

**INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY FOR GRADUATE STUDIES**  
Faculty of Brainspotting/Behavioural Health  
**Doctoral Degrees**

**I. Instructional Philosophy and Mission:**

The primary mission of the educational programme in Brainspotting/Behavioural Health coursework is to;

- A. Provide an opportunity for students with advanced Brainspotting to:
  - a. focus their studies on areas directly related to Brainspotting theory and/or practice
  - b. receive graduate credits for their training in Brainspotting.
- B. Develop competent, critical reviewers and well-informed researchers, professors and clinicians,
- C. Enhance and promote a comprehensive basis for teaching, researching and practicing behavioural health,
- D. Promote systems which respect the diversity of client populations as well as approaches to research, teaching and clinical practice,
- E. Advance the body of academic literature within the field through the promotion of research outcomes and analysis, research and clinical ethics. teaching and clinical effectiveness, special populations, evidence-based practice, and mental health concerns,
- F. Inculcate excellence and critical thinking within the field.

**II. Outcomes:**

Students must demonstrate the following;

- A. Comprehensive knowledge of brainspotting/behavioural health clinical theory and practice via the following:
  - 1. literature review
  - 2. bibliography, and
  - 3. the development of an annotated outline for the Dissertation or Project,
- B. Thorough knowledge of research methodologies via formulation of a brainspotting/behavioural health research question and the selection of an appropriate means of data collection and analysis,
- C. Well-developed critical thinking skills, including those of analysis and synthesis, including approaches in awareness and advantages of qualitative and quantitative research methods,
- D. Graduate level written and oral communication skills,
- E. Competent psychotherapy practice and research skills with individuals, children, adolescents, families, couples, the elderly and also group psychotherapy,

- F. Competent practice and research skills concerning mental health issues with an additional awareness of the following:
1. Approaches to trauma-based issues and treatment;
  2. Co-morbidities with physical illness;
  3. Cross-theoretical approaches to mental health treatment and research;
  4. Awareness of ability/willingness to change in psychotherapy and;
  5. Approaches to collaboration with other health care professional and mental health workers.
- G. Ease with discourse about subject matter via Dissertation Defence or Oral Examination and when appropriate at round table discussions with peers and faculty,
- H. A mastery of examination materials and ability to participate in analysis of research articles and ability to translate these articles into components of clinical practice.

### III. Content:

- A. IUGS offers the following Degrees in Brainspotting/Behavioural Health:
1. Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) with a Concentration in Brainspotting®;
  2. Doctor of Psychology (PsyD) with a Concentration in Brainspotting®
- B. The student's portfolio and transcripts are examined by the Dean after discussion with the student to determine his or her goals. The 66 required credits for advanced standing will be approved after this process. Prerequisites for the Brainspotting® Concentration are:
1. Master's degree in relevant field
  2. Completion of 66 graduate credits or the equivalent
  3. Equivalencies may include credits for Brainspotting courses offered through BTI and its Specialty Trainers, and/or IUGS
  - d. Completion of Brainspotting Phase 1 Training with a BTI authorized Trainer in Brainspotting. Additional training and Certification in Brainspotting is desirable.
  - e. Prior to graduation students in the Brainspotting® Concentration will have completed Brainspotting Phase 2 Training with a BTI authorized Trainer in Brainspotting

IV. Domains included in these credits for acceptance in advance standing include but are not limited to:

A. Different theoretical approaches to clinical practice;

B. Components of unique characteristics of psychotherapy with special populations, including but not limited to the:

1. Mentally ill, including psychoses, neuroses and interaction with medical approaches,
2. Childhood issues,
3. Adult population issues,
4. Gerontological issues,
5. Issues related to gender, sexual preference and ethnicity and
6. Substance abuse and dual diagnosis.
7. Matching theoretical approaches to clinical practice.
8. Research methods, statistics, and design and research ethics.
9. Clinical ethics
10. Childhood and human development
11. Psychotherapy practicum

V. Graduation requirements include the following courses to be taken at IUGS:

A. Research and Design I (6) credits

B. Research & Design II (6) credits

C. Dissertation or Project (12) credits (It is expected that dissertations and projects related to Brainspotting will demonstrate the student's knowledge of literature and research in Brainspotting as well as current "state-of-the art" Brainspotting theory and practice.)

D. The 5-day Graduate Seminar at the 7-day Residency (3) credits

E. Credits required for the completion of the Doctoral Degree in Brainspotting/Behavioural Health (93)

**VI.** Sequence:

- A. The students' portfolio and transcripts are examined by the Dean or Associate Dean after discussion with the student to determine his or her goals.
- B. Advance standing course credits totaling (66) for the doctoral degree may be taken concurrently with the students other IUGS coursework. Students must complete the (66) advanced standing graduate credits for the doctoral degree prior to fulfilling their academic requirements in Brainspotting/Behavioural Health.
- C. Research I must be completed, approved, and filed before work on Research II begins.
- D. The Graduate Seminar may be completed at any time during the student's enrollment at IUGS, but must be completed prior to fulfilling their academic requirements in Brainspotting/Behavioural Health.

**VII.** Instructional strategies will include, but not be limited to:

- A. Assigned readings of texts and academic journal articles;
- B. Seminar review of these assigned readings;
- C. Interactive lectures;
- D. Small group discussions, where students will be evaluated on their level of participation;
- E. Use of electronic media (Questia online library provided by the University and other sources selected by the student, Mentor, and Dean);
- F. Examinations: cumulative and comprehensive examination to ensure subject matter mastery.

**VIII.** The number of instructors for each course will vary, but will be a minimum of at least three including:

- A. The Dean of the Behavioural Health Programme;
- B. The Associate Dean of the Brainspotting Programme;
- C. The Mentor;
- D. The Faculty Lecturers;
- E. The Dissertation and Oral Examination Committee Members.

