

Programme Specification

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Please check the Programme Directory for the most up to date version:

[UG Programme Directory](#)

[PG Programme Directory](#)

Section 1 – regulatory details		
1.1	Awarding body	Wrexham University
1.2	Teaching institution	Wrexham University
1.3	Final award and programme title (Welsh and English)	MSc Cwnsela MSc Counselling
1.4	Exit awards and titles	Postgraduate Diploma in Counselling Postgraduate Certificate in Counselling
1.5	Credit requirements	MSc Counselling (180 credits) Postgraduate Diploma in Counselling (120 credits including 100 hours placement) Postgraduate Certificate in Counselling (100 credits)
1.6	Intake points	September
1.7	Mode of study	Part time
1.8	Length of delivery	2 years
1.9	Location of delivery	Plas Coch- Wrexham Campus
1.10	Language of delivery	English
1.11	Faculty	Faculty of Social and Life Sciences (FSLs)
1.12	Subject area	Counselling and Psychology
1.13	HECoS Code	100495
1.14	Suitable for applicants requiring a Student Visa?	N/A
1.15	Is DBS check required on entry?	Yes All applicants successful in being offered a place on the programmes will be subject to a satisfactory DBS clearance undertaken by Wrexham University. Type of check required Enhanced Check for adult workforce
1.16	Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation	N/A

Section 1 – regulatory details		
1.17	Welsh Medium Provision	The programmes will be delivered through the medium of English. Students are entitled to submit assessments in the medium of Welsh.
1.18	External reference points	QAA Subject Benchmark – Counselling and Psychotherapy QAA Characteristics Statements The British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy Ethical Framework for Counselling Professions Higher Education Credit Framework CQFW
1.19	Derogation to Academic Regulations	No
1.20	Foundation Year route	N/A
1.21	Placement / Work based learning	Clinical / Practice Placement – a placement in a clinical or practice setting, embedded within the programme, which must be completed for students to achieve the intended award.
1.22	Length and level of the placement	100 hours – level 7
1.23	Collaborative arrangement	N/A

Section 2 – programme details	
2.1 Aims of the programme	
- To provide a contemporary person-centred counselling training for people who seek to qualify to work as counsellors of adult individual clients. - To provide sufficient master's level training hours for those who may seek individual accreditation with BACP or NCPS in the future. - To evidence a minimum of 100 hours of clinical supervised placement practice. - To provide a firm foundation for further professional development.	

2.2 Programme structure and diagram, including delivery schedule					
Part-time Programme Structure					
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit Value	Core/ Option	Delivery (i.e. semester 1,2)
7	COU702	Counselling Theory 1	20	CORE	Yr 1 SEM 1
7	COU703	Counselling Skills 1	20	CORE	Yr 1 SEM 1
7	COU705	Counselling Skills 2	20	CORE	Yr 1 SEM 2
7	COU701	Research Methods	20	CORE	Yr 1 SEM 2
7	COU706	Advanced Counselling Practice	20	CORE	Yr 2 SEM 1
7	COU704	Counselling Theory 2	20	CORE	Yr 2 SEM 1/2
7	COU707	Research Project	60	CORE	Yr 2 SEM 1&2

2.3 Programme Learning Outcomes									
No.	Learning Outcome	K	I	S	P	PG Cert	PG Dip	MA/MSc	Optional Ref (PSRB standards)
1	Theoretical knowledge for the principles and methods in Person-Centred Counselling.	☒	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	
2	Demonstrate a critical understanding of how theoretical learning may be applied in practice with clients to work ethically and professionally.	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	
3	Identify the aims and objectives of applied research and demonstrate the ability to collect, organise, critically and systematically present a research project within appropriate ethical constraints.	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	
4	Demonstrate the ability to make effective use of clinical supervision to reflect on and improve practice.	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	
5	Demonstrate the ability to work within agency and University policies and procedures to demonstrate critically informed decision making and ethical practice for the benefit of a client.	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	
6	Develop own skills in working within a person-centred counselling approach.	☐	☐	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐	
7	Develop skills in working both independently and as part of a team.	☐	☐	☐	☒	☒	☐	☐	
8	Develop skills including time-management, active listening, project management, and personal reflexivity that enhance employability.	☐	☐	☐	☒	☒	☐	☐	

Note: K- Knowledge and understanding; I-Intellectual Skills; S-Subject Skills; P-Practical, professional and employability skills

2.4 Learning and teaching strategy

Theory lectures and workshops / seminars:

This is where the theory of counselling and psychotherapy (Person-centred and experiential in the main), all professional and academic matters will be presented and explored. It is also where more experiential workshops will be offered. Advance reading is strongly recommended so that students can be involved in group discussions to test out and refine their developing understanding of new ideas. Normally only one tutor is present for seminar / lecture sessions, but where possible 2 will be present.

