This 20 credit M level module is designed for a range of professionals mainly working in the health service, who are increasingly expected to take a more demanding role which often involves more intense contact and communication with their patients/clients. Some of the areas of difficulty may involve giving (or having to withhold) complex information to patients, or breaking unexpected bad news, and dealing with distressed or angry patients and relatives. Learning counselling skills may enhance and widen choices of how to manage these difficult situations and to increase their own support.
This module offers flexible content to enable the student to choose topics which allow them to explore their own requirements for counselling skills with regards to their working environment and employment demands and explores different psychological coping strategies as well as counselling models.

A 3-levels approach to learning is used to add depth to the student’s understanding:

- Communication skills
- Use of a reflective diary during and after the course
- Reading of selected texts to learn reflective practice and apply learning to their work situation

Teaching will be primarily experiential: role play, group discussion, reflection on work situations, exercises which highlight differences between group members internal processes. In addition to more formal tutor-led presentation.

Assessment will consist of a reflective 4000 word assignment.

**Career opportunities**

This module aims to advance students counselling skills to enhance their practice and personal well being.

**Why study?**

This module comprises of M level study which can contribute to a PgCert/PgDip or MSc and awards via a number of flexible pathways for the Allied Health Professions.

On completion of the course students will be able to understand the application of counselling skills to their own work situation, develop an understanding of how people cope with loss, or potential loss, and how to use counseling skills in the breaking of bad news if this is part of their role and start to develop an understanding of different counseling models. Student will also be able to recognise when they, or others, need help or support, and ways to develop these networks as well as respond to words and feelings by ‘active’ listening - e.g. by reflecting, and in the process explored their own feelings/ processes.

**Professional and industry links**

To date this module has been successfully undertaken by audiologists, doctors, mammographers, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists and ultrasonographers.

**Entry requirements**

– An HPC registered Allied Health Professional Qualification with a diploma/degree

**Location**

Southwark Campus

**Duration**

Four days:

19 - 20 June 2013
10 - 11 July 2013

**Start date**

19 June 2013

**How to apply**

Applications made through the LSBU online prospectus:

www.lsbu.ac.uk/hscpdp

**Module code**

AHP 7- 038

**Module Contact**

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