

SCHOOL OF COUNSELLING

Bachelor of Counselling (BCouns)

(NQF Level 7)

Introduction

The Bachelor of Counselling is a level 7, 360 credit programme designed to equip students with a range of counselling skills; teach them to critically engage with a range of counselling theories; and develop their ability to integrate these with a relational theological approach, in order to prepare them for professional practice.

The BCouns is designed for students who want to integrate Christian faith with a range of sound, well-established counselling theories and practical skills, in order to enter into community, church-based or private practice. The degree has a common core of biblical, theological and philosophical studies which provides a foundation for a deep appreciation of the Scriptures and the outworking of the gospel in life and professional practice.

The minimum period of study is three years full-time or an equivalent part-time. (A part time option is only available after consultation with the HOS).

The programme meets the criteria established for provisional membership with the professional associations for counsellors in New Zealand, the NZAC and the NZCCA.

Programme Objectives

By the completion of this programme students will be proficient in the practice of counselling with an emphasis on relationality, and will be equipped to be engaged in professional counselling practice. They will have engaged, practically and critically, with a range of counselling approaches – but specifically Person-Centred and Narrative Therapy – and will have demonstrated the ability to integrate their theory and practice with sound theological approach. They will have satisfactorily demonstrated their ability to practice under supervision, and will have entered the early stages of practice and research.

Graduate profile

Bachelor of Counselling graduates will be:

- › Educated in preparation for provisional membership of the New Zealand Association of Counsellors and the New Zealand Christian Counsellors Association, in a variety of health, social service and educational settings.
 - › Equipped with an approach to counselling that draws from Person Centred and Narrative Therapies, and emphasises relationality.
 - › Proficient at articulating a well-integrated theological anthropology, developed from the study of the sacred Christian Scriptures and traditions, history, culture and the social sciences that understands people as persons-in-relationship, people of dignity who are formed through and for loving relationship.
- › Practiced at relationally engaging with people including their emotions, cognitive processes, meaning making and social positioning.
 - › Skilled with a range of reflective practices including self, peer and clinical supervision.
 - › Prepared for post-graduate study and research.

Graduates are prepared and equipped to work in a variety of roles and settings which may include:

- › Personal counselling
- › Private practice
- › Educational settings and counselling
- › Family and health support roles
- › Community agency work
- › Workplace assistance and chaplaincy
- › Christian pastoral work
- › Church and church agencies
- › Health provider settings
- › Post-graduate study and research

Admission Requirements

Every candidate for the degree must fulfil the following requirements

- A. **NCEA:** a minimum of 42 credits at Level 3 or higher on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF). NQF credits can be gained either from unit standards or from achievement standards. The required number of credits must include a minimum of 14 credits at level 3 or higher in each of two subjects from the approved subject list, with a further two additional approved subjects or domains on the NQF. In addition a minimum of 14 credits at level 1 or higher in Mathematics on the NQF and a minimum of 4 credits in Reading and 4 credits in Writing at Level 2 or higher in English or Te Reo Maori are required. The Reading and Writing credits need to be selected from a schedule of approved achievement and unit standards.
- B. **Minimum Age:** All candidates must be aged 20+ years on or before the first day of semester in which the proposed programme of study is offered.
- C. **Special Admission:** A person who does not hold a university entrance qualification but who is a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident and is aged 20+ years on or before the first day of semester in which a proposed programme of study is offered is eligible to apply for special admission.

D. **Students who completed high school overseas** must hold qualifications deemed by the Laidlaw Admissions Committee to be equivalent to those detailed above.

E. **Students who do not have English as their first language:** In addition to the requirements above, students in this category must fulfil English language requirements: an overall band of 6.5 or higher in IELTS (academic), with a minimum of 6.0 in all bands.

A waiver for the IELTS may be granted:

- › If the applicant has already received a degree with an appropriate grade from an appropriately accredited English speaking institution. If that institution is located outside New Zealand, Australia, the USA, the UK or Ireland, proof may be required that English was the medium of instruction.
- › For long-term residents in New Zealand, or another English speaking country, who are able to demonstrate English language competency appropriate to the desired level of study.

F. **Entrance Examination:** Laidlaw College reserves the right to require any student to complete an entrance examination to determine their suitability for study. On the basis of the outcome of this examination, Laidlaw College may require a programme of study suited to the student's needs.

G. **Police Clearance:** It is a condition of enrolment that students submit a police clearance, the cost of which is the responsibility of the student. Domestic applicants should sign and submit a release form for NZ Police Clearance with their application. International applicants for the BCouns must provide a police clearance certificate from their country of citizenship AND for any country in which they have lived for more than a 12 month period in the last 10 years. This police clearance should be less than 6 months old and be presented at the time of application.

Application and Selection Procedures

Application and Selection Procedures for Year One

Candidates should request an application form for entry into the BCouns and have submitted this no later than **mid-November** for entry into the programme in the following year. As part of the application process, candidates will be required to arrange for two referees to complete confidential Referee Forms, and candidates shall also be required to supply the contact details for one additional referee who may be contacted if deemed necessary. These forms must accompany the completed application.

Selection interview for Year One

All candidates who have successfully completed the first stage of the application process will be expected to attend a group interview, and, if required, a further interview by a panel of two selectors. Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by **mid-December**.

During the interview, the candidate will be assessed on their ability to successfully complete academic studies at this level

and any relevant training or experience in communication skills. Candidates must demonstrate a willingness to learn and receive personal feedback in a non-defensive way, and a personal maturity appropriate for someone involved in a counselling role. They must demonstrate a level of self-awareness and critical self-reflection appropriate for someone beginning a counselling training programme. They must also demonstrate relational maturity and a commitment to wrestling with core issues of the Christian faith.

A background knowledge and understanding of the "story" of Scripture is required. Satisfactory completion of a Laidlaw College certificate, diploma or degree, or an equivalent, would be an advantage.

Applications for Recognition of Prior Learning should be made, in the first instance, to the Head of School. See the General Information and Regulations section of this calendar for further details.

Reselection procedure for entry into Year Two

In order to complete Year one and successfully transition into Year two of the programme, a student will be required to satisfactorily fulfil the following criteria:

1. Completion of all Year one requirements, including:
 - 10 hours of personal counselling.
 - At least 75 credits of counselling theory and practice courses (which must include 900.515 Foundations of Relational Practice A and 901.515 Foundations of Relational Practice B), and 30 credits of theological foundations.
2. Assessment in an interview by a selection panel of at least two, as being capable of successfully completing all components of the programme.
3. Current or potential access to clients. Practicum forms an integral part of the Year two and Year three programme. Students will be required to complete a minimum of 200 hours of supervised counselling over years two and three.
4. Current or potential access to a supervisor who meets the requirements as outlined in the practicum booklet.

Students must be able to demonstrate during their assessment interview that they have been developing in areas of personal growth, including the following:

- › Communication skills.
- › Willingness to learn and receive personal feedback in a non-defensive manner.
- › Attitudes of empathy, positive regard and genuineness.
- › Integrated personal maturity appropriate for someone practicing as a counsellor.
- › Ability to challenge clients within the context of a caring and respectful relationship.
- › Respect for individual gender, socio-economic and ethnic differences.

Reselection procedure for entry into Year Three

Entry into Year 3 is based on successful completion of learning requirements for Year two. This includes ongoing personal counselling, a minimum of 5 hours in year two. Students must also meet the following criteria:

1. Completion of 902.615 Relational Theories and Practice A and 903.615 Relational Theories and Practice B, plus a further 30 credits of counselling theory and practice courses and completion of 15 credits of theological foundations.
2. Practicum work: 930.615 Professional Practice A must be completed. If 931.615 Professional Practice B is not completed, then an extension must be applied for and approved before acceptance to enter year three is given.

Application and Selection Procedures for DipCouns graduates bridging to BCouns

In order to enrol in the bridging programme from the DipCouns to the BCouns candidates are required to satisfactorily demonstrate the following:

- › A high level of competency in the core skills.
- › Non-Laidlaw diploma graduates must provide an academic transcript with their application.
- › Applicants must demonstrate competent professional practice commensurate with the learning outcomes of Professional Practice B.
- › A current placement for Practicum B that meets the requirements as outlined in the practicum booklet.

For details on the courses undertaken in the DipCouns to BCouns bridging programme see the table on page 41.

Programme Information

Study Locations

The BCouns is offered in Auckland. The programme is not available to be studied by distance, however, there is flexibility to study a few courses part time before needing to be fully integrated in the programme in Auckland. This needs to be discussed with the HOS before a plan can be finalised. It is anticipated that the BCouns will be offered in Christchurch in 2012, subject to NZQA approval and sufficient student enrolments.

Period of Study – Full Time/Part Time

This programme is normally completed on a full-time basis over three years. It can also be undertaken on a part-time basis after consultation with the HOS, but it must be completed within a timeframe of six years unless special permission is granted by the National Academic Committee. In the event of extended absence from the programme returning students may be required to undertake a supplementary course of study to ensure currency of practice.

Part time study as an option can only be approved by the Head of School and a formal study plan will be put in place, as part of the approval process.

Mid-year intake

Entry into the BCouns programme at mid-year can be on a part time basis only and it is the expectation that any new enrolment will be moving to full time from the start of the following year. Any intention to continue part time is after consultation and approval by the Head of School.

Academic Year Structure

Please refer to the Academic Year details on page 47 of this calendar.

Schedule of Courses and Dates

A schedule is provided during orientation which includes all the course dates, the marae visit and any other relevant dates. Students are responsible for ensuring they are aware of information which applies to their course of study.

Study Skills Training and Orientation

Laidlaw College is committed to the success of its students and seeks to provide appropriate support to this end. In the first week of Semester One new counselling students must attend a free, one-week "Summer School" study skills course. This course provides incoming students with the study skills they will need, along with an academic orientation to counselling study. Students completing this course will be prepared for what is expected of them at Laidlaw College, and better able to achieve their academic goals. It is required that all new students will attend this course, unless an exemption has been granted by the Head of School.

School of Counselling (SOC) Orientation Day

In addition to the Study Skills Training and Orientation, the School of Counselling has its own orientation day and is compulsory for ALL School of Counselling students, including those returning and any part time students. A lot of important information regarding courses and programme structure is discussed on this day so it is imperative that students attend.

Workload and Programme Structure

Full time study requires a commitment of at least 40 hours per week. Part time work needs to be carefully considered particularly in years two and three with practicum commitments. Also:

- › Block courses run from 8.30am – 5pm.
- › Every Tuesday Laidlaw holds a community gathering at 11.15am followed by a community lunch (provided) and students are asked to attend this community gathering as it is an important part of Laidlaw community life.
- › Group Process meetings are held weekly for all students taking core courses. The timing of these groups is worked out by the school and there is little flexibility, therefore students must not take on outside commitments until they know the day/time of their group process. This information should be available by the end of the SOC orientation day.
- › Practicum work (200 hours over years two and three) is a requirement and may involve more than one placement.

- › A marae visit (attached to the 907.515 Counselling and Biculturalism course) is normally undertaken in Year one and involves a weekend stay on a marae in the second semester. Dates will be provided and there is a nominal cost.
- › Courses are currently not taped by Laidlaw and cannot be accessed by virtual technology.

Group Process

All students participate in group process which is an important part of the programme. Groups are linked to the core courses and are held weekly for 2 ½ hours. The 80% attendance rule applies to groups and any absence must be explained before the group start time i.e. in the case of sickness a student is expected to call their group process leader or the office before the group begins as a courtesy. Most groups are held on either Tuesday mornings or afternoons, or Wednesday mornings so students are advised not to make commitments on these days until they are sure of their group process time.

Attendance

Laidlaw's policy of minimum 80% attendance at all classes has been amended to 75% for the SOC block courses. However, the 80% rule still applies for group process and any courses not held in a block format.

Practicum Work

In years two and three of the programme students are required to obtain a placement within an organisation approved by the practicum coordinator.

- › There are a total of 200 hours of practicum work to complete during of the two years of practicum.
- › In normal circumstances, students are expected to complete the specified number of practice hours, and associated reflective practices, by the end of semester due date.
- › Practice hours may not be logged until the placement and supervision contracts have been completed by all parties and returned to the SOC office.
- › Practice hours, supervision and assignment work MUST be undertaken concurrently. Therefore if for any reason a student needs to suspend practice during the course, they must also suspend supervision and all assignment work.
- › A student cannot move into the next practicum course until he/she has had an interview with the practicum coordinator.
- › In the event that some of the practice hours have not been completed by the due date, (therefore associated reflective practice assignments are not able to be completed by the due date), the counselling log showing hours completed, and the associated reports, will still be submitted in the usual way, along with a completed extension request form.

- › If after two semesters of enrolment in the course the required practice hours and associated reflective practices have not been completed, the course will be given a DNC (did not complete) grade. In this event, a student would need to re-enrol in the course when it is next offered. Carrying hours already obtained forward to the new course would be discussed with the practicum coordinator.

Limit on Study Load

Please refer to the information on page 49 about students' responsibilities regarding how their study load affects their eligibility for student loans and allowances.

Additional Costs

Students enrolled in the BCouns programme are required to cover costs additional to those stipulated for students of all Laidlaw College programmes (such as textbooks & course materials):

- › 20 hours of personal counselling over the three years (duration of the programme): 10 in Year one, and 5 in each of years two and three.
- › Practicum supervision in years two and three, to occur alongside practicum work. Supervisors must be a full member of NZAC or NZCCA.
- › Marae visit costs.
- › Specialist supervision if required, e.g. a church practicum will require an extra supervision session twice a semester with a supervisor who specialises in church counselling.
- › Professional development courses as required, e.g. a school placement may require one or more specialised courses to allow students to undertake a placement working with children.
- › Graduation: There is a formal graduation application process which includes a fee as well as academic dress hire costs.

Personal Counselling

All School of Counselling students must receive personal counselling as part of their education. This requirement is a part of the core courses. This includes 10 hours in year one, and 5 in each of years two and three. The counsellor MUST have full membership of either NZAC or NZCCA and cannot be either a current staff person or student of Laidlaw College. Students can obtain counsellor details from the school office.

Graduation

Please note that all students must apply to graduate. See page 58 of this calendar for further details.

Guidelines for Review Process re student's suitability to continue in programme

A review process is in place to address concerns about a student's developmental progress during the programme. The process may be initiated at any time during the BCouns programme for reasons which may include (but not be limited to):

- > The identification of student needs and/or relational anxieties.
- > A pastoral expression of concern.
- > A student failing a course.
- > Practicum hours not being completed within the timeframe.
- > Feedback from a supervisor or placement liaison person raising concerns.

The review process will involve some or all of the following:

- > A discussion with the Head of School.
- > A plan being developed which could include remedial work, changes in placement or in supervision arrangements, recommendations or requirements for personal counselling, or additional monitoring processes.
- > A current counselling session to be provided for internal assessment.

- > A subsequent interview with the course coordinator and/or Head of School.
- > Written notification of the nature of the concerns, recommendations, requests and/or options.
- > Notification to the Vice Principal (Academic) where appropriate.

Modes of Delivery

Mode 1: weekly daytime or evening lectures over one semester.

Mode 2: a single intensive block of teaching with required reading prior to and following the teaching session.

Mode 3: a single block of intensive teaching, with required reading and/or assignments prior to and following the teaching session, plus a group process workshop held weekly over the course of the semester (12 weeks).

Mode 4: a one-two day block of intensive teaching, plus practicum placement (which begins in the same semester as the block course, and ends when the required practicum hours have been completed).

Note: All block classes run from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

Programme Requirements

Programme Requirements for students enrolling in the full BCouns programme

The degree consists of a total of 360 credits, comprising courses in theological foundations, counselling theory and practice, and practicum as per the table below

YEAR	THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS	COUNSELLING THEORY AND PRACTICE	PRACTICUM
1	115.515 Biblical Theology 401.515 Formation	900.515 Foundations of Relational Practice (A) 901.515 Foundations of Relational Practice (B) 906.515 Personhood, Relationality, and Faith 907.515 Counselling and Biculturalism 909.515 Human Development 910.515 Relational Psychology (A)	
2	503.6/715 Ways of Knowing	902.615 Relational Theories & Practice (A) 903.615 Relational Theories & Practice (B) 908.615 Counselling & Diversity 910.615 Relational Psychology (B) 911.615 Relationships & Family	930.615 Professional Practice (A) 931.615 Professional Practice (B)
3	921.6/715 Theology of Suffering and Hope	904.715 Integrated Practice (A) 905.715 Integrated Practice (B) 912.715 Research Methods	932.730 Practicum (A) 933.730 Practicum (B)
Credits	60 credits	210 credits	90 credits
Total 360 Credits			

Please note that a small number of courses in the above table are offered bi-annually, and will not be offered during this year. Details of this will be explained fully to counselling student during the interview process and orientation.

Programme Requirements for graduates of the DipCouns bridging to the BCouns

Graduates of the Laidlaw College (previously BCNZ) DipCouns programme who are bridging to the BCouns are required to complete a further 120 credits of the BCouns programme. These credits must comprise the following courses:

THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS	COUNSELLING THEORY AND PRACTICE	PRACTICUM
Two of: • 270.6/715 Worldviews and Ways of Life • 503.6/715 Ways of Knowing • 921.6/715 Theology of Suffering and Hope	• 904.715 Integrated Practice (A) • 905.715 Integrated Practice (B) • 906.715 Personhood, Relationality, and Faith • 912.715 Research Methods	• 933.730 Practicum (B)
30 credits	60 credits	30 credits
Total 120 credits		

Programme Requirements for graduates of the conjoint DipCouns/BMin programme bridging to the BCouns:

Graduates of the Laidlaw College (previously BCNZ) DipCouns programme who also completed the conjoint BMin degree programme are required to complete a further 90 credits of the BCouns programme. These credits must comprise the following courses:

THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS	COUNSELLING THEORY AND PRACTICE	PRACTICUM
	904.715 Integrated Practice (A) 905.715 Integrated Practice (B) 906.715 Personhood, Relationality, and Faith 912.715 Research Methods	933.730 Practicum (B)
0 credits	60 credits	30 credits
Total 90 credits		

Programme Requirements for graduates of similar counselling programmes

Graduates who hold a counselling qualification from another institution (the minimum requirement is a 240-credit exit NQF Level 6 diploma) are, in the normal course, required to complete the following in order to obtain the BCouns:

THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS	COUNSELLING THEORY AND PRACTICE	PRACTICUM
• 115.515 Biblical Theology • 503.6/715 Ways of Knowing • 921.6/715 Theology of Suffering and Hope	• 904.715 Integrated Practice (A) • 905.715 Integrated Practice (B) • 906.715 Personhood, Relationality, and Faith • 912.715 Research Methods • 931.615 Professional Practice (B)	• 933.730 Practicum (B)
45 credits	75 credits	30 credits
Total 150 credits		

Recognition of Prior Learning: Graduates of another institution who have done previous theological studies may also receive cross-credits for Biblical Theology. Graduates who have continued to practice may also receive RPL for Professional Practice (B).

Bachelor of Ministries (BMin) and Bachelor of Counselling (BCouns) Double Degree

(NQF Level 7)

The BMin/BCouns Double Degree is a five year qualification that allows potential students to graduate with both degrees in a shorter timeframe than would usually be required. By taking advantage of internal cross-crediting and following a well-planned programme of study this qualification seeks to cater for the following:

- › Students who wish to train for ministry who see value in also receiving quality counselling training;
- › Students who wish to support their counselling training with a theological grounding.

Entry to the BMin/BCouns Double Degree would be subject to acceptance through the Counselling admission and interview process. The programme of study will require students to work fulltime to complete a total of 600 credits within five years, beginning with two years study towards the BMin followed by three years of study towards the BCouns. Also particular to this programme of study is:

- › The sharing of 60 credits of courses common to both degrees;
- › The cross-crediting of 45 credits of Professional Practice and Practicum from the BCouns to the Internship component of the BMin.
- › The cross-crediting of 15 credits (906.515 Personhood, Relationality & Faith) from the BCouns into the BMin.

The following table shows how the degrees are structured in regard to a breakdown of credits:

BMIN/BCOUNS DOUBLE DEGREE		
	BCOUNS	BMIN
Courses common to both degrees	60 credits (four courses)	
Degree specific courses	210 credits (14 courses)	210 credits (14 courses)
Practicum/Internship courses	90 credits (6 courses)	30 credits (2 courses)
Cross-credits from the BCouns to the BMin		15 credits level 5 (906.515 Personhood, Relationality & Faith) 45 credits (3 courses) of Practicum in place of the level 6 and 7 Internship courses
Total credits per degree	360	360
Total credits for double degree	600	

For further information regarding the specific regulations for each degree please see page 15 for the BMin and page 36 for the BCouns.

Courses for the School of Counselling

900.515

Foundations of Relational Practice (A) Mode 3

The conviction that people are best understood as “persons-in-relationship” has implications for the therapeutic approach adopted by the counsellor. This course is the first of six that form a core counselling practice development stream through the Bachelor of Counselling. The course combines theological and theoretical reflection with skill development and group-process workshops. It begins to develop a set of core person-centred practices aimed at I-Thou engagement that emphasise the restoration of self-awareness and the enriching of dialogical relationships.

901.515

Foundations of Relational Practice (B) Mode 3

Pre-requisite: 900

This second course in the core counselling practice development stream enriches the student's understanding of “person-in-relationship”, by combining theological and theoretical reflection, with deepening person-centred and associated skill development and group process workshop. It enriches the student's ability to consider such issues as anxiety and depression.

902.615

Relational Theories and Practice (A) Mode 3

Pre-requisite: 901

Key to a relational approach to counselling is the therapeutic relationship, or encounter, during which counsellor and client create a relational canvas upon which the change and growth can be sketched and explored. This third course in the core counselling practice development stream expands the student's understanding of this encounter, and introduces narrative therapy as a means of assisting people to engage the social dimension of their lives. It explores the place of “story” in personal meaning-making, and advances skill development in a classroom and the group process workshop.

903.615

Relational Theories and Practice (B) Mode 3

Pre-requisite: 902

People are formed through their relational encounters and the social discourses that guide these. Persons in-relationship are also “storied” people – stories give shape and meaning to their worlds and experiences. The fourth course in the core counselling practice development stream develops students' knowledge of personhood and practice skills within a narrative therapeutic framework.

904.715

Integrated Practice (A) Mode 3

Pre-requisite: 903

Relational breakdown and dysfunction has psychological, social and theological foundations. The fifth course in the core counselling practice development stream develops the skills to identify where and how relationality has been damaged and where people have intentionally, or unintentionally, developed ways of relating that are damaging to themselves and others. It combines practice, theoretical, and theological reflection with group-based learning, and enriches the student's ability to practice counselling in a personally and theoretically integrated way.

905.715

Integrated Practice (B) Mode 3

Pre-requisite: 904

The hope of the therapeutic relationship is the restoration of people's understanding of themselves as persons-in-relationship, and their freedom to love and trust in ways that are creative, adventurous, embracing, life-giving and expansive. The sixth course in the core counselling practice development stream helps students construct a meta-theory of integration that allows them to plumb key psychological and theological insights, personal experience and style, and practices drawn from a range of modalities. It combines practice with theoretical and theological reflection within a group process setting.

906.515

906.715

Personhood, Relationality and Faith Mode 2

This foundational course introduces counselling as a therapeutic relational engagement that finds its context, and its goal, in knowledge of God and humanity drawn from the story of Christ. From this critical standpoint it engages with a broad range of counselling theories and models of practice.

907.515

Counselling and Biculturalism Mode 2

The therapeutic relationship views people of all cultures as persons-in-relationship who draw their own self-knowledge from their engagement with other peoples and the world. In the Aotearoa New Zealand context this means an honouring of the covenantal spirit of the Treaty of Waitangi and an awareness of its relational intent. This course introduces Tikanga Maori on the basis of understanding people in their relational contexts, and combines theological, theoretical and historical reflection with the development of practices drawn from an integration of these. Students will also be expected to attend the marae visit, usually held in August each year.

908.615

Counselling and Diversity Mode 2

Pre-requisite: 907

Understanding ourselves as "persons-in-relationship" requires us to view others as constituted by the interrelationships to which they contribute and by which they are formed. This course explores the impact of persons from different cultures, ethnic and social groupings coming together, and the implications of these dynamics on people and their relationships, including the therapeutic encounter.

It combines theological and theoretical reflection with a study of historical developments in New Zealand society, and an engagement with contemporary social issues that impact our sense of identity.

909.515

Human Development Mode 2

Relationality is an ontological axiom – people do not just do relationships, they are relational. Human development understood in this context explores how persons-in-relationship are formed in their various relational contexts, and also explores the goal of human relationships, and the place of faith and hope in the human story. This course examines Erikson's eight life stages, introduces other key theorists, and provides an introduction and examination of key integrative aspects of human development and counselling.

910.515

Relational Psychology A Mode 2

Persons-in-relationship not only find their ultimate joy in relationships but also their deepest insecurities and brokenness. This course proposes a theoretical and theological framework that views brokenness in relationality as an important contributing factor to disorder. Upon this theoretical ground, the course introduces a range of human experiences including sexuality, grief, and depression that are foundational to counsellor understanding of how people heal and grow.

910.615

Relational Psychology B Mode 2

This course introduces a working knowledge of the DSM-IV and explores its use and the effects of diagnostic labels that may foreclose on the possibility for change in relationships. The course develops counsellor understandings of a number of human experiences including those introduced in Relational psychology A., relational abuses including sexual, eating disorder, addictions, and suicide. The course seeks to assist students to integrate these understandings into their professional practice.

911.615

Relationships and Family Mode 2

Families, understood as unique and culturally-representative relational systems, provide a primary context for the formation of persons-in-relationship. This course combines theoretical and theological reflection in order to explore these family dynamics and develop strategies for therapeutically engaging with people within the context of their family relationships.

912.715

Research Methods in Counselling Mode 2

Pre-requisite: 904

Counselling is a relatively new profession and thoughtful practitioners are equipped to contribute to ongoing conversations about what constitutes best practice. This course involves the planning and preparation of a literature-based research proposal for the purpose of focused and intentional professional development. It also prepares students for post-graduate research by familiarising them with fields of potential research, guided reading strategies, and exposure to a range of relevant research methodologies.

921.615

921.715

Theology of Suffering & Hope Mode 1

This course explores questions about human suffering and the God who engages with humans at the level of their despair. It engages with how the Scriptures acknowledge human suffering, and looks at hope from a biblical, theological, anthropological and relational perspective.

930.615

Professional Practice (A) Mode 4

Co-requisite: 902

A well-integrated understanding of ethical counselling practice and the ability to reflect robustly on this is fundamental to offering clients the safety to encounter self and others. This course introduces professional practice and requires students to reflect on 30 hours of counselling practice in a practicum placement.

931.615

Professional Practice (B) Mode 4

Pre-requisite: 930

Co-requisite: 903

Key to a relational approach to counselling is the therapeutic relationship, or encounter. The counsellor must develop the ability to critically reflect on their contribution to this therapeutic relationship. This course advances professional practice and requires students to reflect on 50 hours of counselling practice, and 8 hours of clinical supervision, in a practicum placement.

932.730

Practicum (A) Mode 4

Pre-requisite: 930

Co-requisite: 904

Central to a relational approach to counselling is the therapeutic relationship. It is in the context of this relationship, and on the basis of the trust that has developed, that the counsellor is able to invite the client to an awareness of themselves and others as relationally constituted and impacted persons. This course requires students to experience 60 hours of practicum placement (plus preparation, reading and reporting), in order to integrate theoretical, theological and personal reflections, as well as development of skills and process.

933.730

Practicum (B) Mode 4

Pre-requisite: 932

Co-requisite: 904 or 905

The counselling process is an opportunity for the counsellor and client, in a therapeutic relational encounter, to identify where disordered relationality has resulted in life-restricting behaviours. It is also an opportunity to identify where relationality has been linked to joy and hope, and how these might be restored and enhanced. This course requires students to experience a further 60 hours of practicum placement (plus preparation and reporting), and to critically reflect on their integration of theoretical and theological learning, as well as their development of skills and practical approaches.