



The Level 4 Professional Diploma in Integrative Counselling

Frequently Asked Questions

Who can apply?

- Anyone who has completed 180 hours of formal counselling training, or the equivalent.
- A qualification in psychology is not normally regarded as equivalent to counselling training.

What sort of person are we looking for?

- Psychologically robust
- Able to write and speak English adequately – has GCSE English Language or ESOL/Key Stage 2 qualification, minimum.
- Generally able to meet financial, social, emotional and intellectual demands of the course.

I have a psychology degree...

This does not automatically make you eligible to join the Diploma. You need to have done 180 hours of formal counselling training, including counselling skills as well as theory.

If you have not done counselling skills we *may* consider you if you have worked in a helping profession using interpersonal communication skills – eg as a mentor, mental health worker. Otherwise we suggest that you start at Level 2 or 3.

How long is the course?

- 2 academic years
- One day per week during the daytime. Plus one weekend per year.
- The training days are Tuesday (Yr 1) and Friday (Yr 2).
- 10.00am until 5.15pm Yr 1 and 10.00 am until 5.45 pm Yr 2

What additional time is needed?

- Tutorials – one hour per term
- Personal therapy - 70 hours over the course; usually one hour per week.
- Counselling Placement – 2-3 hours per week, plus time for supervision, training and meetings etc at the agency.
- Private study - for reading, writing, etc. approximately 4-6 hours per week.

What does the course cover?

- Theory and skills development
- Supervision – fortnightly from Term 2, Yr 1
- Personal Development – 1hr per week, Yr 1

What is the course model?

Integrative – based on Clarkson’s (1995) model of the therapeutic relationship
Integrates humanistic, psychoanalytic and transpersonal perspectives and approaches.

Identifies 5 strands in the therapeutic relationship:

Working alliance

The reparative or developmentally needed strand

The transference and countertransference strand

The transpersonal dimension

The person to person relationship

What about Accreditation?

The MW Diploma course is accredited by the BACP.

The BACP is the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy, the national body for counsellors and psychotherapists.

Course accreditation means that our Diploma has been recognised as meeting the highest professional standards.

When I have my Diploma, am I qualified and/ or accredited?

When you have your Diploma, you will be a qualified counsellor and able to work in voluntary agencies.

You are not accredited as a counsellor.

For the Diploma, you need have done only 100 hours of counselling under supervision.

To be accredited by the BACP as a counsellor, you must make an individual application and have finished 450 hours of counselling under supervision.

What work can I do after qualifying?

- The Diploma qualifies you to work in an agency, initially.
- When you have become accredited as a counsellor by the BACP, you may begin to work in private practice.
- You may also find a paid job as a counsellor, but currently there are few available. There may be more in the future, in education or in GPs’ surgeries.

How to contact you?

Email: counselling@marywardcentre.ac.uk / Phone: 0207 269 6022

What to do if I want to apply

- Return the application form as soon as you can.
- Interviews are ongoing from May to July and places will be offered throughout.
- Come to the open afternoon: 09 May 2019 Mary Ward Centre, 42 Queen Square, London WC1N 3AQ, 4.00 - 5.30. No need to book a place, but please arrive on time. There will be a tutor presentation, followed by questions