Research in Clinical Psychology

This programme has been specifically designed for those intending to pursue a career in clinical psychology and to apply for a place on the professional Doctorate in Clinical Psychology. This course is also ideal for those interested in a research career or PhD in the area of clinical psychology and mental health.

The programme enables students to gain detailed knowledge about modern theories and models in relation to psychopathology and psychological assessment as well as about effective psychological interventions and therapies. It also provides broad research training in quantitative and qualitative research, and offers education about the role of professional clinical psychologists along with training in essential clinical skills. The programme includes a Research Apprenticeship in clinical psychology which is a particularly attractive module enabling students to gain experience with professional research in clinical psychology.
Benefits and key aims of the course:

• Provides students with in-depth knowledge about current theories of psychopathology covering both dimensional and diagnostic approaches for conceptualizing, defining, observing and assessing behavioural and mental indicators of psychopathology

• Provides students with detailed knowledge about psychiatric classification systems for mental health and personality problems as well as alternatives such as formulation

• Provides students with thorough knowledge about different kinds of effective psychological interventions for the treatment or prevention of mental health and behavioural problems

• Educates and trains students in various types of quantitative and qualitative research in the area of clinical psychology, their methodological justification as well as criteria of validity to critically evaluate strengths and weaknesses of research proposals or published research

• Provides education about professional standards for clinical psychologists as well as training in professional skills

Teaching

You will be taught in dedicated postgraduate teaching rooms. Teaching includes lectures, seminars, practicals in class, workshops, group work, simulation exercises and individual supervision. A blend of different assessment methods will be used. Part of the modules is assessed by exams, but the majority of the assignments constitute coursework including essays, data analysis reports, a written paper critique and oral presentations.

Core modules

Psychopathology will give you an overview of leading theoretical paradigms in psychopathology and their different conceptualization of psychopathology and mental health problems.

Research Methods and Data Analysis in Clinical Psychology will give you an advanced knowledge about key concepts of quantitative research methodology and corresponding types of research (e.g. aetiology, epidemiology, classification, evaluation) in clinical psychology as well as major aims of qualitative research.

Psychological Assessment aims to give you a critical understanding of international psychiatric classification systems, including DSM-IV-R and ICD-X, as well as pending DSM-V and relevant assessment procedures and tools.

Psychological Interventions gives an overview of the range of models of therapeutic intervention used in clinical psychology and consider the different modalities (e.g., individual; couple; family; group) of therapeutic intervention.

Professional Clinical Skills I aims to give you the in-depth knowledge, understanding and skills needed to work in an ethical and professional manner within a clinical practice setting. Qualitative Research Methods in Clinical Psychology helps you identify research problems suitable for qualitative research in clinical psychology and understand different epistemological orientations underpinning qualitative research.

Research Apprenticeship in Clinical Psychology will make you familiar with the demands and the standard of professional research in the area of clinical psychology

Research Project in Clinical Psychology allows you to carry out a comprehensive quantitative or qualitative investigation involving a psychological topic in the area of Clinical Psychology. This includes a presentation of a research proposal, including applying for ethics approval, a systematic literature review, the implementation of a suitable research design, data analysis, interpretation, presentation and critical discussion of results.