Grounding Exercise/Practice

Grounding Exercise/Practice Grounding is a foundational somatic resource that supports us both psychologically and physically especially when in stressful situations.

Grounding Exercise

- 1. Place both feet uncrossed on the ground
- 2. Bring your attention to both feet and notice how the heel and sole of both your feet make contact with the ground. Feel the ground underneath your feet.
- 3. Press one foot firmly onto the ground, then the other, engaging your thighs and buttocks, then press both feet onto the floor at the same time.
- 4. Sense the effect on your spine and the rest of your body.
- 5. Notice the experience of both feet making contact with the ground.
- 6. Keep doing this until you feel sensations in your lower legs and feel grounded.

Grounding Exercise when in a Public Place

- 1. Place both feet uncrossed on the ground.
- 2. Bring your attention to both feet and notice how the heel and sole of both feet make contact with the ground. Feel the ground underneath your feet.
- 3. Select one leg and press the foot gently down onto the ground slowly increasing the strength of your push and track which muscles in your leg are activated. Push with a little more strength and notice how your pelvic and back areas engage as you increase the force. Hold this for a few seconds and then let go, allowing the tension to slowly drain out of your muscles
- 4. Repeating step 3 twice.
- 5. Now notice how your body feels.
- 6. Optional: Repeat using the other leg and track as before.

The DCU Counselling & Personal Development Service, Student Support & Development, Dublin City University Dublin 9.

T +353 1 7005165 Glasnevin Campus T +353 1 700 9215 St Patrick's Campus

E counselling@dcu.ie Glasnevin Campus E spd.counselling@dcu.ie St Patrick's Campus W www.dcu.ie/students/counselling

