Programme Guide
MSc in Early Child Development and Clinical Applications (formerly PDP)

Overview
This two-year full-time MSc programme provides a comprehensive understanding of early child development through a range of theoretical (psychoanalysis, developmental and neuroscience) and current clinical perspectives. Students are able to apply this understanding in a supervised clinical placement normally in the Early Years Service at the Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families, a two-year observation of a baby in their home, as well as conducting a substantial research project. This programme (formerly known as MSc in Psychoanalytic Developmental Psychology) has undergone changes to bring it up to date with current research and clinical practice, making it ideal for those:
• Planning to work, or already working with infants, children and families, who wish to deepen their theoretical understanding and enrich their clinical practice
• Wishing to proceed to psychotherapy training or a doctorate in clinical, counselling or educational psychology
• Interested in developing a career in research with children and families or progressing to a PhD

Programme Aims
• To give a multi-perspective theoretical grounding in early child development
• To develop practical observational and clinical skills for work with children and parents in the early years
• To engage deeply with an area of knowledge and develop the skills required for conducting reliable and valid research
• To develop skills in integration across theory, clinical practice and research

Distinctive features of this programme:
• Teaching and supervision by highly experienced clinicians and researchers working in the field of early child mental health and parenting;
• Opportunity to develop clinical skills for working with infants, young children, and parents in early years clinical settings; and
• Practical training in conducting mixed-methods research.

The Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families
The Centre is the leading national charity supporting young minds through innovative therapeutic practice, training and research. The vision of the Centre is a world in which children, young people and their families are effectively supported to build on their own strengths to achieve their goals.

University College London
UCL is one of the foremost teaching and research institutions in the United Kingdom. It was founded in 1826 to provide higher education for all who could benefit from it, regardless of religion, race or class, and is both the oldest and the largest of the various colleges and institutes that make up the University of London. Psychology at UCL has an outstanding track record of innovative research.

Fees
2021–2022
UK: £12,500 (year one only)
Overseas: £28,500 (year one only)
Please note: UCL fees may vary in the 2nd year.

Application Process
Applications can be made at:
https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/apply

Teaching
Teaching on this programme will begin in September 2021 and is mostly based at The Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families, Kings Cross.

Full details of the course can be found on the UCL website at:
http://www.ucl.ac.uk/pals/study/masters/TMSPSYSPDP06
Specific enquiries may be sent to: pdp@annafreud.org

Application deadline: 22nd February 2021

Open Evening
Virtual Open Days: Thursday 10th December 2020
Thursday 14th January 2021
Please check our website below for further details and booking:
https://www.annafreud.org/training/ucl-postgraduate-study
### Modules are grouped into ‘families’

#### Year 1

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### Programme Duration

The programme duration is two full calendar years and involves four- or five-days study per week.

### Programme Content

**Developmental Foundations**

- The programme’s theoretical modules are taught through a combination of weekly lectures and small group seminars to discuss the weekly readings and lecture material. Observations are discussed in small groups with an experienced psychoanalytic clinician. Clinical placements are supervised normally by clinicians from the Early Years Service at the Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families. Clinical competencies masterclasses are taught by experienced clinicians with various approaches. Research projects are carried out under the guidance of an individual research supervisor. Teaching will be primarily based at the Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families at the newly built Centre of Excellence in Kings Cross, London.

**Science and Practice**

- These modules provide an understanding of how psychoanalytic theories, neuroscience and developmental research are applied to current clinical work with parents and babies. The Applied Psychoanalytic Concepts module specifically looks at the application of psychoanalytic ideas and explores individual and group work with babies, children, and parents, work with foster and adoptive parents, and explores clinical work where issues such as gender identity, parental conflict, and/or abuse/trauma are discussed. Prevention in Mental Health introduces the concept of preventive mental health, focusing on general promotion of health programmes and selective preventive interventions in high-risk groups. In Multiple Perspectives on Developmental Psychopathology 1 you will gain an overview of psychopathology (e.g. autism and conduct disorder) from multiple perspectives. Multi-disciplinarity and Multiple Perspectives in Early Years module looks at the importance of professional networks in early work, understanding different clinical approaches in the early years. Clinical Competencies masterclasses and a supervised Clinical Placement will allow you to apply the learning from the first-year taught content of the programme and to develop clinical skills in practice.

**Research**

- Both formative and assessed Research Methods modules will expose you to a range of research methodologies, including quantitative and qualitative methodologies, and data analysis techniques. The programme provides training on SPSS, which is a statistical analysis software package. Developing these skills enables students to conduct their own Research Project and write-up a journal-type research paper.

*The programme description is correct at time of going to print but is subject to change without notice.*