Skills Practice groups

The initial purpose is to provide an opportunity for students to practice therapeutic listening and therapeutic skills development with each other. Counselling Skills (Year 1) and Practice Improvement (Year 2) will be small groups or triads as necessary.

Supervision and support groups (Clinical Practice Improvement) (Year 2):

These groups are for the purpose of improving clinical practice in order to benefit clients. They will normally contain a maximum of 12 members and will involve live counselling practice and the playing of audio client / counsellor sessions to the group for constructive feedback. This group will involve self, peer and tutor assessment of clinical practice.

Experiential / Personal Development groups:

The experiential and personal development groups will run throughout the Master's programme with 1 hour per week allocated to them. They will usually contain a maximum of 12 participants as required by NCPS. The personal development groups will be facilitated by someone who is an experienced person-centered practitioner but is not otherwise part of the training team (where possible) as required by the NCPS. The hours will be flexibly delivered to enable the optimum student experience; this may mean groups run on alternate weeks for two hours rather than hourly each week. Attendance at Personal Development groups is a compulsory element of the programme.

Pattern of attendance:

Students attend one day per week in year one and one day per week in year two. The teaching day is 7 hours including provision for breaks.

Weekend Training

Weekend training is a common feature of counsellor training; there will be one away weekend per year. Attendance at training weekends is compulsory as it forms a part of the core training hours which are required for successful completion of the course and any future application to a professional body for individual accreditation. Details regarding weekend training will be provided in the Programme Handbook.

Clinical Placements:

In year two of the MSc Counselling degree clinical placements and supervision will commence after completing a readiness to practice exercise. This is a placement of a minimum of 100 hours supervised counselling practice. This will be agreed between the student, placement provider and supervisor and approved by the Programme Leader (or member of the Programme Team).

2.5 Assessment strategy

Assessments are designed to reflect a person-centred philosophy of learning. This means that a student's own evaluation of work, along with feedback from peers and tutors will form part of assessments. However, this is also a course which seeks to provide the highest standard of professional education and tutors take very seriously their obligation to trainees, potential future clients and the profession as well as to their own integrity. To this end assignments are also purposefully designed to reflect the professional standards required of practicing counsellors / psychotherapists in line with the professional bodies Core Curriculum.

A variety of assessment strategies will be used in order to support the Universities approach to working with AI, this will include the use of presentations and video/audio recording equipment.

2.5 Assessment strategy

Assignments will include theory essays, skills transcriptions and evaluations of recorded material as well as live practice with peers in group settings. Case studies and portfolios of reports evidencing clinical practice as well as logs of client contact hours will form evidence of clinical competence. Practice sessions of recorded client material will be rated for level of competence in in key person-centred practice skills.

2.6 Disclaimer

Throughout quality assurance processes we have ensured that this programme engages with and is aligned to:

- [Academic Regulations](#)
- [The University Skills Framework](#)
- [Welsh Language Policy](#)
- [Equality and Diversity Policy](#)
- [The Student Union offers support for students](#)

Section 3 – Programme set up (office use only)

3.1	Framework	FRAME044
3.2	Cost centre	GACG
3.3	Course type (HESA)	N/A
3.4	Fee model	Standard PGT
3.5	Are any modules taught over either multiple periods or across the HESA year (defined as running 1st August - 31st July)	Yes (Placement)
3.6	Student funding model	SLC/Self Financed
3.7	Mode of Attendance (Funding)	In Person Attendance
3.8	Does the Suitability for Practice Procedure apply to the programme?	Yes
3.9	Programme Leader	Megan Smith
3.10	Date of Approval	14/03/26
3.11	Date and type of Revision	N/A