

# BSc (Hons) Psychology with Pathways & Professional Placement Year

## **Programme Specification**

#### **Awarding Institution:**

University of London (Interim Exit Awards made by Goldsmiths' College)

Teaching Institution: Goldsmiths, University of London

**Final Award:** 

Programme Name: BSc (Hons) Psychology

BSc (Hons) