

Counselling and Applied Psychology Higher National Diploma

Course Overview

The course is designed to address an increasing need for high-quality professional and technical education at levels 4 and 5. You will be provided with a clear line of sight to employment or progression to further higher education study. The purpose of the Pearson BTEC Higher National Diploma (HND) in Counselling and Applied Psychology (Psychodynamic Pathway) is to develop you professionally to meet the demands of employers in the healthcare and social support sector. The course is delivered over a 2 year period 2 days per week with one of those days been held in the evening supporting those who may be in employment. There is a mandatory 100 hours per year minimum work experience in a relevant work environment.

What you will learn

The year 1 units lay the foundations of learning by providing a broad introduction to counselling and applied psychology and the users of these services. Units studied include: Personal and Professional Development Developing Empathic Communications for Therapeutic Relationships Preparing for Research Ethical Frameworks in Counselling Self awareness and Reflective Practice in Counselling Theoretical Practices in Counselling

Year 2 of the HND (Level 5) Higher National Diploma enables you to specialise by committing to specific career paths and covers the following units. Counselling skills Development and Practice Working with Diverse Clients in Therapeutic Counselling. Risk and Assessment Psychodynamic approaches to Counselling Cognitive behavioural Approaches to counselling. Working with Survivors of Abuse

Entry Requirements

To do this course you should have a minimum of 48 UCAS points in a related Health and Social care qualification at Level 3 (BTEC Extended Diploma/Access to HE/ A Levels/T-Levels) Applicants must also have GCSE English and/or math's at grade 4/C or above, equivalent level 2 qualification or be able to demonstrate equivalent skills. Where English is not your first language, international applicants must have an IELTS Reading and writing score of 5.5 or above. We will also consider applications from adult learners returning to education who don't necessarily have the above qualifications but can demonstrate the ability to work to level 5. This includes: - related work experience - an international equivalent of the above. Applicants will be interviewed and will need to show a development of self-awareness , maturity and stability, and be able to reflect on life experiences.

How you will be assessed

You will be assessed through a range of methods such as exams, essays, research projects, and professional discussions. You will also be required to undertake a placement within your current workplace or as a volunteer within a relevant work placement. We always aim to support you by giving you a range of information, advice and guidance. If you would like to talk to anyone regarding your options, please do get in touch.

Course Progression

Once you have achieved the level 5 Higher National Diploma, you can develop you career in the respective sector by: - entering employment and finding a job in the sector - continuing existing employment - linking with the appropriate professional body Graduates can: - work independently - refer and have clients referred to their service - apply to study at level 6

What Happens Next

Applications to this full-time undergraduate course must be made through UCAS. If you haven't started a UCAS application yet, and only want to apply to Leicester College, you can apply directly to us using our direct application form via the College website, and we will process a UCAS application on your behalf. You will be invited to an interview. Interviews can be conducted in person, over the phone or via MS Teams at your preference.

Course Details

Course Code	P00094
Start Date	22/09/2025
Study Hours	Full Time
Duration	2 years
Campus	Abbey Park Campus
Level	5

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