

## BSc (Hons) Psychology

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| Department                 | The Department of Health and Human Sciences  |
| Awarding Body              | University of East Anglia  |
| Additional Accreditations  | None   |
| Full-time Duration         | 3 years  |
| Part-time Duration         | -  |
| Full-time Annual Fee       | £8,500   |
| Part-time Annual Fee       | -  |
| Entry Requirements         | UCAS Tariff: 96 points<br>A Level: CCC<br>Pearson BTEC<br>L3 National Ext. Diploma: MMM  |
| Study Location             | University and Professional Development Centre,<br>73 Western Way, Bury St Edmunds UK  |
| Subject to Validation      | No   |
| Additional Potential Costs | <p>Expected expenses including books and study-related materials (pens, paper etc.) are approximately £200 per annum. There may be optional enrichment activities and visits that carry additional costs.</p> <p><b>*All costs are approximate and intended as a guideline only.</b></p>   |
| Narrative                  | <p>This course will introduce students to the key principles, ideas, and techniques of psychology. In the first year, we explore core topics such as biological, cognitive, developmental, and social psychology, as well as the fundamentals of conducting research in psychology.</p> <p>In year 2, alongside learning about subjects related to the different divisions of and careers within psychology, we pursue the topics introduced in the previous year in greater depth.</p> <p>In year 3, students will continue to develop subject-specific knowledge, covering topics such as abnormal psychology and individual differences, and apply understanding of research methods and data analysis to complete a piece of empirical research.</p> <p>Overall, we will provide students with a comprehensive grounding in the subject of psychology and the ability to understand and conduct relevant research. As well as subject-specific knowledge, students will develop general academic and personal skills such as critical thinking, time management, teamwork and presenting to an audience.</p> |

## Key Course Features

The course is delivered on campus and typically requires students to attend two full days per week.

Delivery of the course is through a range of methods including lectures, seminars, discussions, and workshops.

The first year of the course is designed to ensure a foundational knowledge of core topics in psychology to be built upon during the remainder of the degree. In the third year, students will be provided the opportunity to explore a subject area in more depth and apply their understanding of research methods and data analysis as they complete a piece of empirical research.

## Career Prospects

Following this degree some may wish to seek further education, accreditation, and training to pursue a career as a practitioner psychologist (e.g., clinical psychologist). However, a psychology degree is applicable in many different careers as it equips you with a range of skills and knowledge relevant to a variety of roles. Some students on similar courses have pursued postgraduate education in a range of subjects, including teaching qualifications. Others have begun employment with a wide variety of organisations, including the NHS and HM Prison Service.

## Module Summary

Year One:

### Introduction to Research Methods

This module introduces research methods utilised within the field of psychology. Students will explore research design in psychology, particularly quantitative methodology such as experimental designs. The module will provide practical experience in selecting and using tests appropriate for quantitative methodology, including the use of specialist statistical software such as SPSS.

### Introduction to Biological and Cognitive Psychology

This module introduces the main topics, theories, and research within biological and cognitive psychology with the aim to create a broad understanding of cognitive and biological psychology that will be built on in future years of the degree course.

### Introduction to Social and Developmental Psychology

This module will introduce the main topics, theories, and research within social and developmental psychology. Students will be made aware of the psychological explanations regarding society and human development and helped to understand how behaviour and development can be shaped by social contexts and experience.

### Positive Psychology

Positive psychology aims to bring the science of psychology to the positive aspects of human life and establish how we thrive and can maximise human potential. What makes life worth living? How do people

flourish? This module will seek to help students answer these questions using theory and empirical evidence from the field of positive psychology.

### **Psychology in the Digital World**

This module will apply psychological research and theory to online behaviour. It will explore topics such as how people represent themselves online and the impact of the internet on our relationships. It will also examine how the internet is used by different age groups, and for education, leisure, entertainment, and health care, as well as criminal activity.

### **Environmental Psychology**

This module introduces key theories, topics, and research within environmental psychology. To begin, students will consider the history of environmental psychology, before moving on to explore the influence of the environment (both built and natural) on human behaviour and what psychology has to say about important topics such as climate change.

Year Two:

### **Research Methods**

This module will build upon the knowledge and skills developed within 'Introduction to Research Methods'. The module will focus on further developing knowledge and understanding of quantitative and qualitative research methods as applied within psychology. As well as advancing their understanding of quantitative methods, students will be further familiarised with the conduct of qualitative research.

