



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH

Postgraduate Virtual Open Days

Masters of Counselling (Interpersonal
Dialogue) (MCID)
Doctorate in Counselling &
Psychotherapy (DPsych)
Full time



Sharan Collins,
Professional Programmes Director

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<i>Master of Counselling: 2 years</i>	<i>Doctor of Psychotherapy: 4 years</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 ID Programme Courses – Beginnings and Ethics in Counselling Practice• 2 Research courses• 11 Pg Diploma courses, including 4 practice courses• Counselling practice• Masters Dissertation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 ID Programme Courses – Beginnings and Ethics in Counselling Practice• 2 Research courses• 11 Pg Diploma courses, including 4 practice courses• Counselling practice• Accreditation courses• Doctoral Thesis

Course information (MCID)

During the two years, you take three sets of courses:

Two practice courses taken only by students on the *Interpersonal Dialogue Programme: Beginnings in Counselling Practice* and *Ethics in Counselling Practice*, both in Year 1 Semester 1.

Postgraduate Diploma in Counselling professional training courses which is taken with part-time professional programme students. There are seven classroom-taught courses and four practice courses in this programme, which span both semesters of both years.

The practice courses require intensive listening practice followed by engagement in counselling practice with clients in one or more placements, together with practice supervision with an approved supervisor.

Two research training courses which you will take with students from across all Counselling and Psychotherapy programmes, the first in Year 1 Semester 1 and the second in Year 2 Semester 2: *Between Counselling and Research 1* and *Between Counselling and Research 2*.

Practice information

Programme begins with intensive preparation for practice which includes:

- Listening practice skills on the Beginnings in Counselling Practice Course
- Readiness for Counselling Practice Course on the Pg Diploma
- Hope Park Counselling Centre induction and preparation

Then you commence practice and must complete:

- 150 hours of counselling practice (sessions with clients) in HPCC and other counselling agencies (the placement)
- 25 hours of supervision with an approved supervisor (integral to the placement)

Course information (DPsych)

During the four years you take:

Years 1 & 2

All courses as relate to MCID years (first two years).

Years 3 and 4

Counselling Practice (a further 150 hours)

Professional Practice and Accreditation courses

Peer Research Supervision

Doctorate supervision

Typical Day (Example)

Seminar (2 hours)

Large Unstructured Group (45 Mins)

Practice Readiness Groups (PRG) and Practice Process Groups (PPG) (90 mins)

Interpersonal Learning Groups (75 mins)

Programme Information

- The programme 'combines' students from different programme streams. PgDip, Masters, MCouns, MCID & DPsych (Part-time or Full-time)
- The Pg Dip is the professionally qualifying part of the programme, it is a set of courses that run over 2 years - taken part time or as a central part of an expanded set of courses for full-time students
- Progression requirements need to be met for you to move from one year of study into the next – all published and available to you – programme specific
- Counselling Qualification is awarded when you successfully complete all of the courses and aspects of the PgDip.
- Professional Validation – the course is validated with COSCA
- Attendance – COSCA stipulate that we should expect 100% attendance but an **absolute minimum of 85% attendance** for any component.

Next steps

- Website:
- <https://health.ed.ac.uk/subject-areas/counselling-psychotherapy-and-applied-social-sciences>

Date for Application:

Midday Wednesday 8th January 2026

Did you get the info you were looking for?

- Programme-specific info: <https://postgraduate.degrees.ed.ac.uk/>
- Chat to our Students: <https://edin.ac/student-chat-pg>
- Any other questions (including, Fees & Admissions) email:
futurestudents@ed.ac.uk



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Read our students' blogs at
blogs.ed.ac.uk/studentstories



Contact details for follow-up questions

- We apologise if we did not get through all of your questions in the time allotted for this session. If you have further questions that have not been answered, please email: futurestudents@ed.ac.uk
- Alternatively, counselling.studies@ed.ac.uk



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Thank you

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