

Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	University of London
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College
3	Programme Title(s)	Graduate Certificate Psychosocial Studies
4	Programme Code(s)	GCGPSYSL_C
5	UCAS code (if applicable)	N/A
6	Home Department	Psychosocial Studies
7	Exit Award(s)	N/A
8	Duration of Study (number of years)	1
9	Mode of Study (FT/PT/DL)	Part-time
10	Level of Award (FHEQ)	6

11	Other teaching depts or institution (if applicable)	N/A
12	Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details (if applicable)	N/A
13	QAA Benchmark Group (if applicable)	N/A

14	Programme Rationale & Aims
	<p>This Graduate Certificate programme in Psychosocial Studies offers an introduction to psychosocial studies for students who are either (a) wishing to have such an introduction without committing themselves to one of the full Masters programmes offered by the Department of Psychosocial Studies; or (b) wishing to proceed to one of these programmes (currently the MA Psychosocial studies, MA Psychoanalysis, History and Culture or MA Culture, Diaspora and Ethnicity) but not yet having the necessary academic background in a relevant area of study. Its main aims are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduce students to substantial strands of psychosocial theory - theory that proposes different ways of understanding the inter-relation between the development of subjectivity and identity and historical and contemporary social and political formations. For the Grad Cert, the focus is on psychoanalysis and social theory. 2. Prepare students to identify and analyse a range of psychosocial phenomena (e.g. violence, war, trauma, terrorism; intimacies, communities, care, human rights; agency, resistance, personal and social transformations, etc). 3. Provide students with opportunities to experience the application of psychosocial thinking and practice through experiential work in the form of reflective group-work and group discussion and negotiation throughout the course. 4. Advance students' study skills in order to prepare them for postgraduate programmes in psychosocial studies.

	<p>5. Provide a progression route for students on the BSc Social Science interested in the general field of psychosocial studies.</p> <p>The programme is distinctive in its focus on the interdisciplinary terrain of the psychosocial, which sets it apart from programmes within the traditional disciplinary frames of psychology and sociology within the University of London and beyond. The programme will be rigorous in its development of students’ capacities for analytical and theoretical work, and will provide an excellent basis for the move to postgraduate study in the psychosocial area.</p> <p>We would normally expect successful completion of the Grad Cert at Merit level to guarantee entry onto the MA programmes listed above; students who pass the Grad Cert or complete these modules as part of their BSc Social Science will be guaranteed an interview for the MA programmes.</p>
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15	<p>Entry Criteria</p> <p>Applicants to the programme should have a degree or equivalent professional qualification; students on the BSc Social Science will be able to take the modules for this programme as options in their final (level 6) year.</p>
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16	<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p><i>On successful completion of this programme a student will be expected to be able to:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate understanding of a range of interdisciplinary theoretical approaches to the psychosocial constitution of the human subject and the relationship between the psychic and the social in the wider social formation. 2. Demonstrate the capacity to apply a psychosocial understanding to key problematics and phenomena. 3. Demonstrate a conceptual grasp and practical understanding of psychoanalytic and social theoretical approaches in the field of the psychosocial. 4. Work effectively in a small-group so as to perform a number of small-group tasks including group oral presentations. 5. Manage their own independent reading and learning outside staff contact-time so as to produce assignments of the required standard.
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17	<p>Learning, teaching and assessment methods</p> <p>The programme will be delivered through part-time, evening, face-to-face study. Teaching and learning methods include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Formal teaching and lecturing by specialist staff in the School of Psychosocial
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	<p>Studies.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Seminars, tutorials, group and individual supervision provided by staff in the School of Psychosocial Studies 3. A range of small-group work carried out by students outside of teaching time in order to develop generic skills in listening, negotiation, leadership, co-operation, collective organisation, collective writing and document preparation (including mastering internet wiki technology) and oral presentation. 4. A range of writing, documenting and recording projects that may include the production of case notes, field notes, reflective process notes, collective writing using wiki technology, creative and autobiographical writing, journalistic pieces, etc. 5. Student teaching experience in the form of small-group mini-lectures to fellow students on developing research topics.
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18	<p>Programme Structure</p>
	<p>Description</p> <p>The programme consists of two thirty-credit core modules taken at level 6 as shown below.</p>

1 year part-time programme				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
6	SSPA057S6	Introduction to psychoanalysis.	30	Core
6	SSPA058S6	Social theory and sociology.	30	Core

19	<p>Regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admissions This programme adheres to the College Admissions Policy: http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/admissions-policy.pdf • Credit Transfer Accredited Prior Learning will be considered in line with the College Policy on Accredited Prior Learning http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/accreditation-prior-learning.pdf • Programme Regulations This programme adheres to the College Common Awards Scheme http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/regulations • Programme Specific Regulations (or not applicable) N/A
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20	Student Attendance Framework – in brief	
	<p>The full version of the ‘Student Attendance Framework’ is available http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/rules/Attendance-Framework.pdf .</p> <p>Principle</p> <p>Consistent and regular student attendance in class (or equivalent) promotes and affords student success. Inconsistent and irregular attendance is less likely to result in student success and is consistent with lower marks and degree classifications being achieved and awarded.</p> <p>Attendance expectation</p> <p>Birkbeck, University of London expects you to consistently attend all timetabled sessions, including lectures, seminars, group and individual tutorials, learning support sessions, workshops, laboratories, field trips, inductions and demonstrations.</p> <p>E-Registers</p> <p>All Birkbeck students are issued with student cards. Students are expected to take them to classes and to assessment venues and to present them to a member of staff if requested. This is for the purpose of identifying Birkbeck students.</p>	
21	Student Support and Guidance	
	<p>All Birkbeck students have access to a range of student support services, details can be found on our website here: http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/facilities</p>	
22	Methods of Enhancing Quality and Standards	
	<p>The College has rigorous procedures in place for the monitoring and enhancing its educational provision. This includes regular monitoring of programmes drawing on feedback from various sources including external examiner's reports, student feedback, student achievement and progression data. In addition, departments are reviewed every four to five years through the internal review process that includes external input.</p> <p>For more information please see the Academic Standards and Quality website http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/about-us/operations-and-quality</p>	
23	Programme Director	Dr Brendan McGeever
24	Start Date (<i>term/year</i>)	October 2012
25	Date approved by TQEC	Spring 2012
26	Date approved by Academic Board	Summer 2012
27	Date(s) updated/amended	15 November 2012