CICS Diploma in Clinical Sexology

2018 Intake
Cambridge Institute of Clinical Sexology (CICS) was formed in 2016 by Course Directors Dr Alireza Tabatabaie and Julie Sale with the aim of improving sexual wellbeing through professional education in interdisciplinary clinical sexology.

**Our Vision:** To improve the quality of sexual lives through education.

**Our Mission:** We are passionate about sexual wellbeing and education. Our purpose is to provide healthcare professionals with the necessary education on sexual wellbeing through our advanced interdisciplinary courses, modules and seminars.
CICS Directors

Dr Alireza Tabatabaie
MD, PGDip SRT, COSRT Acc, MPhil, PhD(c), FECSM.

Ali is an interdisciplinary sexologist. He graduated as a medical doctor and specialised in sexual and relationship psychotherapy at the Porterbrook Clinic in Sheffield, a centre of excellence specialising in helping people with all kinds of sexual and relationship problems.

In 2011, he was awarded accreditation by the College of Sexual and Relationship Therapists (COSRT) and has been serving COSRT as a trustee (since 2012) and vice-chair (since 2015). In addition, he has attended the world renowned ESSM Oxford Sexual Medicine Course, receiving a comprehensive and rigorous training in various aspects of sexual medicine. In 2012, Ali was awarded the prestigious title of ‘Fellow of European Committee of Sexual Medicine (FECSM)’ by the Multidisciplinary Joint Committee on Sexual Medicine (MJCSM).

Along with clinical sexology, Ali has been actively involved in the field of education. He has recently completed a PhD in the social sciences at the University of Cambridge, UK, researching issues that concern effective sexuality and relationship education. He has extensively lectured and conducted workshops on various sexual health related subjects, nationally and internationally.

Julie Sale
UKCP Reg, COSRT Acc, FCIPD.

Julie is a UKCP Registered Psychotherapist, COSRT Accredited Psychosexual Psychotherapist and Supervisor. She was appointed to the position of COSRT Chair of Ethics in 2015 and, as such, is actively involved in the ethical and professional development of sex and relationship therapy at a national level. She currently represents COSRT on the national Memorandum of Understanding on Conversion Therapy group, working towards establishing standards of education and practice in gender, sexual and relationship diversity in the health professions across the UK.

As well as running her own busy private practice, Julie is Director of Local Counselling Centre, (LCC), a private counselling service and student placement agency based in Hertfordshire. Established in 2012, LCC holds the NHS contract for the provision of psychosexual psychotherapy in Hertfordshire as well as offering general, sex and relationship therapy to self-referring clients.

Julie is a teaching faculty member for the BeeLeaf Institute of Contemporary Psychotherapy running annual trainings on anxiety, OCD and human sexual development. Julie also holds the post of research supervisor for the BeeLeaf Institute.
Eminent Guest Tutors

Modules that cover the specialist subject areas of diversity, sex and the law, domestic violence and fertility are led by guest tutors with expertise in their given field. Details of guest tutors are published online at cambridgeinstitute.co.uk

Clinical Sexology

The scientific study of sexuality is diverse and multi-disciplinary and includes scholars, researchers, and clinicians working within the many branches of natural and social sciences and humanities. The term ‘sexology’ is a general umbrella referring to many forms of scientific study of sexuality.

At CICS we define ‘clinical sexology’ as an umbrella term referring to a wide range of clinical interventions concerning sexual health and wellbeing. We break clinical sexology into two major categories, one rooted in the natural sciences and medicine, concerned with the biophysical and physiological aspects of sexual health and wellbeing and the other, rooted in the social sciences and talking therapy traditions, dealing with the social and psychological aspects of sexual health and wellbeing.

CICS Diploma in Clinical Sexology

The CICS two-year Diploma in Clinical Sexology is a unique interdisciplinary programme, distinctive from similar courses in its attention to the combined psycho-social and organic dimensions of sexual and relationship health and wellbeing. The course has been designed to ensure that by the end of the programme, our graduates have a solid foundation of comprehensive knowledge and skills for confident therapeutic practice with sexual and relationship health and wellbeing problems.

Gender, sexual and relationship diversity is fully integrated into all aspects of the course. The course closely follows the stringent theoretical knowledge syllabus of the College of Sexual and Relationship Therapists, (COSRT), to which we are closely affiliated. The course is also attentive to the Syllabus of Clinical Sexology provided jointly by the European Federation of Sexology (EFS) and European Society for Sexual Medicine (ESSM).

COSRT Approval Pending

The therapeutic theoretical orientation of the course is “pluralism”. Pluralism is an emerging way of thinking about therapy, based on the fundamental assumption that ‘no one therapeutic approach has the monopoly on understanding the causes of distress or on the most helpful therapeutic responses. Instead, it suggests that different clients are likely to want, and benefit from, different things in therapy.’ (See pluralistictherapy.com for more information). We encourage our students to draw on a range of approaches to therapy, to best serve each unique client, whilst maintaining the centrality of relationship, relational working and therapeutic alliance to all counselling and psychotherapy work.

The course runs monthly on Fridays and Saturdays, intended to be convenient for professionals already in full-time work and is based in historical Cambridge within easy access of the City Centre.
At CICS we define ‘clinical sexology’ as an umbrella term referring to a wide range of clinical interventions concerning sexual health & wellbeing.

