



## **Module Specification**

### **Professional and Ethical Issues in Counselling Psychology**

Version: 2023-24, v1.0, 14 Oct 2022

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** Professional and Ethical Issues in Counselling Psychology

**Module code:** USPJK4-15-M

**Level:** Level 7

**For implementation from:** 2023-24

**UWE credit rating:** 15

**ECTS credit rating:** 7.5

**Faculty:** Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

**Department:** HAS Dept of Social Sciences

**Partner institutions:** None

**Field:** Psychology

**Module type:** Module

**Pre-requisites:** None

**Excluded combinations:** None

**Co-requisites:** None

**Continuing professional development:** No

**Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements:** None

## Part 2: Description

**Overview:** Not applicable

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** See Learning Outcomes.

**Outline syllabus:** Contexts for ethical and professional practice, philosophical and ethical traditions, professional body codes and guidelines (British Psychological Society (BPS), Health Care Professions Council (HCPC)).

HCPC Complaints Procedures: the need to maintain appropriate standards of personal conduct; personal responsibilities; legal considerations and relevant legislation; clients' rights.

HCPC Complaints Procedures: primary focus on the best interests of the client at all times; safe working including respecting the client's perspective and the client's role in the therapeutic decision making; best practice and self-care; working within limits of competence and monitoring professional practice.

Clinical issues and ethical dilemmas including boundary issues, confidentiality, informed consent, dual relationships; managing ethical issues inherent in the power imbalance in the therapeutic relationship; managing and working with risk issues; issues of diversity and ethical practice. Processes of ethical decision making.

Professional and ethical issues in different work contexts.

Ethical and professional issues in supervision, training and research.

### **Part 3: Teaching and learning methods**

**Teaching and learning methods:** Short inputs via lecture, video and guided reading, discussion groups, small group work using specific ethical dilemma and scenarios.

**Module Learning outcomes:** On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

**MO1** A critical appreciation of the philosophical bases of ethical and professional practice

**MO2** An ability to critically evaluate, compare and apply current professional body codes of ethics

**MO3** A critical understanding of the legal context of counselling psychology practice

**MO4** A critical appreciation of the ethical consideration involved in specific clinical issues and dilemmas

**MO5** A critical understanding of the issues involved in ethical and professional practice in the context of social difference and inequality

**MO6** An ability to critically reflect on the stages and difficulties in ethical decision making and action

**MO7** A critical appreciation of the specific issues and dilemmas of ethical practice in different work contexts

**MO8** An ability to reflect critically on specific ethical dilemmas in counselling psychology practice, supervision, training and research

**Hours to be allocated:** 150

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 114 hours

Face-to-face learning = 36 hours

Total = 150

**Reading list:** The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html>

## **Part 4: Assessment**

**Assessment strategy:** There is one summative assessment tasks for this module; an examination (2 hrs).

Assessment Task 1: Two hour examination requiring reflective responses to professional scenarios and ethical dilemmas.

**Assessment tasks:**

**Examination (First Sit)**

Description: 2 hour examination requiring reflective responses to professional scenarios and ethical dilemmas

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7, MO8

**Examination (Resit)**

Description: 2 hour examination requiring reflective responses to professional scenarios and ethical dilemmas

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7, MO8

**Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: