidence of critical argument and literacy skills. Often it may be a combination of achievements and experience that demonstrate this ability.

When do the placements take place?

During year 2 and year 3. Students are required to organise their own placement.

Do I have to pay for the placements?

No, but you are required to have monthly private supervision. This can cost between £20-60 per fortnight.

Are students required to undertake self-therapy?

No, we do not require students to undertake self-therapy, although it may be helpful for students, and there is counselling offered by Abertay.

Is the course accredited?

As it is a professional counselling qualification, the course is accredited with British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP). It is not accredited by the BPS, as it is a counselling course.

Is the course full or part time?

It is part-time over three years.

Can I gain advanced entry?

It is not possible to gain advanced entry to this programme. We ask students to join us from year 1. The reason for this is that the programme is designed to be a holistic development for practitioners, and while we appreciate and acknowledge that students sometimes come with a wealth of experience, part of the learning involves being part of a stable community of practitioners during training.

Which days of the week do I need to attend?

Generally, first year runs on a Monday, second year runs on a Tuesday, and third year runs approximately every third Thursday. However due to the nature of timetabling, the specific days the programme runs on are subject to change and cannot be guaranteed. All years have a four -day block of attendance in term 3