Course Dates & Overview

The course runs monthly on Fridays and Saturdays, 10am to 5pm, from March 2018 to February 2020, with breaks for holiday periods.

Our students must complete the full two-year diploma course to be deemed safe to practice clinical sexology with clients.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Content</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23/24 March 2018</td>
<td>Induction - Let’s Talk About Sex and Clinical Sexology</td>
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<tr>
<td>27/28 April 2018</td>
<td>Exploring Sexuality and Sexual Development: A Bio-Psycho-Social Perspective</td>
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<tr>
<td>8/9 June 2018</td>
<td>A Pluralistic Approach to Clinical Sexology: Key Skills</td>
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<td>6/7 July 2018</td>
<td>Sexual ‘Dysfunctions’ and Treatment Protocols</td>
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<td>14/15 Sept 2018</td>
<td>Out of Control Sexual Behaviour</td>
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<td>12/13 Oct 2018</td>
<td>Sexual Health, Fertility and Contraception</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10 Nov 2018</td>
<td>Sex, Relationships and Disability - Legal and Ethical Aspects of Sex and Relationships</td>
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<td>11/12 Jan 2019</td>
<td>Working with Relationship Diversity - Working with Gender Diversity</td>
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<td>8/9 Feb 2019</td>
<td>Working with Sexual Diversity - Working with Cultural Diversity</td>
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<td>8/9 March 2019</td>
<td>Couple Module 1: Theories of Love and Relationships</td>
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<td>17/18 May 2019</td>
<td>Couple Module 2: Enhancing Relationships</td>
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<tr>
<td>14/15 June 2019</td>
<td>Couple Module 3: Enhancing Sex</td>
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<td>19/20 July 2019</td>
<td>Domestic Violence and Abuse</td>
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<td>13/14/15 Sept 2019</td>
<td>Childhood Sexual Abuse and Paedophilia Stop SO (Stop-Sexual Offending) Foundation Course</td>
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<td>11/12 Oct 2019</td>
<td>Working with Shame and Trauma</td>
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<td>24/25th Jan 2020</td>
<td>Supervision, Revision, Review and Close</td>
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<tr>
<td>28/29th Feb 2020</td>
<td>Assessment and Viva Voces</td>
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Assessment

Assessment is continuous and comprises of both written and observed assessment protocols.

Evidence of Learning Portfolio
Throughout the course students complete a structured Evidence of Learning Portfolio to demonstrate their understanding of each of the course modules, using whichever medium best suits their learning style. This could be, for example, traditional essays or films, mind maps, drawings and poems, works and projects that adequately capture and illustrate that the syllabus has been understood.

Case Study
Students are required to complete a comprehensive, 5000 word case study to demonstrate the integration of their learning into safe, supervised clinical practice.

Assessment and Viva Voce
The final two days of the course comprise of a series of live assessments in the presence of an external assessor to confirm successful assimilation of learning and appropriate application to clinical practice.

Clinical Practice
To be awarded the CICS Diploma in Clinical Sexology, students must complete 200 hours of clinical practice supervised at a ratio of 1:6, covering the full range of sexual and relationship presentations. This is in line with COSRT requirements. This clinical practice must include a minimum of 10 cases, 5 of which must be couples/multiples.

Qualification Pathways

Following successful completion of the CICS diploma, students can work towards COSRT accreditation.

To achieve COSRT accreditation, students must complete a total of 450 clinical hours supervised at a ratio of 1:6 (an additional 250 hours to the diploma).

Students who are already accredited with BACP, UKCP, BPS, HCPC and equivalent will need to complete a total of 320 clinical hours (instead of 450) for COSRT accreditation supervised at a ratio of 1:6 (an additional 120 hours to the diploma).

Fees
The total course fee is £5,900. A non-refundable deposit of £300 is payable on acceptance of a place. The balance is then paid in monthly installments.

Venue
The Royal Cambridge Hotel
Trumpington Street
Cambridge
CB2 1PY

Discounted rates are available to CICS students requiring accommodation during the course.
Entry Requirements

> Applicants must either have a foundation training in counselling or be able to demonstrate that they have sufficient counselling competencies to enable them to meet the demands of the course or have a sexual health related degree level qualification with counselling equivalent experience.

> Applicants without a diploma in counselling will be required to take additional training and/or complete a supplementary section to the Evidence of Learning Portfolio to demonstrate counselling, boundary and risk management skills.

> All students must become members of COSRT.

> All students must have an Enhanced DBS check which CICS can facilitate at a cost of £65.

> All students must complete 50 hours of personal therapy, prior to or during the course.

> We welcome international applicants.

Find out more about the course online cambridgeinstitute.co.uk
Application Process

Please complete the enclosed application form along with an up-to-date CV, and either post to:
Julie Sale, Director, CICS, 3 Venture House, Fifth Avenue, Letchworth, Hertfordshire SG6 2HW
or email to julie@cambridgeinstitute.co.uk or complete online at cambridgeinstitute.co.uk

Suitable applicants will be invited to attend a face-to-face interview with Ali and Julie in Cambridge. International applicants will be interviewed via Skype/FaceTime.

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