

# MA/PG Dip Supervision in Psychotherapy & Counselling

## Course Overview

**Start Date:**

22 January 2021

**Qualification:**

MA/PG Dip Supervision in Psychotherapy and Counselling  
awarded by Middlesex University

**Highlights:**

This course is designed for qualified therapists and counsellors from any modality who wish to undertake a training in supervision and obtain a postgraduate qualification. (If you are interested in a supervision qualification without an academic qualification see The Minster Centre Supervision Diploma)

**Course Length:**

1 year for Post Graduate Diploma or 2 years for the MA programme.

**Fees 2021:**

PG Dip £6325

First Year of MA: £4733

Second Year of MA: The second year fees will be the same as the first year plus any increase for unavoidable costs such as inflation.

We offer a 15% discount to Minster Centre members (graduates and those who maintain their UKCP membership through the Centre).

*Course fees are subject to annual inflation. Once you have started a course we will endeavour to keep fee increases in subsequent years as low as possible. Increases may occur to reflect changes to the course, changes in the requirements of accrediting organisations, inflation, staff pay rises or other increases to the cost of providing the course.*

For more details see the **Fees** page on our website.

## About the Course

This course is designed for practicing psychotherapists and counsellors who want to become clinical supervisors and obtain a post-graduate qualification. The programme will allow counsellors and psychotherapists from any modality to train as supervisors. Students' learning is supported through experiential work and a significant amount of direct tutor contact.

The Minster Centre prides itself on offering small study groups, personal attention and a friendly, supportive learning environment which encourages personal development. Applicants are not required to have been in recent academic training in order to be considered for a place on this course. Students will be able to sign up for either the one year Post Graduate Diploma or the two-year MA



programme, both of which are validated by Middlesex University. The course will follow the same syllabus as the Minster Centre Supervision Diploma for the first three modules with the addition of a further clinical supervision module for the PG Dip.

Students registered and continuing on for the MA will attend an extra three weekends on research awareness and methods which lead to undertaking a piece of independent research, in the second year. This will be overseen by a research supervisor and supported by the course staff.

## Course Content Summary

- Two core academic modules which develop students' in-depth knowledge of the main theoretical concepts of effective supervision plus opportunities for students to integrate this knowledge into their practice.
- Two Supervision Skills-in-practice (Practicum) modules which lay the foundations for effective and ethical supervisory practice and explores supervisory procedural issues relating to clinical responsibility, contracting, risk assessment, auditing and professional record keeping.
- For MA students – teaching in research methods and ethics and research supervision will prepares students to complete a 15,000 word dissertation.
- Forms of assessment include an essay, case report, reflective assignments, a 40-minute presentation, a 15,000-word dissertation and a portfolio.
- This course requires that the student completes a minimum of 40 hours supervision practice and 21 hours supervision of supervision across both practicum modules (1&2).

## Detailed Course Content

### 1. Supervisory Theory

This module provides the opportunity for students to develop a sophisticated critically-reflective grasp of the main theoretical concepts and philosophical positions that inform effective ethical supervisory practice. Students will be given an in-depth grounding in Shohet and Hawkins' model of clinical supervision and this will be integrated with a human development perspective in supervisory practice. Significant attention will be paid to understanding complex interpersonal and intrapersonal processes and power dynamics operating both in individual supervision and also in group contexts.

Students will write a 5000 word essay: 'Supervision: managing a complex professional role in practice.'

### 2. Integrating Theory into Clinical Supervision

This module provides a range of learning opportunities for students to integrate their theoretical knowledge into effective ethical supervisory practice. The learning will be delivered in experiential practice sessions that are designed to support the students in making links between theoretical concepts and supervisory strategies as well as being able to critically evaluate supervisory interventions. This module aims to equip students with advanced skills in working with the interpersonal and intrapersonal processes of supervision. It also supports the students in synthesising a personal integrative approach from existing supervisory knowledge, theory and research. Students will be assessed on a 40 minute presentation delivered to an audience of tutors and peers on their choice of a topic relevant to supervision and a 3000-word assignment titled 'A reflective commentary on developing a personal approach to supervision.'

---

**Email** [admissions@minstercentre.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@minstercentre.ac.uk) **Web** [minstercentre.ac.uk](http://minstercentre.ac.uk) **Tel** 020 7644 6420



### **3. Clinical Supervision Practicum 1**

This module represents the skills-in-practice component of the course and aims, in combination with the other supervision modules, to lay the foundations for effective and ethical supervisory practice. Students will receive a thorough grounding in supervisory practice procedures including clinical responsibility; contracting; risk assessment; auditing; and professional record keeping. Students will be given opportunities to reflect on interpersonal and intrapersonal processes in supervision and to critically evaluate their own interventions.

