M.A./Ph.D. in Depth Psychology
with Specialization in Jungian and Archetypal Studies

This rigorous, creative exploration of Jungian and archetypal psychology provides students with a range of theories, skills, and practices they can apply directly to their professional, personal, and creative lives, while addressing the collective challenges and opportunities of our moment in history. The curriculum is concerned with the role and function of archetypes in our personal complexes, vocational life, myths and religious experiences, dreams and fantasies, synchronicities and symptoms, artistic expressions, and creativity.

The Jungian and Archetypal Studies specialization moves depth psychology from the clinical consulting room out into the wider world. By stimulating and supporting the scholarship and creative research of students, the program promotes the crucial task of advancing depth psychological ideas and practices as catalysts for individual and cultural transformation.

The faculty is comprised of esteemed international scholars with a broad range of areas of expertise. They introduce students to foundational theoretical constructs in the field while helping them to engage critically and creatively with the course material. The coursework itself is aligned with Jung’s emphasis on the “ineluctable psychological necessity” of individuation, the process by which one might attain deep self-knowledge, further the development of consciousness, and better understand the unconscious factors shaping human experience.

For those called to explore the deeper dimensions of the human psyche, this program of study provides a unique opportunity to engage with, apply, and advance depth psychological theories and practices within the Jungian and archetypal traditions. Building on the work of C.G. Jung and James Hillman, students will consider approaches to the psyche that foster healing, transformation, self-expression, creativity, and the development of consciousness.

~ KEIRON LE GRICE, Specialization Chair

If you are considering applying to the Jungian and Archetypal Studies Specialization, you might be especially interested in exploring what Jung called archetypes—universal principles and organizing patterns that pre-condition and animate all human experience from the depths of the collective unconscious, a universal dimension of the psyche common to each of us.

You might also be eager to learn more about the process of psychological development and transformation that Jung called individuation, which leads to the realization of the deeper Self, the greater universal person within us. This was the main focus of Jung’s study of alchemy. Jungian ideas also inspired the polytheism of James Hillman’s archetypal psychology. For Hillman, gods and goddesses pervade everything. By engaging mythopoetically with life, and recognizing the gods and goddesses in all things, one can participate in the process Hillman called “soul-making.”
ACADEMIC FORMAT – A BLENDED ONLINE/LOW-RESIDENCY PROGRAM

This transformative and scholarly specialization takes advantage of online technology to allow students to work and learn in their home environments, while also taking part in engaged community sessions on Pacifica’s Ladera Lane Campus. Classes begin online and meet during four-day residential sessions (Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday) once per quarter. During these on-campus sessions, students have access to the Institute’s extensive resources and are able to engage with their classmates and instructors face-to-face, combining lecture, discussion, and experiential and embodied learning. Residential retreat sessions also allow time for exploration and community building through shared meals, social events, film screenings, guest lectures, and circle councils.

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

FIRST YEAR

Introduction to Depth Psychology – DJA 700, 3 Units
Jungian Psychology: The Individuation Journey – DJA 720, 3 Units
C. G. Jung in Context – DJA 710, 3 Units
Dreamwork: Tending the Living Images – DJA 825, 3 Units
Our Soul’s Code: Depth Psychological Views of Vocation – DJA 910, 3 Units
Archetypes: Universal Patterns of the Psyche – DJA 800, 3 Units
Mythopoetic Imagination: Viewing Film, Art, and Literature from a Jungian Perspective – DJA 805, 3 Units
Reflective Studies I: Foundations for Research – DJA 920, 3 Units

SECOND YEAR

Imaginal Ways of Knowing: Active Imagination, The Red Book, and Psychic Creativity – DJA 820, 3 Units
Archetypal Psychology – DJA 730, 3 Units
Depth Psychology and the Mythic Tradition – DJA 815, 3 Units
Complexes: Jung’s “Royal Road” to the Unconscious – DJA 810, 3 Units
The Psychoanalytic Tradition: The Ongoing Conversation – DJA 740, 3 Units
Post-Jungian Critiques and Perspectives – DJA 770, 3 Units
Psychological Types – DJA 835, 3 Units
Reflective Studies II – DJA 930, 3 Units

THIRD YEAR

Psyche and Eros: The Psychology and Mythology of Relationships – DJA 840, 3 Units
Somatic Studies: The Psyche-Soma Connection – DJA 845, 3 Units
The Alchemy of Transformation – DJA 865, 3 Units
Depth Psychology and the Sacred: Approaching the Numinous – DJA 850, 3 Units
Synchronicity and the New Sciences – DJA 855, 3 Units
Dissertation Development – DJA 950, 3 Units
Ecopsychology: The Psyche in Nature – DJA 860, 3 Units
Reflective Studies III – DJA 940, 3 Units

CONTINUING

Self-Directed Studies – DJA 970, 3 Units
Dissertation Writing – DJA 960, 15 Units

This curriculum may vary depending upon evolving academic needs. The required fourth and fifth years of study focus on reading, research, and dissertation writing.

Depth psychology ultimately became, through Jung, an ontology of the soul based on archetypes. Because this psychology takes into account the depths of the soul at its most subjective, transcendent, and impersonal level and assumes that personal behavior is derived from something beyond the personal, it attempts a true logos of the psyche. . . . Psychology thus becomes archetypal psychology in order to be adequate to its subject, the psyche.

~James Hillman
STUDENTS IN THE JUNGIAN AND ARCHETYPAL STUDIES SPECIALIZATION:

Critically explore a range of topics central to our understanding of the role of the unconscious psyche in human experience, such as healing, myth, dream, film, soul, spirit, ecology, religion, creativity, personal transformation, individuation, the development of consciousness, and more.

Deepen the capacity for imaginal, symbolic, mythic, critical, theoretical, and archetypal thinking and being in the world.

Engage with the creative, dynamic unconscious in both its personal and collective dimensions.

Hone the expression of their unique voice and vision through courses in research, writing, publication, and presentation.

Study side-by-side with Jungian scholars and practitioners interested in envisioning new possibilities for extending contemporary thought and practices into the world.

Read deeply and broadly from the Collected Works of C.G. Jung, Jung’s Red Book, and other core texts in the depth psychological tradition.

Evaluate the limitations and potentials of Jungian and archetypal psychology within contemporary contexts.

*The meeting of two personalities is like the contact of two chemical substances. If there is any reaction, both are transformed.*

~C.G. Jung
People who have been enrolled in our learning programs with an online component will tell you that community and intimacy builds quickly in that environment. While you may not “see” your classmates every month, like students in the residential programs, you will “hear” from them weekly. In fact, online learning is particularly conducive to hearing the voices of all students, as it requires participation from everyone; students who normally may be very quiet in a traditional classroom may be more comfortable “speaking” online.

Remember, too, that you will spend a little more than half of the direct instruction for each course meeting face-to-face with your classmates, and over those four days per quarter on campus, you will continue online discussions over shared meals, you will watch films and have social time, you will attend classes and guest lectures, and work together in pairs and groups. Community has been at the heart and soul of this specialization from its inception. In 1948, when Jung gave his dedication speech on the occasion of the founding of the C. G. Jung Institute in Zürich, he called for a community of scholars to come together to imagine extensions “without limit” for depth psychology in the world. This specialization aims to be such a community, one where students and faculty come together to support each other in exploring, applying, and advancing Jungian and archetypal studies “without limit” in the world.

As part of every course, students will share their understanding of how the material is relevant to their lives and their vocational callings, with their classmates and instructors serving as sounding boards and tuning forks who will provide support, share resources, and help refine each other’s theories and practices.

I followed my path. My dream was to be at Pacifica. It was not only a personal decision, it was my soul—my meaning in life. Pacifica was a calling.

DEANNA ARIAS
Depth Psychology Student

Although I initially came here to deepen an existing career, Pacifica helped me find my true calling and pursue it in an authentic way. It showed me that you can use the creative process to bring forward anything in your life that you want.

SKYLER MADISON, M.A.
DOCTORAL CANDIDATE
Depth Psychology Student