

CERTIFICATE OF VALIDATION



QQI

Quality and Qualifications Ireland
Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann

Extension #1

Provider Name	Dublin Business School
Date of Validation	12-Sep-19

	First intake	Last intake	Intakes per annum
Enrolment Interval	Sep-19	Aug-25	2

	Code	Title	Award	Duration (Months)	Intakes per annum
Principal Programme	PG24185	Higher Diploma in Arts in Counselling and Psychotherapy	Higher Diploma in Arts (Major Award at NFQ Level 8) 8M20820 60 credits	2 years	2
Embedded Programmes	na	n/a			

Principal Programme

5 Year Plan: Planned total enrolment i.e. aggregated across all intakes and all approved centres

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Minimum Intake into first year	10				
Maximum Intake into first year	120				

Target Learner groups

The Higher Diploma is aimed at non-counselling and/or psychotherapy graduates of a Level 8 full award (a bachelor's honours degree or equivalent). The programme is aimed, primarily, at graduates of disciplines outside of this field, introducing them to the core theoretical and practical elements of the disciplines and bringing them to the point of sufficient skills, knowledge and know-how to match those of a graduate of a Level 8 award. In addition, graduates of this programme, who progress on to the Masters in Psychotherapy and complete the four-year training required of the professional bodies, will be eligible to apply for pre-accredited membership of the relevant professional body of IAHIP.

The programme is aimed at applicants who are drawn to study and work involving the exercise of listening who have encountered counselling and psychotherapy in some capacity and have been drawn to pursue formal study and training in the field. They may or may not have engaged in prior formal study of counselling and psychotherapy but will possibly have been involved experientially in areas related to psychology or psychotherapy or have engaged in their own personal therapy.

Brief Synopsis of the programmes

The orientation of the programme is humanistic, psychodynamic from an integrative model and learners are also introduced to the principles of psychoanalysis, developmental psychology, family systems, group psychotherapy, and psychopathology and so on. The programme is centred on the learners' personal development, and provides them with experience of counselling and psychotherapy through both group and individual settings. Alongside the learners' own experiential learning, the programme also develops knowledge of different forms of psychopathology and theories of psychotherapy and counselling.

The programme includes the required counselling skills, personal development and theoretical components which mean that the Master of Arts in Psychotherapy in combination with this Higher Diploma in Counselling and Psychotherapy is recognised by the Irish Association for Humanistic Integrative Psychotherapy (IAHIP). The programme is constructed as a two-year part-time programme of 12 modules leading to an award of Higher Diploma in Counselling and

Psychotherapy.
The Higher Diploma in Arts in Counselling and Psychotherapy consists of three interconnected strands: experiential training groups; personal development through the experience of psychotherapy and process groups.
In summary, the Higher Diploma, as the first two years of the four-year professional training in combination with the Master of Arts in Psychotherapy, is crucial to allow a decision to be made on the basis of a knowledge of a learner's work and participation concerning their suitability for supervised clinical practice. The Higher Diploma is therefore a period primarily of personal development for the learner and allows DBS to establish a profile of the learner so that a fair and balanced informed decision can be made regarding suitability for supervised clinical practice. Suitable candidates may progress to the MA in Arts in Psychotherapy.

Delivery mode: full-time / part-time

Part-time

Teaching and Learning Modes

1. Classroom lectures
2. Case-based learning
3. Practical skills sessions
4. Workshops
5. Tutorials
6. Individual and group work
7. Blended learning

Approved countries

Ireland

Physical resource requirements

Lecture rooms with multimedia resources and suitable for work in breakout groups. Hardware and Software appropriate for the delivery of the programme are detailed in section 8.

Staff Profiles

Qualifications and Experience	WTE
Staff to be qualified to at least Masters Level 9 or equivalent in counselling and/or psychotherapy related disciplines, with some teaching, training, supervising or research experience within the counselling and psychotherapy field and also specific to the modality being taught. Staff in a practice-oriented programme should have considerable practical/clinical experience in mutually supporting theory and practice learning.	1.36

Approved Centres

Centre	Minimum Number of learners per intake per Centre	Maximum Number of learners per intake per Centre
DBS Campus	10	60

Learner Teacher Ratios

Learning Activity	Ratio
Skills	1:15
Process work	1:12
Classroom	1:60

Programme being replaced by this programme

Prog Code	Programme Title	Validated	To Close
PG21071	Higher Diploma in Arts in Counselling and Psychotherapy	11-Jul-14	

Conditions of Validation of the Programmes Covered by this Certificate of Validation

Part 1: Statutory Conditions of Validation

The statutory (section 45(3) of the 2012 Act) conditions of validation are that the provider of the programme shall:

- 1.co-operate with and assist QQI in the performance of QQI's functions in so far as those functions relate to the functions of the provider,
- 2.establish procedures which are fair and consistent for the assessment of enrolled learners to ensure the standards of knowledge, skill or competence determined by QQI under section 49 (1) are acquired, and where appropriate, demonstrated, by enrolled learners,
- 3.continue to comply with section 65 of the 2012 Act in respect of arrangements for the protection of enrolled learners, if applicable, and
- 4.provide to QQI such information as QQI may from time to time require for the purposes of the performance of its functions, including information in respect of completion rates.

Part 2 Conditions of Validation Established by QQI Under section 45(4)(b) of the 2012 Act

Part 2.1 Condition of Validation Concerning a Change in the QQI Award or Award Standard

- 1.Where QQI changes an award title, an award specification or an award standard that a programme depends upon, the provider shall not enrol any further learners on the affected programmes unless informed otherwise in writing by QQI (e.g. by the issue of a revised certificate of validation). The programme is considered validated for learners already enrolled on the affected programme.

Part 2.2 Condition of Validation Concerning the Duration of Enrolment

- 1.The duration of enrolment is the interval during which learners may be enrolled on the validated programme.

Validation is determined by QQI for a specified number of years of enrolment appropriate to the particular programme as indicated on the certificate on validation subject to unit 9.2.1. It is a condition of validation that the programme does not enrol any new learners outside this interval. A typical duration would be five years.

If a provider wishes to continue to enrol learners to the programme beyond this interval the provider must arrange in good time for it to be validated again by QQI, or exceptionally the provider may apply for extension of the duration of enrolment (unit (14)). In this context the provider may apply for validation of the programme from first principles or, alternatively, the provider may avail of the process for revalidation (unit (13)) by QQI.

Part 2.3 General Condition of Validation

The provider of the programme shall:

- 1.Ensure that the programme as implemented does not differ in a material way from the programme as validated; differing in a material way is defined as differing in any aspect of the programme or its implementation that was material to QQI's validation criteria.
- 2.Ensure that the programme is provided with the appropriate staff and physical resources as validated.
- 3.Implement in respect of the programme its written quality assurance procedures (as approved by QQI).
- 4.Make no significant change to the programme without the prior approval of QQI. (See unit (8)).
- 5.Unless otherwise agreed by QQI in writing, start implementing the programme as validated and enrol learners within 18 months of validation.

6.Continue in respect of the validated programme to comply with section 56 of the 2012 Act in respect of procedures for access, transfer and progression.

7.Implement the programme and procedures for assessment of learners in accordance with the Approved Programme Schedule and notify QQI in writing of any amendments to this arising from changes to the programme; see unit (9).

8.When advertising and promoting the programme and awards, use the programme title as validated, and the correct QQI award title(s), award type(s) and award class(es) indicating the level of the award(s) on the National Framework of Qualifications.

9.Adhere to QQI regulations and procedures for certification.

10.Notify QQI in writing without delay of:

a. any material change to the programme;

a. anything that impacts on the integrity or reputation of the programme or the corresponding QQI awards;

b. anything that infringes the conditions of validation; or

c. anything that would be likely to cause QQI to consider reviewing the validation.

11.Notify QQI in writing to determine the implications for the provider's validated programmes, where the provider is likely to, or planning to, merge (amalgamate) with another entity or to acquire, or be acquired by, another entity (see unit (12.5)).

12.Report to QQI, when required or requested, on its implementation of the programme and compliance with the conditions of validation.

Part 2.4 General Condition of Validation Arising from Specialised Validation Policy and Criteria

1. n/a

Part 2.5 Special Conditions of Validation

1. n/a

Approved programme schedule

Name of Provider:		Dublin Business School												
Programme Title		Higher Diploma in Arts in Counselling and Psychotherapy												
Award Title		Higher Diploma in Arts in Counselling and Psychotherapy												
Stage Exit Award Title³		N/A												
Modes of Delivery (FT/PT):		Part-time												
Teaching and learning modalities		Lectures, workshops, group work												
Award Class⁴	Award NFQ level	Award EQF Level	Stage (1, 2, 3, 4, ..., or Award Stage):		Stage NFQ Level²	Stage EQF Level²	Stage Credit (ECTS)	Date Effective	ISCED Subject code					
Honours	8	6	Award		8	6	60	2019	0313					
Module Title (Up to 70 characters including spaces)		Semester no where applicable. (Semester 1 or Semester2)	Module		Credit Number⁵	Total Student Effort Module (hours)				Allocation Of Marks (from the module assessment strategy)				
			Status²⁸	NFQ Level¹ where specified	Credit Units	Total Hours	Class (or equiv) Contact Hours	Directed e-learning	Hours of Independent Learning	Work-based learning effort²⁹	C.A. %	Supervised Project %	Proctored practical demonstration %	Proctored written exam %
Counselling and Psychotherapy Skills I		1 and 2	M	8	5	125	36		89		60		40	
Stress Response I		1 and 2	M	8	5	125	36		89		100			
Process Group		1-4	M	8	5	72			Subjective (not quantifiable)				100	
Traditions of Psychotherapy		1	M	8	5	125	18		107		100			

²⁸ Mandatory (m) or elective (E)

²⁹ Work-based learning effort is not the number of hours in the workplace. For example, a person might spend 35 hours in the workplace as a trainee and this might involve 7 hours of learning effort.

Theories of Development	1	M	8	5	125	18		107		100			
Psychoanalysis	1	M	8	5	125	18		107		100			
Group Psychotherapy	2	M	8	5	125	18		107		100			
The Family and Psychotherapy	4	M	8	5	125	18		107		100			
Counselling and Psychotherapy Skills II	3 and 4	M	8	5	125	36		89		60		40	
Stress Response II	3 and 4	M	8	5	125	36		89		40		60	
Psychopathology and Case Histories	3	M	8	5	125	18		107		100			
Research Methods and Minor Dissertation	3 and 4	M	8	5	125	24		101		100			
Special Regulations (Up to 280 characters)													
<i>Counselling and Psychotherapy Skills I and II, Stress Response I and II and Process Group:</i> learners are required to pass each component individually of each assessment in these modules.													
Learners must engage in their own psychotherapy weekly for the duration of the programme.													