Goldsmiths
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

MSc Psychology (Conversion)
Programme Specification

Awarding Institution:
University of London (Interim Exit Awards made by Goldsmiths' College)
Teaching Institution: Goldsmiths, University of London
Final Award: MSc Psychology (Conversion)
Programme Name: MSc Psychology (Conversion)
Total credit value for programme: 180
Interim Exit Award(s):
Postgraduate Certificate in Psychology
Postgraduate Diploma in Psychology
Duration of Programme: 1 year full-time
UCAS Code(s): Not applicable
HECoS Code(s): (100497) Psychology
QAA Benchmark Group: Not applicable
FHEQ Level of Award: Level 7
Programme accredited by: British Psychological Society (BPS)
Date Programme Specification last updated/approved: August 2023
Home Department: Psychology
Department(s) which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme: N/A

Programme overview

This innovative MSc programme is for you if you have not studied psychology before, and will equip you with the knowledge and qualifications necessary to start your training for a career in professional psychology (e.g., clinical psychology, educational psychology, forensic psychology), or to become a research psychologist. The Masters is accredited by the British Psychological Society (accreditation pending), and once completed successfully, will confer Graduate Basis for Chartership (GBC). It will equip you with an up-to-date knowledge of the core areas of psychological science, and develop the knowledge and skills necessary to undertake research in academic and professional settings. You will also complete a research dissertation, providing valuable skills and experience in conducting empirical work.

Programme entry requirements

A first- or upper second-class honours degree (or equivalent undergraduate degree) in any field will be required; on an individual basis, we will consider relevant experience for those students who do not have a First or 2:1 in their first degree. Given the statistical basis of one of the core subjects, students who need to refresh their numeracy skills might be required to take a pre-sessional course on statistics offered by the Department of Psychology as appropriate. Non-native English students should normally have a minimum IELTS score of 6.5 or equivalent.

Programme learning outcomes

Students who successfully complete 60 Credit **Post Graduate Certificate** in the Psychology Conversion programme. To achieve 60 credits for the award of Postgraduate Certificate you will need to pass at least four of the following 15 credit modules:

PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (Conversion)
PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology
PS74020A Cognition & Culture
PS74018A Life & Society
PS74019A Mental Health & Wellbeing

PS71052 Critical Analysis
Two optional modules from existing PGT offering

Following completion of these modules, you will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A1	demonstrate systematic knowledge of a range of concepts, theories and research in the field of psychology.	PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (Conversion) PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS74020A Cognition & Culture PS74018A Life & Society PS74019A Mental Health & Wellbeing PS71052 Critical Analysis Two optional modules from existing PGT offering
A2	critically assess psychological theory, research, and practice with reference to social, historical, scientific and philosophical issues.	PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (Conversion) PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS74020A Cognition & Culture PS74018A Life & Society PS74019A Mental Health & Wellbeing PS71052 Critical Analysis Two optional modules from existing PGT offering
A3	critically discuss relevant and important debates and insights within psychology.	PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (Conversion) PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS74020A Cognition & Culture PS74018A Life & Society PS74019A Mental Health & Wellbeing

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
		PS71052 Critical Analysis Two optional modules from existing PGT offering

Cognitive and thinking skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B1	critically evaluate relevant research and literature within the psychology discipline.	PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (Conversion) PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS74020A Cognition & Culture PS74018A Life & Society PS74019A Mental Health & Wellbeing PS71052 Critical Analysis Two optional modules from existing PGT offering
B2	critically interrogate claims made within and based on psychological practice, research, and theory.	PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (Conversion) PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS74020A Cognition & Culture PS74018A Life & Society PS74019A Mental Health & Wellbeing PS71052 Critical Analysis Two optional modules from existing PGT offering
B3	demonstrate scholarly competence and reflective skill in the process of analysing, interpreting, and evaluating psychological theory and practice.	PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (Conversion) PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
		PS74020A Cognition & Culture PS74018A Life & Society PS74019A Mental Health & Wellbeing PS71052 Critical Analysis Two optional modules from existing PGT offering

Subject specific skills and professional behaviours and attitudes

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C1	demonstrate knowledge of the principles and procedures required to administer questionnaires and other such measures in a proficient manner	PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (Conversion)
C2	evaluate psychological research and practice taking into account ethical values and codes of practice.	PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (Conversion)
C3	demonstrate in-depth knowledge and understanding of the skills needed to conduct a number of types of psychological research.	PS710101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (Conversion)

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Transferable skills (Elements)

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
D1	present their thoughts, knowledge and work in a clear and comprehensible manner in both oral and written form.	mo PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (Conversion) PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS74020A Cognition & Culture PS74018A Life & Society PS74019A Mental Health & Wellbeing PS71052 Critical Analysis Two optional modules from existing PGT offering
D2	critically reflect upon and evaluate their own ideas and presentations of their work.	PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (Conversion) PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS74020A Cognition & Culture PS74018A Life & Society PS74019A Mental Health & Wellbeing PS71052 Critical Analysis Two optional modules from existing PGT offering
D3	manage their time effectively and assume personal responsibility for their work.	PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (Conversion) PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS74020A Cognition & Culture PS74018A Life & Society

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
		PS74019A Mental Health & Wellbeing PS71052 Critical Analysis Two optional modules from existing PGT offering
D4	work effectively with others in team learning environments	PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (Conversion) PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS74020A Cognition & Culture PS74018A Life & Society PS74019A Mental Health & Wellbeing PS71052 Critical Analysis Two optional modules from existing PGT offering

Students who successfully complete the 120 credit **Post Graduate Diploma** in the Psychology Conversion programme. To achieve 120 credits, you will need to pass all of the following 15 credit modules:

PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (conversion)
PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology
PS74020A Cognition & Culture
PS74018A Life & Society
PS74019A Mental Health & Wellbeing
PS71052 Critical Analysis
Two optional modules from existing PGT offering

Following completion of these modules, you will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A1	demonstrate a comprehensive and systematic knowledge of a wide range of concepts, theories and research in the field of psychology.	PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (conversion) PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS74020A Cognition & Culture PS74018A Life & Society PS74019A Mental Health & Wellbeing PS71052 Critical Analysis Two optional modules from existing PGT offering
A2	critically assess psychological theory, research, and practice; taking into account pertinent social, historical, scientific and philosophical issues.	PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (conversion) PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS74020A Cognition & Culture PS74018A Life & Society PS74019A Mental Health & Wellbeing PS71052 Critical Analysis Two optional modules from existing PGT offering
A3	independently search for, identify and critically discuss relevant and important cutting-edge issues, debates and new insights within psychology.	PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (conversion) PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS74020A Cognition & Culture PS74018A Life & Society PS74019A Mental Health & Wellbeing PS71052 Critical Analysis Two optional modules from existing PGT offering

Cognitive and thinking skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B1	critically evaluate seminally influential past and current research and literature within the psychology discipline.	PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (conversion) PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS74020A Cognition & Culture PS74018A Life & Society PS74019A Mental Health & Wellbeing PS71052 Critical Analysis Two optional modules from existing PGT offering
B2	critically interrogate claims made within and based on psychological practice, research, and theory, identifying false logic or reasoning, implicit values, and unfounded assumptions.	PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (conversion) PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS74020A Cognition & Culture PS74018A Life & Society PS74019A Mental Health & Wellbeing PS71052 Critical Analysis Two optional modules from existing PGT offering
B3	Demonstrate scholarly competence, reflective skill, creativity, and originality in the process of analysing, interpreting, and applying psychological knowledge, theory and practice.	PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (conversion) PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS74020A Cognition & Culture PS74018A Life & Society PS74019A Mental Health & Wellbeing PS71052 Critical Analysis Two optional modules from existing PGT offering
B4	to apply effective problem-solving and decision-making to real-life and research	PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (conversion)

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
	situations, taking into account contextual complexity.	PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS74020A Cognition & Culture PS74018A Life & Society PS74019A Mental Health & Wellbeing PS71052 Critical Analysis Two optional modules from existing PGT offering

Subject specific skills and professional behaviours and attitudes

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C1	administer proficiently various psychology questionnaires and measures.	PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (Conversion)
C2	take into consideration and apply ethical values and codes of practice associated with conducting research in diverse areas of psychology.	PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (Conversion)
C3	demonstrate in-depth knowledge, understanding, skills and practical experience needed to conduct various types of psychological research.	PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (Conversion)

Transferable skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
D1	present their thoughts, knowledge and work in a clear and comprehensible manner in both oral and written form.	PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (conversion) PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS74020A Cognition & Culture PS74018A Life & Society PS74019A Mental Health & Wellbeing PS71052 Critical Analysis Two optional modules from existing PGT offering
D2	reflect deeply and insightfully evaluate their ideas, research practice, and presentation of their work.	PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (conversion) PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS74020A Cognition & Culture PS74018A Life & Society PS74019A Mental Health & Wellbeing PS71052 Critical Analysis Two optional modules from existing PGT offering
D3	manage their time effectively and assume personal responsibility and a sense of ownership in their work.	PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (conversion) PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS74020A Cognition & Culture PS74018A Life & Society PS74019A Mental Health & Wellbeing PS71052 Critical Analysis Two optional modules from existing PGT offering
D4	work effectively with others in team environments.	PS71054E Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (conversion)

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
		PS71101A Introduction to Statistics in Psychology PS74020A Cognition & Culture PS74018A Life & Society PS74019A Mental Health & Wellbeing PS71052 Critical Analysis Two optional modules from existing PGT offering

In addition to the above outcomes, students who complete the **MSc** Psychology Conversion Programme will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A4	Demonstrate an indepth, systematic and comprehensive, knowledge and understanding of specific area of research and applying this to inform an original, independent research project.	Research Project (Postgraduate)

Cognitive and thinking skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B5	Propose, plan, execute and critically self-evaluate a significant piece of original research.	Research Project (Postgraduate)

Subject specific skills and professional behaviours and attitudes

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C4	Identify and apply a highly considered, ethical and appropriate research design and method of statistical analysis for their particular chosen research question.	Research Project (Postgraduate)

Transferable skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
D4	Communicate complex information and concepts in a clear and comprehensible manner.	Research Project (Postgraduate)
D5	Use internet and electronic databases effectively for addressing research questions	Research Project (Postgraduate)
D6	Critically analyse and evaluate research evidence.	Research Project (Postgraduate)

Grading Criteria

Mark	Descriptor	Specific Marking Criteria
80-100%	Distinction (Outstanding/ Exceptional)	A grade in the range of 80-100% be awarded in the case of really accomplished work that demonstrates high levels of scholarship and originality. This grade will reflect the overall achievement of the appropriate learning outcomes to an exceptionally accomplished level. In particular a grade in the 90s should be reserved for work deemed to be outstanding, and of publishable quality.
70-79%	Distinction	A grade in the range of 70-79% will be awarded when candidates show evidence of an excellent application of appropriate knowledge, understanding and skills as specified in the module learning outcomes. Demonstration of a thorough grasp of relevant concepts, methodology and content appropriate to the subject discipline; indication of originality in application of ideas, in synthesis of material or in performance; insight reflects depth and confidence of understanding of the material.
60-69%	Merit	Demonstration of a deep level of understanding based on a competent grasp of relevant concepts, methodology and content; display of skill in applying interpreting complex material; organisation of material at a high level of competence. Students should be able to demonstrate the ability to work independently to research and implement state of the art technologies.
50-59%	Pass	Demonstration of a sound level of understanding based on a competent grasp of relevant concepts, methodology and content; display of skill in organising, discussing and applying complex material. Students should be able to implement state of the art technologies under guidance.
30-49%	Fail	Represents an overall failure to achieve the appropriate learning outcomes. Students achieve some of the aims but were unable to demonstrate independence and originality beyond what would be expected at undergraduate level.
10-29%	Bad fail	Represents a significant overall failure to achieve the appropriate learning outcomes.
1-9%	Very bad fail	A submission that does not attempt to address the modules specified learning outcomes. It will be considered a non-valid attempt and the module must be re-sat.

Mark	Descriptor	Specific Marking Criteria
0%	Non submission or plagiarised	Work was not submitted or it was plagiarised.

