MPhil in Psychoanalytic Studies

Course Outline
The MPhil in Psychoanalytic Studies is a One-Year Full-Time course that explores the broad field of psychoanalysis and its applications to our understanding of individuals and groups. We are particularly interested in looking at its relevance for our everyday lives and how it can help us to develop a deeper and broader appreciation of unconscious mental life or our inner worlds. On this course, we are particularly concerned with those approaches that are relational in nature – that closely consider the idea that experience develops in the relationship between the person and those around him/her, from the beginning of life and across infancy, childhood and adulthood.

We see psychoanalysis responding to our human curiosity about what lies underneath our conscious experience.

What is it that motivates us?

How does sexuality influence our lives?

How do early experiences impact on us?

Why do we get caught in patterns?

Why do we damage our own growth?

Course Modules
We currently have seven compulsory modules (see below) including a series of research tutorials in the second term to address the needs of students undertaking the course dissertation.

- Psychoanalysis and Art (First Term)
- Dreams, Dreaming and Symbolic Life (First Term)
- The Emotional World of the Child (First Term)
- The Mind-Body Question in Psychoanalysis (Second Term)
- Object Relations Theory (Second Term)
- The Unconscious in Groups, Organisations and Society (Second Term)
- Thesis/Dissertation (First and Second Terms, Summer following terms)

Teaching Times
Our students attend Tuesdays and Wednesdays in term from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

First Term, Michaelmas Term
11 Weeks Michaelmas (2nd week in September – last week in November)

Second Term, Hilary Term
11 Weeks Hilary Term (end of January to 2nd week in April)

If you have any questions you would like to ask us about the course, please contact us at the following emails addresses: Luisa Byrne, Course Administrator: psychoanalysis@tcd.ie or Dr. John O’ Connor, Course Director: joconno8@tcd.ie