



Module Specification

Systemic Thinking and Practice in Counselling Psychology

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Systemic Thinking and Practice in Counselling Psychology

Module code: USPK6D-30-M

Level: Level 7

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

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: This module covers approaches to working with couples, families and groups from a systems perspective. It requires students to critically evaluate theories in this area, whilst reflecting on their own practice and experience.

The module will introduce a complex and different way of looking at selves and others, a way of looking that is applicable from the smallest interactions and subcomponents of the world and ourselves, as well as more macro examples in groups and crowds.

The module serves as a core component in establishing the integration of different modalities, introducing complexity and noticing patterns as a way of engaging with the world and theories.

We will start with a grounding in what systems, complexity, autopoiesis, evolution and chaos theory are, and then proceed to apply this to individual therapy. We will then apply these theories to families and couples, and then will extend it to organizations and leadership of the same. We will also run Balint groups which draw upon this learning and apply it in practice.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: See Outline Syllabus.

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

MO1 Critically evaluate, contrast and combine different approaches to work with groups, teams, organisations, families and couples

MO2 Understand the key concepts of Leadership theory and the key differences between Management and Leadership and their relevance to Clinical Practice and Supervision

MO3 Demonstrate critical understanding of relevant theories of and research into groups, teams, leadership, organisations, families and couples

MO4 Show an ability to integrate aspects of systems theory and practice into various levels of practice, management and intervention

MO5 Have a critical awareness of current issues and debates in the practice based literature on aspects of groups, teams, leadership organisations, families and couples

MO6 Have a critical awareness of the implications of the issues of gender, ethnicity, culture and difference when analysing and making interventions in human systems

MO7 Develop critical self-reflection skills and encourage creative problem solving and decision-making in complex environments

MO8 Demonstrate further reflection on practice through additional client hours with associated supervision

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 201 hours

Placement = 27 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Total = 300

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/9FDCE434-8247-AF7B-4559-2B3667A1A853.html) via the following link <https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/9FDCE434-8247-AF7B-4559-2B3667A1A853.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Assessment Task A is a portfolio, which will be based on case studies and engagement in the classroom, along with a log of 15 client hours, and 2 hours of supervision related to this, plus feedback from one case presented during the module in case discussion groups.

The 3500 word report (Assessment Task B) will cover the application of systems thinking on working with families and couples. This written report will allow students to synthesise material across a wider breadth whilst reflecting on their own

experiential learning and practice, and aims at assessing practice based elements of learning and application of theories and concepts, demonstrated in the learning outcomes.

Formative assessment will be part of workshop based activities. The module will also give students the opportunity for formative assessment to continue to build their work with clients and reflect upon this through case discussion groups.

Assessment tasks:**Report (First Sit)**

Description: Report (3500 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Portfolio - pass/fail

Weighting:

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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

Report (Resit)

Description: Report (3500 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Portfolio - pass/fail

Weighting:

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: