Introduction to the Foundation Course

In this prospectus

Our training courses are competitively priced, and a bursary scheme is available to students, including a dedicated bursary for students from Black and minority ethnic groups. The training courses are designed to thoroughly prepare individuals for the reality of being a practicing therapist in private practice and the statutory and voluntary sectors.

The training is rigorous, challenging, and rewarding. It can also be an emotionally difficult process, and we pride ourselves upon the extensive support we offer our trainees.

COURSE AIMS

The course has four distinct aims . . .

1 **To stand as a course in its own right for professionals who want to use it for CPD purposes or for a better understanding of society, families and individuals.**

For example –

- ❖ Mental health workers
- ❖ Doctors and nurses
- ❖ Social workers
- ❖ Counsellors and therapists whose initial training was not psychodynamic
- ❖ Practitioner psychologists
- ❖ Drug and alcohol professionals
- ❖ Probation officers

2 **To give students who are considering a clinical training in psychoanalytic psychotherapy a disciplined and critical taster of what it might be like.**

The course as a taster

We recognise that committing to a four-year clinical training is demanding in terms of: time, money and emotional effort. Taking the Foundation Year provides an opportunity to sample this before embarking on the final three years.

Also, training in psychoanalysis is not for everyone and this is a chance to find out.

3   To act as the first year of a formal training in psychoanalytic psychotherapy for those who are certain they wish to apply to train as a psychotherapist.

The full four year course (Foundation Year + 3 year clinical training) lead to UKCP Registration.

4   For those who have a general, cultural or artistic interest in the importance of the unconscious, to explore how it might relate to their work.

AGIP has a longstanding relationship with the arts. AGIP members include artists, photographers and musicians alongside members who have interests in theatre, film and cultural criticism.

COURSE DELIVERY

- ❖ 1-year seminar course.
- ❖ The course is delivered on ten Saturdays across the year.
- ❖ 10am to 6.30pm each Saturday.
- ❖ The day consists of four theoretical/clinical seminars and an experiential group.
- ❖ Normally there are two seminar leaders per Saturday.
- ❖ The experiential group leader remains the same throughout the year.

INDICATIVE WEEKEND TOPICS

October	When we were very young - Communicating without words
November	Narcissism: omnipotence and the empty self
December	Oedipus - two's company, three's a crowd
January	Sex, love and intimacy - attempts to relate
February	Death instinct - dicing with death - addictions and other attacks on the self
March	Psyche-soma: Hysteria in the 21st century

April	Trauma: The psyche overwhelmed
May	War and peace: Aggression - a creative or destructive force?
June	Self and society: A false distinction?
July	Research: How can we know psychoanalysis works? Clinical boundaries and ethical dilemmas

APPLICATION DETAILS

- Application fee: £***
- Closing date for applications: 30th June 2025
- You must be able to demonstrate evidence of working with people in a helping capacity.
- You must have a degree or equivalent (but exceptions can be made)

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Complete an application form
- Write a personal statement
- Provide two references
- One interview

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Minimum 80% attendance
- 3 tutorials during the year with your personal tutor
- Personal therapy (once a week for a year)
- One optional written assignment of 3,000 words (compulsory for candidates continuing on to the clinical training)
- Course fee – set annually

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

- ❖ Access to the AGIP library
- ❖ Access to PEP (Psychoanalytic Electronic Publishing)
- ❖ Personal tutor
- ❖ Peer group