

## Professional Masters Programme

### MA in Counselling and Psychotherapy Practice

The MA in Counselling and Psychotherapy Practice has been set up at Bath Spa University (BSU) and is designed to enhance the professional development of counsellors and psychotherapists. It gives an academic qualification alongside the vocational counselling training which may be helpful when formal registration is established in the UK. The award is modular, based on accumulating credit points (180 are needed for a Masters), and gives a flexible career track suited to meet the demands of professional people needing to study part-time.

### Bath Spa University and Chichester Counselling Services

Graduates of the CCS Diploma in Psychotherapeutic Counselling (Psychodynamic) or Diploma in Psychodynamic Counselling qualify for accreditation of prior learning (APL), worth 60 credits *provided they gained their qualification within 6 years of applying for APL*. This means that your professional qualification will be considered as contributing to the credits needed for your MA award. Diploma students are required to take a module worth 30 credit points in preparation for the MA proper. This could be an independent study based on a topic that interests you – perhaps an aspect of a case study. Other modules based on your clinical work practice are also available.

All CCS graduates accepted on the MA are required to complete two half modules, worth 15 credit points, on Research Methods and Research Project (Dissertation) Preparation (named PR7103 and PR7102). The two half modules can be completed flexibly *via* supported flexible learning programmes and lead to the Counselling and Psychotherapy Research Project Dissertation (PR7120). This final stage dissertation is a substantial piece of research based on your counselling and psychotherapy practice that is usually completed over a year, and amounts to 60 credit points. Considerable help and support is given in the form of 12 hours of personal tutorial supervision over the course of the dissertation work and completion phase. There are also a series of professional research support seminars held for students across each year. Your research topic will be discussed and approved by both the academic supervisor and programme leader.

### What does it cost and how to enrol?

For Academic Year 2009-10 each half-module rated course will be £345 (15), and the fee of £1,365 (60 credits) is required for the final Masters stage Dissertation. If you hold Qualified Teacher Status there are substantial grants/discounts available. Other grants are available, for further information go to

<http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/AdultLearning/FinancialHelpForAdultLearners/CareerDevelopmentLoans/index.htm>

Before registering for the Professional Masters Programme all prospective participants should have an advisory meeting to discuss their individual requirements and if necessary which course modules to take within this career track.

Please contact the PMP Leader (via CPD Admin) for an advisory interview:

Dr Steven J. Coombs, Head of CPD at Bath Spa University 01225 875593/

[s.coombs@bathspa.ac.uk](mailto:s.coombs@bathspa.ac.uk) For further information please contact the Award leader:

Fiona Gardner 01225 859356/ [fgardner@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:fgardner@tiscali.co.uk)