

LEARNING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OVERVIEW FORM

Project title	ClinPsy-i: Web-based infrastructure for teaching and communications on the clinical psychology doctoral course		Project ID No	CLAD – HIST066
Strategy area/theme	Psychology			
Start date	July 2003	Completion date	August 2003	
Project type	Learner enhancement project			
Level	Postgraduate	Programme of study	Clinical Psychology	
Aims	To develop and integrate the support of students on placements using WebCT into the programme of study. This support to include the development of online learning materials and communities of practice with fellow students, tutors and clinicians.			
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To set up a project working group to steer the project.</li> <li>2. To identify and meet student/ tutor/ supervisor training needs in the use of new technology.</li> <li>3. To use the tools within WebCT to integrate theory with practice in the workplace. To develop communities of practice with peers, teaching staff and clinicians throughout the West Midlands.</li> <li>4. To develop and adapt current modules for online learning; for example, the child module is in an advanced stage of redevelopment as a prototype for the others. The new module will use WebCT for discussions using case studies, small group discussions following lectures, resources for special interest groups, book reviews, extensive placement descriptions, quizzes etc.</li> <li>5. NHS placement supervisors to be engaged as an online learning community/ forum for exchange of ideas and information.</li> <li>6. To evaluate the efficacy of the new technology as means of meeting project aims.</li> <li>7. To disseminate the results of the project.</li> <li>8. To provide general course information (for example, course committee meeting minutes).</li> </ol>			

<p>Overview</p>	<p>Clinical psychology skills are best learnt in practical situations, but clinical placements in practice are isolated, and they can also be emotionally and technically demanding. Constant support and communication from the training institution and the student's peer group are needed in order for students to succeed. Recent developments in Web-based teaching can help with this, including bulletin boards, chat rooms and noticeboards. This project will develop Web-based training material for Clinical Psychologists, contributing towards a more self-directed, modular model of training, important given probable large-scale expansion in Clinical Psychology training (due to recent NHS developments). It will create a learning community, including opportunities for support and reflection for Clinical Psychology students in the West Midlands; the project will also benefit NHS clinical supervisors who by tradition work in a relatively isolated manner.</p>
<p>Further Information</p>	<p>For further information on this project please contact CLAD at University of Birmingham</p> <p><a href="mailto:cladprojects@contacts.bham.ac.uk">cladprojects@contacts.bham.ac.uk</a> quoting CLAD projects HIST066</p>