



**LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY**

Course information for applicants

This information applies to the course as it will be delivered to students starting the course in 2027/28.

Information provided here was confirmed on 01/09/2026

General information

Programme code

PCICS

Target award

If you complete this course successfully you will be eligible for the award of:

PGCert Interpersonal and Counselling Skills

Delivery mode

- ☒ On campus
☐ Distance learning

Where you will study

The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus.

Awarding body

Leeds Beckett University

Regulator

Office for Students

Level of qualification

Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications

Course duration

If you are made an offer of a place on the course, your offer letter will include the start date.

This course can be studied:

12 months part-time

Entry requirements

Admissions criteria are available on the online prospectus entry for this course.

If you have previous relevant qualifications or experience, you could be exempt from certain parts of your course. Recognition of prior learning (RPL) allows you to start your course at a point appropriate to the learning and skills that you may have developed in a professional, vocational or community setting.

Find out more here: <https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning>

If you have questions about entry requirements and admissions, contact AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Course fees

Course fees and a breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course.

If you have questions about fees for this course, contact Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Timetable

You will receive your full timetable for the year during induction week.

What you will study

Course aims

The aims of the course are to:

This course forms the foundation of the postgraduate counselling and psychotherapy provision. The course has been designed for students returning to higher education and new to the field of counselling and interpersonal skills. The course introduces and familiarises the students with core knowledge of the counselling world, introducing them to counselling skills, personal and professional awareness, ethics, diversity and the implication of professional practice. The course aims to equip students with a critical understanding of the counselling theory, self-awareness and reflective skills involved in becoming a future trainee counsellor. The course aims to enable students to develop autonomy and responsibility in their professional and academic practice. Students are challenged to confront personal prejudices and to think about diversity and develop personal awareness in how they relate to others.

The specific course aims are for student to:

- Develop critical knowledge of counselling and interpersonal skills.
- Facilitate the practical application and professional competency of interpersonal and counselling skills.
- Develop ethical awareness and a commitment to diversity and anti-oppressive practice in groups and with individuals.
- Develop reflexivity and to facilitate exploration of own awareness of feelings, attitudes, personal and interpersonal relational issues.

Teaching and learning activities

The teaching and learning on the course are delivered on campus in person.

Learning and teaching activities consist of a mix of lectures, group and individual activities, workshops and case study

analysis and, where appropriate, students are given opportunities to relate the material covered to the workplace. Teaching and learning activities are used to build theoretical knowledge, self-awareness and a knowledge of ethics and professional practice.

A specific course identity is fostered through a group understanding and collaborative working culture developed through the learning experience. An inclusive environment is created in which students learn by sharing their own and their peers' experience through the development of critical reflection, dialogue and debate. The group agree a code of conduct that respects and values the individuals within it whilst taking responsibility for their own psychological safety. This is further enhanced through students developing the core conditions of empathy, congruence and unconditional positive regard as described by Carl Rogers.

A typical session would begin with a reflective session to connect students to the topics for study at their academic level. The theoretical slot follows with tutor input, discussion and reflective activities, which may involve creative materials and small group discussion or student presentation. This work is then consolidated with the practice of counselling skills in small groups. These sessions are recorded in the specialist skills suite to enable the students to self-evaluate their competence. Peer and tutor feedback is given regularly.

There is an emphasis on practical application of theory to a working environment and the opportunity for students to personalise their learning by via reflective practice on their own approach to the material, considering, discussing and where possible, relating theory to practice. The teaching and learning style of the course is student-centred and on a course of this nature, many students require careful guidance particularly during the early stages due to the challenging activities contained within the course.

Course structure

This information is correct for students progressing through the course within standard timescales. If you have to repeat study or take time out during your course, you may be taught alternative modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes.

Level 7

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/teaching period
Personal and Professional Awareness	20	Year-long
Understanding Theory in Counselling and Interpersonal Skills	20	Year-long
Developing the Practice of Counselling and Interpersonal Skills	20	Year-long
Total number of credits of compulsory modules:	60	

Assessment and feedback

Level 7

This course is assessed by a broadly even mix of coursework and a practical assessment.

Workload

You can expect to spend a total of 100 hours learning per 10 credits.

Typically, a student on this course can expect to divide their time like this:

Overall workload	Level 7
Teaching, learning and assessment	90 hours
Independent study	510 hours
Placement study	0 hours