INTRODUCTION

Thank you for considering the University of Johannesburg for furthering your studies. The Department of Psychology offers the MA Counselling Psychology programme, which leads to registration as a Counselling Psychologist with the Professional Board of Psychology of the Health Professions Council of South Africa. This full-time programme encompasses the broad spectrum of Counselling Psychology, and is presented in English on the Kingsway Campus in Auckland Park. Due to the demands of this course you will not be able to hold any part time employment.

The programme runs over one year and consists of a research component (completion of a minor dissertation) as well as attending workshops, contact sessions and practical work. After completing the degree, you may apply for admission to an internship only in the category you were selected for (Counselling Psychology).

To gain entrance to the MA Counselling Psychology programme, your application will be evaluated during a selection process. Please read the instructions thoroughly. Should you decide to withdraw from the selection process after having submitted your application, please inform the Department of Psychology immediately.

We wish you all the best for your prospective studies.

Dr. Sumayya Ebrahim
Programme Coordinator

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- A recognized BA/BSc Honours degree in Psychology or the equivalent thereof at a recognized South African or foreign university. Applicants should have obtained a **minimum average of 65%** for their Honours degree.

- The Honours Degree must have been completed less than ten years ago or proof of relevant training and academic contact with Psychology as a subject must be rendered.

- Successful candidates will only be provisionally accepted until such time that official Honours examination results are available and the candidate is thus in possession of an Honours degree. Please note that a candidate must have complied with all the requirements of the Honours degree before the beginning of the academic year for which he/she has been selected. UNISA students who still have to write exams in January 2020 will therefore not be considered.
APPLICATION PROCEDURE

1. Complete an online web-application

2. A hard copy of the application form must be hand delivered or couriered to the Department of Psychology **before 12:00pm on 12 July 2019.**

3. The following documents must be included with the hard copy:
   a. Completed Application form (printed and signed);
   b. Certified copy of your academic record and/or progress report indicating marks to date;
   c. Applicants who are still enrolled in an Honours course must provide their provisional results for the first semester (compulsory). Obtained and stamped as an original by the Psychology Department of their university.

4. Documents should be handed in or couriered to: (map on last page)

   Selection: MA (Counselling Psychology) / Anita Smyth
   University of Johannesburg
   Department of Psychology - APK
   C-Ring 415
   Kingsway Campus
   Cnr Kingsway & University Rd
   Auckland Park
   2006

   During the Winter recess and after hours a locked hand-in box will be available outside C Ring 415.

   Enquiries regarding course information can be directed to Dr. Sumayya Ebrahim - sumayyae@uj.ac.za
   Online enquires should be directed to the Student Enrolment Centre – 011-559-4555

   • **One** referee report from an individual who are able to comment on your academic and/or professional performance.

   • Referee reports must reach the Department of Psychology **before 12:00pm on 12 July 2019.**

   • Compulsory administration fee of R300 (EFT or Direct Bank Deposits only) – non refundable

Please note:
- **NO FAXED, EMAILED, LATE OR INCOMPLETE** documentation will be accepted. **If there is not a progress report or academic record attached to your application it will be deemed incomplete and will not be processed.**

- It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure that the documentation reaches the selection committee before the deadline. Therefore, allow enough time for your application to reach us.

- The Department of Psychology cannot take responsibility for documentation lost in the mail.

- International students must contact the programme co-ordinator before commencing with application.
SELECTION PROCESS

Staff from the Department of Psychology, who are registered Counselling Psychologists, are involved in the selection process. This process can be summarized as follows:

1. Initial screening
All applications are considered by the selection panel and rated according to a number of criteria. One of these criteria is previous academic performance. Only candidates who have obtained an average of at least 65% in Honours and 70% at third year level (for applicants still enrolled in Honours) will be considered. Depending on the number of applications, it is possible that only applicants, who have obtained an average of 70% or more on Honours level, or 75% or more on third year level, will be invited for interviews.

Ratings for all applicants are collated and a shortlist of candidates who will be invited for further participation in the selection process is compiled. Depending on the number of applications, between 40 and 50 students are shortlisted and invited to the selection week 26 August – 30 August 2019.

Applicants will be informed via e-mail whether they have been shortlisted (or not), from 14 August 2019.

2. Selection week
Applicants who have been shortlisted are invited to participate in the selection week, 26 August – 30 August 2019. During this week, applicants will be involved in various tasks and activities that may include individual interviews, group activities, research aptitude tests, role plays and panel interviews. Candidates are again rated against a number of criteria.

Ratings for applicants are collated and the results discussed by the selection panel. The strongest candidates are identified by means of consensus. Between 6 and 8 candidates can be selected. Candidates will be informed in writing as to whether their applications have been successful.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Several criteria are considered in determining whether an applicant is suitable to be shortlisted or accepted into the programme. These can be clustered as follows:

- Cognitive competencies (e.g. strong academic record; research ability)
- Professional competencies (e.g. maturity; capacity to have a positive impact on others; field-related experience)
- Interpersonal competencies and personal qualities (e.g. verbal communication skills; interpersonal sensitivity)
- Potential to contribute to diversity in the programme

Please note that the above list is not exhaustive and that the selection panel endeavors to consider candidates on the grounds of all round balance and potential.

Due to the large number of applications we cannot provide any feedback to applicants who have not been successful.

The decision of the selection panel regarding successful candidates is final and binding.
PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

The programme consists of three major components: coursework, practical training and research. Overall, the programme is not committed to any one theoretical perspective, and the development on an integrative approach is encouraged. Contributors to the programme will articulate the philosophical perspectives which inform their teaching.

1. Research

Research forms an integral part of postgraduate studies, and students are required to complete a minor dissertation. The dissertation contributes to 50% of the final mark for the degree.

2. Coursework

The coursework consists of five modules:
- Therapeutic Psychology I (Individual approaches)
- Therapeutic Psychology II (Group approaches)
- Psychopathology, psychodiagnosics and psychological assessment
- Child and adolescent psychotherapy and psychopathology
- Integrated professional development

3. Practical work

Students have the opportunity to develop the necessary competencies and practical skills through experiential training in the coursework component, as well as through working in a practical placement.

INTERNSHIPS

Internships in Counselling Psychology can be applied for during the completion of the MA Counselling Psychology degree. These internships do not form part of the programme and is not under the jurisdiction of the Department of Psychology.

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Physical address:
University of Johannesburg
Auckland Park Kingsway Campus
Corner Kingsway and University Road, Auckland Park

Venue:
C Ring 315
4th Floor, C Block (Orange)

DIRECTIONS TO UNIVERSITY OF JOHANNESBURG

From the M1 North and South, take the Empire Road exit. Travel along Empire Road in a westerly direction. The road will narrow until you reach a T-junction. At the traffic light, turn right into Kingsway Avenue. Continue along Kingsway Avenue, past University Road. UJ campus is on your left hand side.