This course requires that the student completes a minimum of 40 hours supervision practice and 21 hours supervision of supervision across both practicum modules (1&2).

Students will produce

- A portfolio containing: logs of supervision; logs of supervision of supervision; a sample contract for work with one supervisee or supervision group; and notes from two sessions.
- A 3000-word self-reflective account of their development as a supervisor to date.

### **4. Clinical Supervision Practicum 2**

Students will build upon the foundations of supervisory practice laid down in Practicum 1. In this module students will be facilitated in developing an advanced set of competencies including: the ability to monitor impact of own subjective processes on supervisory practice; the ability to foster supervisees' professional autonomy; and accurately monitor supervisees' clinical competence. The module also aims to enhance students' awareness of and ability to make productive use of unconscious relational processes operating within a supervisory context.

Students will produce logs of supervision and supervision of supervision and a 5000-word case report

### **5. Dissertation**

Students continuing on the MA programme will undertake further study in research approaches relevant to the field and in research ethics. Students will present a 15,000-word dissertation on a topic of their choice that is relevant to the practice of psychotherapy and counselling and that demonstrates mastery of a complex and specialist topic, critical understanding of research methods and ethical issues and a capacity for sustained critical reflexive awareness. Students will prepare for this by attending research teaching and producing a research proposal for ethical approval. Students will also have access to a dissertation supervisor.

Dissertation topics may cover any area relevant to supervision of psychotherapy or counselling. Students may undertake work based exclusively on existing literature or based on fieldwork such as interviews, surveys or observations. In all cases the work must go beyond description to offer reflective and critical discussion, which contributes to knowledge in the field. Students will need to reflect on the link between their own subjectivity and the subject of the dissertation; the implications of the study for their own work and for clinical supervision practice more generally and the links between theoretical concepts and research methods.

## **Supervision Practice and Placements**

Students will agree suitable supervisee and supervision of supervision arrangements with course tutors. Students may use work undertaken with supervisees in their private practice, with supervisees in the course of their employment (with suitable agreement with their employers) or supervisees seen in



placements. Students are responsible for securing a placement but will receive advice and guidance from the Placement Coordinator.

## Accreditation

The Post Graduate Diploma and the MA programme are quality assured by Middlesex University.



The programme also meets both the UKCP requirements for supervision training and the BACP Counselling Supervision Training Curriculum.

- In order to be placed upon the UKCP Directory of Supervisors you'll have to be a UKCP registrant.
- On successful completion of the Minster Centre Diploma in Supervision you can be nominated to the UKCP Directory of Supervisors through your membership organisation.
- If you are a BACP accredited therapist you need to go directly to the BACP and go through their processes in order to become a BACP accredited supervisor.

## Assessment

There is one or more formal or 'summative' assessment associated with each module. Assessment methods include essays, portfolios, presentations, reflective accounts and case reports and (for the MA) a 15,000 word dissertation. Support and guidance is given for each assessment.

Assessment is by course tutors. All marking is moderated and we also have an external examiner to ensure that marking is fair and consistent. You will receive feedback on all formal assessments to support your learning.

In addition to formal assessment of written work, tutors and supervisors assess students' experiential and clinical work.

## Course Leader

Sue Murphy

## Course Dates and Times/Attendance

For the Post Graduate Diploma, the teaching is delivered over seven weekend blocks between January and July, comprising Friday evenings (6.30 to 9pm) and Saturdays and Sundays (10am to 5pm), followed by six further weekend days and additional on-line supervision of supervision and CPD to be agreed individually.

Students registered and continuing on for the MA will attend a further three weekends on research awareness and methods which lead to undertaking a piece of independent research, in the second year. This will be overseen by a research supervisor and supported by the course staff.

Dates for Year 1:

22, 23, 24 January 2021

19, 20, 21 February 2021

19, 20, 21 March 2021



16, 17, 18 April 2021

14, 15, 16 May 2021

12 and 13 June 2021 (MA students only)

18, 19, 20 June 2021

9, 10, 11 July 2021

9, 10 October 2021 (MA students only)

13, 14 November 2021 (MA students only)

## Who is it For?

This course is for people who:

- Have a professional qualification in counselling or psychotherapy (UKCP or BACP accredited course or equivalent) and wish to train as clinical supervisors.
- Qualified therapists who want to advance their careers through acquiring a postgraduate level qualification.

## Entry Requirements

- You must hold a professional qualification in counselling or psychotherapy (BACP or UKCP accredited course or equivalent).
- You must have been in clinical practice for at least three years.
- You will need to practice supervision or work in a supervisory capacity during the course.
- If you do not have a first degree you will need to demonstrate that they can produce work to MA standards, either through results in previous professional training or through equivalent training or experience.
- You must have competence in the English language. If English is not your first language you will need to demonstrate a capacity to study in English either through your written and practical work during previous training at the Minster Centre, or in your application and interview and through qualifications such as IELTS 6.0 (with minimum 5.5 in all four components).
- We are not able to consider applicants who require a Tier 4 visa to study.
- Please note a DBS check may be required to work within many placements.

## Accreditation of Prior Experience and Learning

Applicants who have undertaken previous relevant training or who have had significant relevant experience (deemed to be equivalent to a postgraduate level) may be able to apply for exemption from one or more modules. For more information see our **APEL Policy** on the website.

---

**Email** [admissions@minstercentre.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@minstercentre.ac.uk) **Web** [minstercentre.ac.uk](http://minstercentre.ac.uk) **Tel** 020 7644 6420



# Qualification

On successful completion of all academic and course requirements combined with the fulfilment of the specific practice requirements, students may exit from the programme with either a:

- PG Diploma Supervision in Psychotherapy and Counselling Or
- MA Supervision in Psychotherapy and Counselling

# Career Prospects

Graduates of the Minster Centre can be found working successfully all over the UK and abroad. As well as private practice, graduates often work with a variety of client groups in the NHS; in schools, colleges and universities; organisations such as MIND and other charitable foundations; and as tutors in other training organisations.

MA graduates could go on to higher-level study on doctoral programmes.

# Fees

Fees for 2021:

PG Dip: £6325

First Year of MA: £4733

Second Year of MA: The second year fees will be the same as the first year plus any increase for unavoidable costs such as inflation and any increase in Middlesex Registration fees.

We offer a 15% discount to Minster Centre members (graduates and those who maintain their UKCP membership through the Centre).

*Course fees are subject to annual inflation. Once you have started a course we will endeavour to keep fee increases in subsequent years as low as possible. For more details on fees see here.*

A non-refundable deposit of £700 is payable to secure your place once offered. Fees are payable by bank transfer, cheque or card and are non-refundable if you attend beyond the first half term. Fees may be paid in instalments.

Fees include supervision of training clients, one DBS check, common room facilities and refreshments, access to the library and on-line resources, insurance for seeing client through the Minster Centre Psychotherapy and Counselling Service.

The following course related costs are not included in the fees:

11 hours of supervision of supervision, any additional costs associated with placements, the provision of consulting rooms for seeing supervisees, assessment of resubmitted coursework. In addition, you will need to budget for the purchase of key books (these are texts you will need to refer to frequently) and travel to the Centre and to placements. Depending on the topics you choose for your written assessments you may need to buy books or internet access to articles, or access books, articles or other resources through the British Library or other specialist libraries.





Accommodation and living costs are not included in fees and, as all our students are part time, we do not have on-site accommodation. The Centre has no parking available for students unless you have a blue badge. The Centre is close to public transport. We cannot guarantee that the timing of courses will not require peak time travel.

## Funding

If you register for the MA you may be eligible for a Postgraduate Student Loan. These are Government funded student loans for students on Masters courses of up to £11,222 to help with fees and living costs. These are not based on income and are paid directly to you. There are personal eligibility requirements which are determined by the Government, for instance, you have to be under 60 and not already have an MA, you will need to repay the loan plus interest and repayments will be based on your income. For more information about the loans and how to apply see: [www.gov.uk/postgraduate-loan/overview](http://www.gov.uk/postgraduate-loan/overview).

For a full breakdown of the course fees and financial terms and conditions please see the **Fees** page of the website.

## Venue

The Minster Centre, which is located at 20 Lonsdale Road, Queens Park, London NW6 6RD, is a 5 minute walk from Queens Park Tube (Bakerloo line) and Rail Overground Station and a 10 - 15 minutes walk from Brondesbury Park Station.

## How to Apply

You apply directly to the Minster Centre via the application form on the website. Please note: we operate a rolling admission process, on a first-come-first-served basis. **Early application is recommended.**

If you have any further questions please see our FAQs page or email [admissions@minstercentre.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@minstercentre.ac.uk)

Applicants are offered an individual interview with a senior staff member in order to assess suitability for training. The interview fee is £95.