

## MSc Psychology

Kate Wilmut (programme director)

## MSc Psychology

- MSc confers eligibility of graduate basis for chartered membership of the BPS (GBC)
- In order to be eligible for GBC students must gain an overall pass mark of at least 50% and must complete the final level empirical psychology project.
- No compensation is allowed.

## Do I need BPS accreditation?

- Needed for entry to ALL postgraduate professional training courses in Psychology
  - Health Psychology
  - Clinical Psychology
  - Educational Psychology
  - Occupational Psychology
- Also needed for entry onto many academic postgraduate M level courses in Psychology
- Not necessarily needed for a PhD in Psychology.....
  - But you would need a background in empirical research

## Structure MSc

- Consists of 8 M level modules
  - Some of these are shared with the other MSc programmes
- FT study mode = 1 year of study
- PT study model = 2 years of study
- Maximum completion time = 5 years

## Modules

Semester 1		Semester 2		Summer
Cognitive and Social Aspects of Development (Developmental Psychology I)		Social Psychology		
Introduction to Cognitive Neuroscience				
Research Design Skills	Experimental Design and Statistics for Psychology	Research Design Skills	Experimental Design and Statistics for Psychology	
Intelligence and Individual Differences (Theory and Methods in Psychology I)		Personality and Psychological Disorders (Theory and Methods in Psychology II)		
Research-Based Dissertation				

No options – you must take these 8 modules

## Part time programme

Year	Semester 1		Semester 2		Summer
1	Cognitive and Social Aspects of Development (Developmental Psychology I)		Social Psychology		
	Intelligence and Individual Differences (Theory and Methods in Psychology I)		Personality and Psychological Disorders (Theory and Methods in Psychology II)		
2	Introduction to Cognitive Neuroscience				
	Research Design Skills	Experimental Design and Statistics for Psychology	Research Design Skills	Experimental Design and Statistics for Psychology	
Research-Based Dissertation					

## Cognitive and Social Aspects of Development

(Developmental Psychology I)

- **Cohorts:** MSc Psychology and MRes Developmental Psychology
- **Part of BPS Syllabus:** Developmental Psychology
- **Content:**
  - cognitive developmental
  - development of reasoning, working memory and executive functioning
  - attachment
  - gender role development, culture and socialisation
- **Assessment:** 100% Coursework: One 300-word research summary (20%) and one 2000-word essay (80%)

## Social Psychology

- **Cohorts:** MSc Psychology
- **Part of BPS Syllabus:** Social Psychology
- **Structure:** Student-led seminars, students will present findings from indicative readings, lead discussions and take an active role in sessions covering:
  - Attitudes
  - Prejudice
  - Intergroup dynamics and leadership
  - Social Influence
  - Communication
  - Attraction
- **Assessment:** Presentation (Pass/Fail) and Exam (100%): Essay questions

## Introduction to Cognitive Neuroscience

- **Cohorts:** MSc Psychology and MSc Cognitive Neuroscience
- **Part of BPS Syllabus:** Biological Psychology and Cognitive Psychology
- **Content:**
  - Neuroscience of vision and attention
  - Executive Functions – planning & reasoning
  - Language
  - Learning and Memory
  - Emotions
- **Assessment:** Exam (100%): 2 essay questions, one focusing on cognitive aspects and one focusing on biological aspects

## Experimental Method & Statistics for Psychology

- **Cohorts:** All taught PG students
- **Part of BPS Syllabus:** Research Design (quantitative methods) and Cognitive Psychology
- **Content:**
  - Analysis of Variance and Analysis of Covariance
  - Data handling
  - Data reduction: Factor Analysis/reliability
  - Regression and Logistic regression
- **Assessment:** Coursework (100%): A grant report and short answer questions

## Intelligence and Individual Differences

(Theory and Methods in Psychology I)

- **Cohorts:** MSc Psychology and MRes Developmental Psychology
- **BPS syllabus:** Individual differences, Cognitive psychology, Research design (qualitative and quantitative methods)
- **Content:**
  - Narrative interviewing and Interpretative and Phenomenological Analysis of social data
  - Ethnicity and analysing verbal data
  - Psychometrics, Intelligence and psychological testing
  - Cognitive Style and Questionnaires in Socio-Cognitive Psychopathology
- **Assessment:** Coursework (100%): 1 seminar presentation (P/F) and 1,500-word essay (100%).

## Personality and Psychological Disorders

(Theory and Methods in Psychology II)

- **Cohorts:** MSc Psychology
- **BPS Syllabus:** Individual differences, Research design (quantitative methods)
- **Content:**
  - Personality, including experimental methods and theoretical approaches
  - Mood & its measurement
  - Theory & research methods in emotional processing and facial expression
  - Mental health and psychological disorders
  - Cultural variations in behavior & experience
  - Issues of gender and ethnicity
- **Assessment:** Coursework (100%): 3,000-word essay

### Research Design Skills and Research Based dissertation

- **Cohorts:** All taught PG students
- **BPS syllabus:** Practical component
  
- **Research design skills:**
  - Literature reviews, library skills, bibliographic skills
  - Ethical practices and procedures
  - Presentation skills
  - **Assessment :** Coursework (100%): Literature review and presentation (pass/fail) on the topic of the research-based dissertation.
  
- **Research based dissertation**
  - Individual tutorials with project
  - **Assessment:** Coursework (100%): The dissertation is a 10,000 word piece reporting an original empirical study

### Assessment overview

Module	Credits	Hours
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cognitive and Social Aspects of Development</li> <li>• Social Psychology</li> <li>• Introduction to Cognitive Neuroscience</li> <li>• Experimental Design and Statistical Method for Psychology</li> <li>• Intelligence and Individual Differences</li> <li>• Personality and Psychological Disorders</li> </ul>	20	200 hours of student time Some of this is in lectures, seminars or/and workshops The rest is directed study
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research Design Skills</li> </ul>	10	100 hours of student time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research-Based Dissertation</li> </ul>	50	500 hours of student time All directed study

1800 hours in total and so FT study is similar to full time job  
Could spend less time on each module.....

### Entry Requirements

You must normally possess the following qualifications:

- an upper second-class or first-class honours degree awarded by a recognised institution of higher education in the UK or overseas **AND**
- 60 CATS credits in Psychology (including statistics and research methods). You must normally have achieved an average of 60% in these 60 credits **AND**
- English as your first language, or GCSE or O-level English Language, or a TOEFL score of at least 600 (paper based) or 100 (internet based), or an IELTS score of 7.0, or equivalent evidence of proficiency in English.

### Fees etc.

- EU FT = £5,350
- EU PT = £2,730
- International FT = £11,140
  
- 10% discount on fees if you study on the SQC and MSc in consecutive years
- Priority of SQC students
  - **Must apply soon**
  
- **John Henry Brookes Scholarship:**
  - £1,000 - £3,000 awards
  - **Must be FT in Health and Life Sciences Faculty**
  - **There is a total of £8,000 to award across these programmes**
- For other see website

### Timetable for 2011-2012

We hope this will remain unchanged for the 2012 entry but cannot guarantee this until later in the year.

		AM	PM
Semester 1	Mon	Introduction to Cognitive Neuroscience	
	Tues		
	Weds		Research design skills/Experimental Design and Statistics for Psychology
	Thurs		
	Fri	Intelligence and Individual Differences	Cognitive and Social Aspects of Development
Semester 2	Mon		Social Psychology
	Tues		
	Weds		Research design skills/Experimental Design and Statistics for Psychology
	Thurs		
	Fri	Personality and Psychological Disorders	