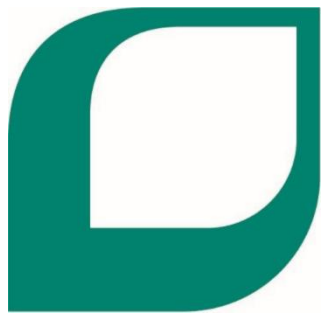




Cornwall
Counselling
Institute

FdSc Counselling Psychology with Criminology

Module descriptions:

Year 1

The History of Mental Health and Development of Counselling Psychology

This module provides a foundation of knowledge charting the establishment of the mental health sector through advancements in the fields of psychology and psychiatry. The relevance of the branch of counselling psychology is explored, and its contribution to the development and understanding of contemporary therapeutic treatment approaches.

Personality Theory

This module introduces students to a range of different psychological theories explaining personality development, and its variation among individuals. Classical psychanalytical theories to contemporary biopsychological theories will be explored, emphasising the broad spectrum of conceptual ideas and evidence-based research which has contributed to our contemporary understanding of personality characteristics which shape cognition, emotions and behaviour.

Abnormal Psychology and Crime

This module builds upon a general understanding of personality theory to explore the etiology of maladaptive traits and characteristics which can result in clinical diagnoses. The classification and assessment of mental health and personality disorders through the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual -5 will be critically analysed and the causal factors behind these disorders will be explored from biological, psychological and socio environmental perspectives to explain maladaptive and criminal behaviour.

Neuropsychology and Dysfunction

This module introduces students to the field of neuroscience and explores the impact of abnormal brain development and trauma on personality and behaviour. The latest research and findings within the field of neuropsychology will be explored to provide students with a holistic understanding of criminal behaviour.

Contemporary Therapeutic Paradigms

This module introduces students to contemporary psychotherapeutic approaches from cognitive, behavioural, humanistic and integrationist perspectives. Students will critically assess the efficacy of these paradigms with different clinical populations and with a range of mental health and clinical disorders. Students will also learn the importance of working within a professional ethical framework and code of conduct, the importance of maintaining counselling boundaries and the nature of the therapeutic relationship.

Counselling Skills Practice

This module introduces students to contemporary counselling skills. The rationale behind these skills will be explored and professional counsellors will provide demonstrations of counselling skills in action. Students will learn to apply these skills with peers, develop self-reflective skills to assess their practice, and learn how to give and receive feedback within peer and tutor observations.

Year 2

Sociological Crime Theory

This module explores the cultural and environmental contexts which shape and influence criminal behaviour, focusing on issues of prejudice, discrimination and economic and political inequality. Students are introduced to historical and contemporary theories and models of crime and will learn to critically analyse these whilst examining their own values and judgements.

Developmental Psychology, Youth Crime and Gang Culture

This module introduces students to classical and contemporary psychological theories in the field of developmental psychology. Biological, cognitive and social changes associated with adolescence will be explored, through addressing identity development, the role of peer groups and the impact of social media. Students will also study the biological and psychological factors behind aggression and risk-taking behaviour which can lead to gang culture and crime.

Penology, Punishment and Recidivism

This module introduces students to the historical and contemporary mechanisms that societies have used to prevent, manage and punish criminal behaviour. Students will learn about the impact of incarceration and punishment on offenders' mental health and behaviour and assess the efficacy of

punishment to rates of recidivism. Students will also study developments in prison reform and the impact of current ideological thinking around the importance of rehabilitation.

Victimology

This module introduces students to theories of victimology, which suggest why some people are targeted as victims of crime. Cultural issues of victim-blaming, unconscious bias and the psychological, physical and emotional consequences on a victim will also be addressed. Current research developments in understanding victim/offender relationships to reduce recidivism will also be explored.

Therapeutic Approaches to Offender Rehabilitation

This module introduces students to a range of treatment approaches used with offenders over time, to manage anti-social behaviour, mental health issues and wellbeing. The development of contemporary psychologically based interventions will be examined through exploring their theoretical underpinning and researching their efficacy through current research findings.

Research Project

This module will examine different approaches to psychological and criminal research and research methods. It will explore practical and ethical issues associated with research. Key research terminology such as reliability, validity and triangulation will be introduced. These will be applied to assess the processes behind criminal profiling where students will review the research surrounding a historical criminal case.