Mode of study

Programme structure

Full-time mode

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Status	Term
Cognition & Culture	PS74020A	15	7	C	1 & 2
Mental Health & Wellbeing	PS74019A	15	7	C	1 & 2
Life & Society	PS74018A	15	7	C	1 & 2
Two optional modules from existing PGT offering		15 x 2	7	O	1 or 2
Introduction to Statistics in Psychology	PS71101A	15	7	C	1
Research Design and Analysis for MSc Psychology (conversion)	PS71054E	15	7	C	1
Critical Analysis	PS71052B	15	7	C	
Research Project (Postgraduate)	PS71097B	60	7	C	1, 2 & 3

Academic support

Support for learning and wellbeing is provided in a number of ways by departments and College support services who work collaboratively to ensure students get the right help to reach their best potential both academically and personally.

All students are allocated a Personal Tutor (one in each department for joint programmes) who has overall responsibility for their individual progress and welfare. Personal Tutors meet with their student at least twice a year either face-to-face, as part of a group and/or electronically. The first meeting normally takes place within the first few weeks of the autumn term. Personal Tutors are also available to students throughout the year of study. These meetings aim to discuss progress on modules, discussion of the academic discipline and reports from previous years if available (for continuing students). This provides an opportunity for progress, attendance and assessment marks to be reviewed and an informed discussion to take place about how to strengthen individual learning and success.

All students are also allocated a Senior Tutor to enable them to speak to an experienced academic member of staff about any issues which are negatively impacting their academic study and which are beyond the normal scope of issues handled by Programme Convenors and Personal Tutors.

Students are provided with information about learning resources, the Library and information available on Learn.gold (VLE) so that they have access to department/programme handbooks, programme information and support related information and guidance.

Taught sessions and lectures provide overviews of themes, which students are encouraged to complement with intensive reading for presentation and discussion with peers at seminars. Assessments build on lectures and seminars so students are expected to attend all taught sessions to build knowledge and their own understanding of their chosen discipline.

All assessed work is accompanied by some form of feedback to ensure that students' work is on the right track. It may come in a variety of forms ranging from written comments on a marked essay to oral and written feedback on developing projects and practice as they attend workshops.

Students may be referred to specialist student services by department staff or they may access support services independently. Information about support services is provided on the Goldsmiths website and for new students through new starter information and induction/Welcome Week. Any support recommendations that are made are agreed with the student and communicated to the department so that adjustments to learning and teaching are able to be implemented at a department level and students can be reassured that arrangements are in place. Opportunities are provided for students to review their support arrangements should their circumstances change. The Disability and Wellbeing Services maintain caseloads of students and provide on-going support.

The [Careers Service](#) provides central support for skills enhancement, running [The Gold Award](#) scheme and other co-curricular activities that are accredited via the Higher Education Achievement Report ([HEAR](#)).

The [Academic Skills Centre](#) works with academic departments offering bespoke academic literacy sessions. It also provides a programme of academic skills workshops and one-to-one provision for students throughout the year.

Placement opportunities

Due to the requirements of jobs within the psychological professions to have a BPS recognized degree before application, it is not possible to provide placements during the programme. However, the Department provides a series of talks on employability by professional psychologists; these will be clinical psychologists, forensic psychologists, educational psychologists, organizational psychologists and research psychologists. This series of talks covers the following issues: 1) What does an X psychologist's work entail on a day-to-day basis?; 2) What is the professional training pathway towards such a career?; 3) What could a student be doing during their studies (e.g. voluntary work, shadowing professionals, etc.) to strengthen the chances of being accepted onto professional postgraduate training programmes.

Employability and potential career opportunities

This programme provides students with a strong MSc in Psychology that can be used either to apply for jobs where further professional qualifications are not required or for further professional training programmes accredited by the British Psychological Society.

Programme-specific requirements

To attain accreditation with the British Psychological Society, it is necessary to complete the entire MSc – a Postgraduate Diploma will not confer accreditation.

More detailed information about the structure and requirements of a Goldsmiths degree is provided in the [Goldsmiths Qualifications and Credit Framework](#).

Tuition fee costs

Information on tuition fee costs is available at: https://www.gold.ac.uk/students/fee-support/

Specific programme costs

N/A