### **Biological and Cognitive Psychology**

This module builds upon 'Introduction to Biological and Cognitive Psychology'. Students will broaden and deepen their knowledge of the main areas of biological and cognitive psychology, such as the brain and central nervous system, emotion, and consciousness.

### **Social and Developmental Psychology**

This module builds upon 'Introduction to Social and Developmental Psychology'. Students will broaden and deepen their knowledge of the main areas of social and developmental psychology, such as social cognition and emotional and cognitive development across the lifespan. A key focus will be the interplay of the two approaches and how they can relate to education, criminology, forensics and health etc.

### **Employability and Careers in Psychology**

This module explores the qualifications and experience needed to work as a practitioner psychologist. As well as considering psychological professions, students will be helped to gain awareness of the wide range

of generic skills they will have developed as a psychology graduate and how that supports entry into a broad range of careers.

### **Educational Psychology**

This module will introduce students to the discipline of educational psychology and how psychological theory and findings are relevant to education. Students will explore the application of key theories, models, and empirical research within educational psychology, particularly in relation to school-aged children, including topics such as the learning process and special educational needs.

### **Forensic Psychology**

This module will introduce students to the discipline of forensic psychology and how psychological theory and findings are applied in the criminal justice system. Students will explore the application of key psychological theory and research findings to criminal investigation, trial processes and offender treatment and assessment.

Year Three:

### **Dissertation**

The dissertation module requires students to carry out valid, independent, small-scale research, developing key skills in data and information gathering, evaluation, analysis, and communication, on a topic within psychology. The module develops and applies the techniques and principles of research learned in the research methods module(s).

### **Psychometric Testing in Employment**

This module will critically explore a range of popular psychometric tests and how they are used within recruitment and progression in the workplace. Students will explore the history, and reliability and validity, of these testing methods. They will also examine theories within this area, with focus on multiple intelligences such as emotional, social, and practical.

### **Psychology of Mental Health**

This module will introduce students to psychopathology and clinical psychology by exploring a range of psychological disorders, as well as relevant paradigms, concepts, and models. The assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of psychopathology (mental illness) will be considered, as well as how this has evolved over time.

### **Health Psychology**

This module will introduce students to the field of health psychology, including key theories and research. Students will explore the application of health psychology to the onset, development, and management of illness and health-related behaviour at the individual and societal level.

This will include topics such as health promotion and the relation between psychological and physical experience.

### **The Psychology of Marketing and Persuasion**

Why do we buy the things that we do? How are we persuaded by political figures? How can we market ourselves effectively? This module will help students to answer these questions by exploring issues within the broad topics of persuasion, the role of psychology in advertising, marketing psychology and consumer psychology.

#### **Staff Team**

Lecturing staff are all educated to at least undergraduate degree level in psychology or associated subjects. Some are members of the British Psychological Society and/or further qualified to masters and doctoral level in psychology or associated subjects.

#### **Assessment Methods**

A variety of assessment methods are used which include essays, exams, presentations, research reports, critical reviews, case studies, scenarios, and portfolios.

Modules have between one and two summative assessments. The number of summative assessments for each module is made clear in the assessment schedule and module handbook.

Modules are assessed by the module leader and internally verified by another member of staff.

#### **Typical Module Diet**

All modules are 20 credits unless stated

| <b>Year 1 (L4)</b>                                  | <b>Year 2 (L5)</b>                      | <b>Year 3 (L6)</b>                         |
|---|---|--|
| Introduction to Research Methods                    | Research Methods                        | Dissertation (40 Credits)                  |
| Introduction to Biological and Cognitive Psychology | Biological and Cognitive Psychology     | Psychometric Testing in Employment         |
| Introduction to Social and Developmental Psychology | Social and Developmental Psychology     | Psychology of Mental Health                |
| Positive Psychology                                 | Employability and Careers in Psychology | Health Psychology                          |
| Psychology in the Digital World                     | Educational Psychology                  | The Psychology of Marketing and Persuasion |
| Environmental Psychology                            | Forensic Psychology                     |  |

## Study Hours

### Study Hours per 20 credit Module: 200 hours

Lectures and Seminars: 36 – 48 hours

Assessments: 30 hours

Preparation and Independent study: 122 – 134 hours

\*Typically, three 20 credit modules will be studied per semester. There are two semesters a year.

*This programme is regulated by the Office for Students under the Quality Assurance Agency framework for UK Higher Education. Where studying may incur additional incidental or optional costs these are listed on the relevant course page on our website. Our Terms and Conditions, Admissions Policy (including baseline English language requirements) can be accessed via the University Studies website at <https://www.universitystudies.wsc.ac.uk/policies>*