Psychoanalytic Observational Studies

Programme Outline
Teaching taking place on this part time course, one day a week in small-group seminars; currently this is on Fridays. The programme offers flexibility to complete modules at a pace that is appropriate to students' personal and professional development and to fit in with work/life commitments. The majority of students take 3-4 years to complete the Post-Graduate Diploma and 3-5 years to complete their Masters. However it is possible to undertake the Post Graduate Diploma in 2 years and the Masters in 3. Studying Individual modules as CPD is also available.

The programme content broadly divides into two areas:

1. The close psychoanalytic observation of infants and young children in their home or care setting and the application of psychoanalytic observation to the student's work setting and professional role.

2. Reading seminars and presentations on the historical underpinnings of theory and research in psychoanalysis and seminal and contemporary study in child development and the relational mind.

Completion of this course is a pre-requisite for the clinical training in child and adolescent psychotherapy.

Continued on the next page...
Modular Structure

Infant Observation (2 years)

Students will observe an infant’s development from birth until their second birthday. This will be within the context of the infant’s emotional relationships in an ordinary family and in their particular cultural context. This is a weekly observation, for an hour, in the infant’s home. Every observation is written up in detail afterwards and discussion takes place in small group seminars focussing on the unconscious elements of emotional and relational development.

Work Observation (2 years)

The experience of work is studied through close observation of the behaviour and the emotional responses of both worker and clients/patients. The significance of unconscious dynamics in work with children and adolescents is central to learning. This is considered in relation to the work setting, including the expectations and the pressures of the organisation in which students work, the experience of teamwork, and the student’s professional role.

Psychoanalytic Theory & Personality Development (2 years)

A critical understanding of the development of psychoanalytic theory using a range of primary texts. Alongside this there is a series of seven Saturday Personality Development workshops. Students will be invited to think about the interplay of internal and external factors which underlie the development of personality through the life-cycle.

Child Development and the Relational Mind (1 year)

Through a developmental framework, this module examines the complex inter-related play of mind/body to make sense of the micro-interactions between the developing child and their caregivers. Methodological approaches are discussed to understand the dialogue between psychoanalytic observation and developmental psychology.

Young Child Observation (1 year)

Based on the principles of infant observation students are required to observe weekly, for one year, a preschool child in a day care setting. Focus on an individual child and the child within the group is central in learning about the impact of widening social horizons and burgeoning language development.

Dissertation (1 year)

Students going on to complete the Masters will be required to write a dissertation investigating a theme/topic of interest that has arisen from their observations and studies on this programme.

Continued on the next page...
Learning Outcomes

1. Deepen and extend understanding of human development from a psychoanalytic perspective.

2. Develop an openness to imagine the unconscious experience of infants and young children in understanding their emotional and personality development.

3. Apply psychoanalytic observation in work with children/adolescents, within organisational settings to develop insights and enrich professional practice.

Who should attend

The course is relevant to teachers, mental health practitioners, nursery nurses, psychologists, social workers, psychiatrists, youth workers, nurses/midwives and allied professional disciplines.

Cost

£2,128 per year
£275 for the Saturday Personality Development Seminars
NB these prices are valid for 2018-19 only

Programme Staff

Programme Lead
Dr Rajni Sharma

Seminar Leaders & Tutors
Dr Deborah Marks
Sumi Cannon
Dr Rajni Sharma
Laura Liddell
Michelle Littlewood

Date

The next intake of students will be in 28th September 2018.

Times

Fridays - 33 weeks per year

Venue

Bevan House, 34-36 Springwell Road, Leeds, LS12 1AW

Validation

This post graduate course is accredited by the University of Leeds.

Continued on the next page...
Masters/Post Graduate Diploma

Course Fees
All students pay an annual registration fee of £652 (Year 1 & 2) or £540 (Year 3 and subsequent years) and then a further £369 per year for each module taken, including the dissertation module.

Therefore a student undertaking four modules at once would pay £2,218 for the year.

A student taking two modules at once would pay £1,390 for the year.

In addition there is a separate fee of £275 for the series of Personality Development seminars which some students will have undertaken before registering for the programme.

How to Apply
Please visit: www.nscap.org.uk/content/courses-and-training for a link to the downloadable application form.

The closing date for applications is Friday 23rd March 2018.

Students are considered on the basis of application forms, references, relevant work experience, and personal interviews.

Students are required to be working in a professional capacity with children, adolescents or families for at least one year before commencing the course.