University of Pretoria Yearbook 2016

MA Counselling Psychology (Coursework) (01250501)

Duration of study	2 years
Total credits	240
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Programme information

This programme offers integrated academic, practical and professional training in counselling psychology.

Closing date for applications: 31 May annually.

The programme is a two-year full-time programme and is based on the researcher(50%)-practitioner(50%) model. All courses within all the modules of the researcher and practitioner training need to be passed to obtain the MA (Counselling Psychology) degree.

Once a student has successfully completed the MA (Counselling Psychology) degree, such student can apply for registration as an intern counselling psychologist with the Professional Board for Psychology at the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) to do a one year full-time internship in Counselling Psychology. After success-fully completing the internship in counselling psychology and the board exam of the Professional Board for Psychology at the HPCSA, an intern counselling psychologist can apply for registration as a counselling psychologist with the Professional Board for Psychology at the HPCSA. Such registration is subject to the regulations of the Professional Board for Psychology at the time of registration.

A. Researcher training
Researcher training entails 50% of the MA (Counselling Psychology) programme. During the two-year period students are expected to sucessfully write a research proposal, conduct a research project and to write a mini-dissertation (VOS 895).

B. Practitioner training
Practitioner training entails 50% of the MA (Counselling Psychology) programme. During the two-year period academic and practical training is done. The academic training is done via three core modules and two elective modules. The core modules are: Fundamentals of Psychology (SLK 801), Psychological assessment (SLK 806) and Counselling Psychology (SLK 802). The elective modules are: Community Psychology (SLK 804) and Sports Psychology (SLK 805). The training is delivered by means of didactic instruction and/or experiential learning. The practical training that is done by the students is arranged by the Department of Psychology on a yearly basis.

C. Professional development
Besides the researcher and practitioner training, the professional development of the students is addressed on a continious basis in all modules during the two-year period. The professional development of students entails professional practice and professional identity development. The professional practice component focuses on the ethical and legal framework in which counselling psychologists practice, while professional identity development focuses on the “person” of the prospective counselling psychologist, the student.

Admission requirements

• BSocSciHons or BAHons in Psychology or equivalent qualification accredited by the Council on Higher Education.

• Admission to any of the MA programmes is subject to assessment and selection of the candidate based on requirements prescribed by the programme as applicable from time to time.

• Candidates are selected for admission to the MA degree programme in Counselling Psychology. Only a limited number of candidates are admitted to the programme annually. Information about the selection process and criteria must be obtained from the Department of Psychology at the time of application.

Other programme-specific information

It is only possible to choose Sports Psychology as an option if the candidate complies with the prerequisites as set out by the head of department.

Examinations and pass requirements

Assessments

i. In order to pass a module, a final mark of at least 50% must be obtained.
ii. Progress in modules is assessed through a variety of activities in a process of continuous assessment. Assessment is designed to ensure that all the outcomes of the modules have been evaluated by means of informative assessment.
iii. The final results for all modules will only be published after confirmation of the results by the examination commission of the Faculty of Humanities. No results will be released beforehand.

Promotion to next study year

Requirements for progress to year II of the programme

i. In each programme all requirements for year I of the programme must be met before proceeding to year II of the programme.
ii. Should all the requirements of year I not be met, year I may not be repeated and the student will have to leave the programme.
iii. Should the student wish to continue, he or she will have to reapply for admission in accordance with the rules applicable to the selection process for all new applications.
iv. No module may be carried over from year I to year II.

Requirements for progress to internship

i. The rules and regulations as laid down by the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) and as amended from time to time, will apply.
ii. All programme requirements of the degree must be successfully completed and the assessment thereof processed through the necessary committees of the University.
iii. The master's degree must be completed in two years.

Pass with distinction

A student will pass a module with distinction if a final mark of at least 75% is achieved.

General information

Professional misconduct

Enquiry with regards to possible professional misconduct within the programme:
Should a student be considered in breach of any professional rule, regulation or code of conduct as laid down by the Professional Board for Psychology or the HPCSA, the student may be required to present him/herself before the executive committee of the Department of Psychology for an enquiry in order to ascertain whether or not the matter should be referred to the Professional Board or the HPCSA for a further investigation.

Discontinuation of participation in the programme:

The dean may, on the recommendation of the head of the Department of Psychology, conduct an enquiry into the alleged conduct and/or fitness of the student to practice. Possible outcomes of this process could include, but will not be limited to, the discontinuation of the student's participation in the programme during an academic year. This decision will be considered by a committee within the Department and various aspects of the student's progress and conduct within the programme will be assessed. The student will have the opportunity to respond and make representations regarding the allegations brought against him/her.

Curriculum: Year 1

Minimum credits: 120

Core modules

Fundamental psychology 801 (SLK 801) - Credits: 30.00
Counselling psychology 802 (SLK 802) - Credits: 30.00
Psychological assessment 806 (SLK 806) - Credits: 30.00

Elective modules

Community psychology 804 (SLK 804) - Credits: 30.00
Sport psychology 805 (SLK 805) - Credits: 30.00

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 120

Core modules

Mini-dissertation: Counselling psychology 895 (VOS 895) - Credits: 120.00

The information published here is subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information. The General Regulations (G Regulations) apply to all faculties of the University of Pretoria. It is expected of students to familiarise themselves well with these regulations as well as with the information contained in the General Rules section. Ignorance concerning these regulations and rules will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression.