

PROSPECTUS

The Guild of Psychotherapists was founded in 1974 by a group of practitioners from Freudian, Jungian and Phenomenological backgrounds.

The clinical training offered at the Guild reflects the spectrum of these broad and diverse contributions to psychoanalytic thinking and practice, and does not consider any one body of theory to hold 'the truth.' On this basis, trainees on Guild courses are introduced to the richness and diversity of psychoanalytic perspectives on unconscious life, the sources of human distress and the psychotherapeutic encounter.

The Guild aims to involve trainees in the continuing evaluation and reformulation of psychoanalytic thinking, emphasising a questioning approach that recognises the importance of the contexts – historical, cultural, political and individual (biographical) – in which psychoanalytic concepts have developed. Trainees are also encouraged to consider ethnocentric, gender-biased and anti-homosexual ideologies that may be present in psychoanalytic theory.

Successful completion of the training leads to registration with the Council for Psychoanalysis and Jungian Analysis College of the UKCP.

Personal Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy

Central to training as a psychoanalytic psychotherapist is undertaking one's own personal analysis. Applicants need to have been in psychoanalytic psychotherapy at a minimum of twice a week for one year before application and are required to remain in therapy, not less than twice a week, until accepted to membership.

Syllabus

The syllabus includes the works of Freud, Jung, Klein, Object Relations, Lacan and Phenomenology. The programme also introduces the consideration of clinical issues and concepts including diagnosis, identity and the body, concepts of the self, race, culture and gender.

The programme is reviewed annually to consider both the range of psychoanalytic theories and the contemporary developments which it reflects. Trainees provide important feedback on their experience and are invited to contribute to the development of the syllabus.

Each trainee is allocated a personal tutor, a member of the Training Committee whose role is to advise, support and assess the trainee throughout the duration of the training.

Practicalities

Seminars are held on Wednesday evenings at Nelson Square over a period of four years. Teaching is done in seminar groups, to which trainees contribute with prepared presentations, and in discussion and debate. Each evening consists of one theory seminar and one clinical discussion seminar. Additional training days are held annually to allow consideration of important topics, including assessment, clinical ethics, building a private practice, and time-limited work.

Training Requirements

The training requirements include: attendance at seminars, gaining clinical experience with a range of patients and in different situations and personal psychoanalytic psychotherapy until qualification.

The clinical work includes: work with patients under training supervision, building up a practice, (as appropriate to the individual), undertaking a placement in our community based reduced fee clinic (up to two years) and undertaking a placement within an adult psychiatric setting (minimum half a day per week for six months).

Training patients: As well as being able to demonstrate clinical experience with a range of patients, there is a requirement to work with two patients not less than twice a week, with weekly supervision for each patient. The duration of this work should be not less than 18 months for one and not less than 24 months for the other. Trainees submit six monthly reports on this work to their tutor. The supervisor will also submit a six monthly report.

Written work: Trainees are also required to submit specified written work:

- An essay on comparative theory in the first year;
- A self-assessment which informs the mid-training assessment at the end of the second year;
- An exploratory clinical case study in the third year;
- A comparative theory paper in the fourth year;
- A paper on the experience of working in the clinic.

On completion of the training requirements, the trainee may with agreement of their tutor submit a clinical paper as application to membership of the Guild.

These training requirements meet the standards that apply to all member organizations of the CPJA.

Fees

£2,400 which may be subject to an annual increase.

These fees do not include the fees for personal psychoanalytic psychotherapy nor for supervision of your clinical work.

What next?

An application form can be obtained via the administrators at:
47 Nelson Square
London SE1 0QA
Telephone: 020 7401 3260
Email: Training@guildofpsychotherapists.org.uk

If you have a question or wish to discuss your application, please contact the administrators who will put you in contact with the Application Secretary.