Programme Specification

1. **Awarding body**  
   University of London

2. **Teaching Institution**  
   Birkbeck College

3. **Programme Title(s)**  
   PG Cert Coaching Psychology

4. **Programme Code(s)**  
   TPCCOPSYS_C

5. **UCAS code**  
   N/A

6. **Home Department**  
   Organizational Psychology

7. **Exit Award(s)**  
   N/A

8. **Duration of Study (number of years)**  
   1

9. **Mode of Study**  
   FT | PT | x | DL

10. **Level of Award (FHEQ)**  
    7

11. **Other teaching depts or institution**  
    N/A

12. **Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body (PSRB) details**  
    Association for Coaching

13. **QAA Benchmark Group**  
    N/A

14. **Programme Rationale & Aims**

   The Postgraduate Certificate Coaching Psychology provides students with knowledge on the most salient topics in coaching in today’s changing world of work. Students will learn about evidence-based psychological theories and frameworks of wellbeing at work, including mental health, neurodiversity, and intersectionality.

   Combining academic study with practical application and skill development, this Postgraduate Certificate in Coaching Psychology is the essential starting place for experienced managers who wish to understand the role of professional helping relationships at work, and their impact in and out of organisations. Why has coaching emerged now? Why is it seen to be so relevant? How can we tell when/if it works? Is it different from counselling and psychotherapy? Are certain types of coaching more effective, under certain conditions, with certain people?

   Students will be introduced to the history and variety of coaching and helping relationships. They will review a range of coaching techniques, discussing their relevance and efficacy, and consider pertinent issues that face the contemporary coach.

   Using case studies and client work students will have the opportunity to analyse and understand their own work through a range of lenses, allowing for different interpretations. They will learn to supervise effectively, explore different responses and reflect on the coaching relationship process. Issues that are often overlooked, such as ethics, change, boundaries and defences, are highlighted. Rather than looking at
coaching in isolation, students will consider it in the context of evidence frameworks, organisational systems and practices, and organisations as political arenas.

**HIGHLIGHTS**
- This programme is accredited by the Association for Coaching, dedicated to promoting best practice and raising awareness and standards of coaching worldwide.
- The Department of Organizational Psychology is renowned for its quality teaching and expertise in the delivery of part-time courses.
- Students have access to an extensive range of electronic resources, including specially prepared texts for each module and use of the online learning environment with a high level of staff support.

### Entry Criteria

A second-class honours degree (2:2) in any discipline, or sufficient experience of helping relationships and/or people-oriented activities such as extensive line management experience.

Applications are reviewed on their individual merits and professional qualifications and/or relevant work experience will be taken into consideration positively. We actively support and encourage applications from diverse learners.

### Learning Outcomes

The following learning outcomes and objectives are derived from the competency frameworks of the Special Group of Coaching Psychology at the British Psychological Society (SPCP-BPS) and the Association for Coaching.

Students will develop the following coaching competencies:
- Meeting ethical, legal, and professional guidelines
- Establishing the coaching agreement and outcomes
- Establishing a trust-based relationship with the client
- Managing self and maintaining coaching presence
- Communicating effectively
- Raising awareness and insight
- Designing strategies and actions
- Maintaining forward momentum and evaluation
- Undertaking continuous coach development
- Working within an organisational context
- Understanding leadership issues
- Working in partnership with the organisation
## Learning, teaching and assessment methods

**Methods of teaching:**
- Face to face lectures
- Seminar groups

**Methods of assessment:**
- Portfolio
- Deliberate and reflective practice
- Examinations and essays

## Programme Description

The Programme is a one year Post Graduate Certificate aimed at providing managers with theory, models and practice of coaching. It consists of 3 compulsory modules as shown in the structure below.

## Programme Structure

**Part Time programme – 1 year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Status*</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>BUOB060H7</td>
<td>Introduction to Coaching</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Compulsory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>MOOP008H7</td>
<td>Work and Wellbeing</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Compulsory</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>BUOB062S7</td>
<td>Coaching Portfolio</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Compulsory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Status***

CORE – Module must be taken and passed by student; COMPULSORY – Module must be taken, mark can be reviewed at sub-exam board; OPTIONAL – Student can choose to take this module

## Programme Director

Dr Lilith Whiley

## Start Date (term/year)

October 2014

## Date approved by TQEC

Summer 2014

## Date approved by Academic Board

Summer 2014

## Date(s) updated/amended

25 April 2022