

Is the programme right for you? The War & Psychiatry MSc is designed for psychiatrists, psychologists and psychiatric nurses serving in the armed forces; administrators and clinicians employed in occupational psychiatric roles; students of war studies; military sociologists; cultural historians with a research interest in conflict and psychological trauma; people involved in anti-terrorist activities; and people involved in the emergency services.

What will you learn? Students learn to use theoretical and historical knowledge to evaluate the challenges facing military psychiatrists and members of the emergency services today. Debates about the social, legal, ethical and cultural aspects of military psychiatry lead to an understanding of the behaviour of service personnel and war-related psychiatric injury.

Through weekly seminars and multi-disciplinary teaching, students learn critical evaluation skills, research methodology, how to assess sources and how to present results and conclusions.

At the end of the course, students will be able to demonstrate the relevance of the major principles of military psychiatry to both contemporary practice and the history of warfare.



Professor Edgar Jones is programme leader for the War & Psychiatry MSc

'At King's, two of our 5 departments – the Institute of Psychiatry and the Department of War Studies – have come together to create an innovative Master's. It is probably the only programme of its kind in the world. I believe that this multidisciplinary programme will challenge our perceptions of how people behave in extreme adversity, or when they are subjected to intense or prolonged stress.'*

How will you study? The MSc has four elements. All students take two core modules: an introductory series of 20 seminars held in the Department of War Studies and an advanced module in military psychiatry which, with specialist teachers, addresses specific topics in greater depth. Students choose a third option module from a range of subjects offered by the Department, giving each individual an opportunity to explore specialist interests. The fourth element is a 15,000 word dissertation on a subject of each student's choice.

Where will you study? Teaching is at King's College London's Strand Campus but students use facilities at the King's Denmark Hill Campus in south London.

How long is the programme and when does it start? The programme begins in September every year. Full-time students study for one year, part-time students for two years.

What qualifications do you need to enrol? Students need a first degree or equivalent in medicine or psychology; or a 2.2 first degree in any subject; or other qualifications and experience that demonstrate an ability to undertake the programme. IELTS: 7.0

TOEFL: paper-based, 600

TOEFL: computer-based, 250

What is the intake? There are places for six full-time and six part-time students every September.

How do you apply or find out more?

For academic enquiries, contact Professor Edgar Jones, 020 7848 5413, edgar.jones@iop.kcl.ac.uk

Apply for a place online

at www.kcl.ac.uk/taught

Cover a column of Kosovar refugees fleeing their homeland in 1999 (UN Photo)

War & Psychiatry MSc

A multidisciplinary course on the psychological impact of war



Institute of Psychiatry

at The Maudsley



Why study at the Institute of Psychiatry?

The Institute of Psychiatry (IoP) is a School of King's College London with an international reputation for both research and teaching in the sciences relevant to mental health. The UK authorities responsible for distributing public money to support teaching and research have awarded us the highest rating of 5* for the quality of our work.

Students at the IoP become part of a vibrant, interdisciplinary community dedicated to understanding the causes of mental disorders and to developing and evaluating new treatments. They have the opportunity to learn from some of the world's most influential researchers and have access to first-class resources, including the largest library in Europe dedicated to psychiatry and its related disciplines.



British soldiers check their chemical and biological weapons suits in Iraq

Why study War & Psychiatry?

Shell Shock, 'Gulf War Syndrome' and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder have each hit the headlines and created controversy among health professionals, policy makers and the public. What is the truth behind the headlines? What are the psychological effects of combat and can preventative measures be taken to minimise them? Can treatment play a part in returning veterans to a productive civilian life?

The War & Psychiatry MSc Programme, jointly run by the IoP and the Department of War Studies at its sister School of Social Science and Public Policy, explores the evidence and conflicting explanations for psychological disorders of war. It helps students understand the major principles and issues of military psychiatry, starting from its origins in the trenches during 1914-1918 and moving forward to its wider development during the Second World War. The advent of global military policing and NATO involvement in conflict around the world allows comparisons to be made between the UK and other countries – the USA, Israel, France and Germany, for example.

Students learn not just about the psychological effects on soldiers fighting at the front line, but also how civilians cope when subjected to the trauma of war – from the Blitz to more recent terrorist attacks. In addition to a greater understanding of military psychiatry, students develop knowledge and skills not necessarily provided by clinical training. These skills are relevant for a career in military psychiatry and related emergency and anti-terrorist services: the programme leads to an internationally recognised qualification.



Soldiers from the US 256 Brigade Combat Team conduct a quick response drill in Baghdad, August 2005 (US Army)



A group of army psychiatrists outside the Maudsley Hospital in December 1918 (Bethlem Royal Archives and Museum)



A Type 23 frigate, HMS Northumberland on exercise in the Mediterranean in June 2003 (NATO)