



**QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST**

SCHOOL OF
MEDICINE,
DENTISTRY AND
BIOMEDICAL
SCIENCES

GAIN A FOOTHOLD IN PSYCHIATRY

PgDip
MENTAL HEALTH

Entrance Requirements

A primary medical degree and full or limited registration with the GMC (London or Dublin). Applicants must hold one of the following suitable positions; GPST1; FY2; CT1; CT2; LAT1; Staff Grade (or equivalent) or acceptable equivalent post in Republic of Ireland; and be undertaking a rotation/employment in a mental health setting.

International Qualifications

For information on international qualification equivalents please select Your Country from the list on our International Students website.

Additional Information for International Students

International students wishing to apply to Queen's University Belfast (and for whom English is not their first language), must be able to demonstrate their proficiency in English in order to benefit fully from their course of study or research. Non-EEA nationals must also satisfy UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) immigration requirements for English language for visa purposes.

Evidence of an IELTS* score of 7.0, with not less than 6.5 in any component, or an equivalent qualification acceptable to the University is required.

*Taken within the last 2 years.

For more information on English Language requirements for EEA and non-EEA nationals see: go.qub.ac.uk/EnglishLanguageReqs

Duration

4 months part time (or equivalent) rotation/employment in a mental health setting, and attendance at a lecture programme on one afternoon per week during either the Autumn or Spring semester.

Number of Places

60

Teaching Times

Wednesday 2.00pm to 5.15pm

Classes are in the afternoon only through a combination of course lectures, practical experiences and self-directed study to enhance employability.

Assessment

Assessment is carried out via Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE); plus written Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ) examination; plus four short cases studies of patients whom students have seen during the period of their clinical post.

Contact Us

askmhls@qub.ac.uk

PgDip MENTAL HEALTH

Overview

This Postgraduate Diploma in Mental Health is for doctors in training who are preparing for a career in Psychiatry, General Practice or General Medicine and is suitable for Trainee Psychiatrists preparing for College examinations. In conjunction with a clinical rotation/employment in a mental health setting, this programme enables students to gain a good understanding of the major psychiatric disorders, approaches to treatment and psychopharmacology.

Clinical training forms a significant component of the Programme. The acquisition of specific clinical skills will be gained during the period of the clinical placement/employment in a mental health setting. Learning will be guided by the Placement supervisor and supplemented by discussion with lecturers in the formal teaching sessions. Please note that the clinical attachment/employment in a mental health setting must overlap with the academic year of the Programme of seminars attended.

This programme runs twice a year in both Semester 1 (Autumn) and Semester 2 (Spring).

Careers

This PG Diploma aims to provide students with advanced skills, knowledge and understanding in the area of mental health, which can also enhance their career opportunities in Psychiatry, General Practice and General Medicine.

Why Queen's

The School, through its Postgraduate and Professional Development Office, is committed to equipping postgraduate students with the tools needed to maximise their personal and professional development through high-quality teaching in an excellent learning environment. All courses are designed to be professionally relevant and help develop both discipline-specific and more general transferable skills, promoting attitudes of lifelong learning and increasing graduate employability.

Content

In addition to supervised practice, attendance at an induction course, case conferences and journal clubs, students must attend a formal teaching course involving seminars which cover the following topics:

- Current Models of Mental Disorder
- The Major Categories of Mental Illness
- Physical Methods of Treatment
- Psychological Therapies

The course will cover the classification and phenomenology of mental illness, the presentation, aetiology and treatment of the major illnesses and description of different methods of management. Students will be able to demonstrate basic clinical competence in the diagnosis and management of patients with mental illnesses and be able to demonstrate how modern theory and practice relate to clinical care.

This Diploma combines structured clinical learning and didactic teaching to give doctors a foothold on the topic, whether they go into general practice or any other medical specialty. The feedback is always excellent both from the students and their tutors, as it provides a framework for teaching about mental health and helps build key competencies.

Dr Tony O'Neill