

FROM THE MINISTER



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**30 January 2013**

**AQW 18509/11-15**

**Mr McIlveen has asked:**

To ask the Minister for Employment and Learning how many counselling courses are offered by (i) further education colleges; and (ii) higher education institutes.

**ANSWER**

As the Department does not hold the information requested, my officials contacted Queen's University, the University of Ulster and the Open University. The universities currently offer a total of 8 courses.

Regarding further education, my officials have contacted colleges to confirm their counselling provision at all levels. I can confirm that in the current academic year there are 1,589 enrolments on Professional and Technical courses that include counselling. There are currently 31 courses across all campuses, with provision ranging from level 2 to level 7. Level 4 and above is deemed equivalent to Higher Education.

Information provided by the universities and details of the courses held across the further education campuses are attached at Annex A.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen Farry". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**DR STEPHEN FARRY MLA**

**Minister for Employment and Learning**

**The University of Ulster Counselling Courses**

Certificate in Counselling Studies (Part-time)

Foundation Degree in Counselling (FdSc Counselling)

The Certificate and FdSc Degree is offered in collaboration with key counselling staff in all the Northern Ireland Regional Colleges.

**Undergraduate:**

BSc Communication and Counselling – Minor pathway in communication degree comprises six modules.

BSc professional Development in Counselling – ‘top up’ for Foundation degree students comprises 6 modules

**Postgraduate:**

MSc Counselling and Therapeutic Communication full and part time

**Queen’s University Belfast Counselling Courses**

Queen’s University does not currently offer any counselling courses to new entrants. A Master’s in Counselling Practice is currently taught but the last intake to this course was in September 2011 and there will be no further intakes.

## Counselling courses offered by The Open University

### **Foundation Degree in Counselling (240 credits)**

### **Diploma of Higher Education in Counselling (240 credits) – mainly used in Scotland**

The Open University's counselling provision is contained within a 240-credit Foundation Degree in Counselling which has been developed in partnership with the Counselling and Psychotherapy Central Awarding Body (CPCAB).

This collaborative scheme is made up of 150 CPCAB credits + 90 OU credits. The programme of study for this foundation degree is also offered as the Diploma of Higher Education in Counselling (W09). The diploma of higher education might be of particular interest to those living and working in Scotland.

### **Details of study**

As a precursor, students normally have to study either: CPCAB's level 2 Cert Counselling skills plus D171 (the OU 15-credit Introduction to Counselling module) or CPCAB's level 2 Cert Counselling skills plus CPCAB's Level 3 Cert Counselling Studies.

Students must then take the following CPCAB modules which provide 150 credits towards this foundation degree and are delivered by a network of FE and private training providers:

- CPCAB Level 4 Diploma in Therapeutic Counselling (collaborative course code CCPP120) (120 points) and CPCAB Level 5 Diploma in Psychotherapeutic Counselling (30 points).
- Or CPCAB Level 5 Certificate in Cognitive Behavioural Therapeutic Skills and Theory (30 points) and 30 credits from the following compulsory OU modules:

Counselling: exploring fear and sadness (D240)

And 60 credits from the following optional OU modules:

Challenging ideas in mental health (K272)

Child development (ED209)

Death and dying (K260)

Diverse perspectives on mental health (K225)

Exploring psychology (DSE212)

The science of the mind: investigating mental health (SDK228)



## **Further Education Colleges' Counselling Courses**

**UU Foundation Degree In Counselling** – Available at Northern Regional College, Southern Regional College, South Eastern Regional College and South West College

**UU Level 4 Certificate In Counselling Studies** – Northern Regional College

**AQA L2 Award In Introduction To Counselling Concepts (QCF)** – Northern Regional College

**AQA L2 Certificate In Counselling Skills (QCF)** – Northern Regional College

**AQA L4 Dip Therapeutic Counselling (QCF)** – Northern Regional College

**CPCAB Level 2 Certificate in Counselling Skills** – All colleges

**CPCAB Level 3 Certificate Counselling Studies (QCF)** – Southern Regional College

**CPCAB Level 4 Diploma In Therapeutic Counselling (QCF)** - Southern Regional College

**CPCAB L5 Dip In Cog Behavioural Therapeutic Skills/Theory** – Northern Regional College

**CPCAB L6 Cert Therapeutic Counselling Supervision (QCF)** – Northern Regional College

**OCN L3 Certificate Counselling within the Community** – North West Regional College

**Integrative Counselling & Therapeutic Interventions (ICTI)** – Belfast Metropolitan College

**Games People Play** – Northern Regional College

**Gestalt Therapy** – Northern Regional College

**Mental Health Training** – Northern Regional College

**Neuro Linguistic Programming** – Northern Regional College

**Self Harm** – Northern Regional College

**Working With Trauma** – Northern Regional College

**Bereavement** – Northern Regional College

**Child Protection Training** – Northern Regional College

**Counselling Young People** – Northern Regional College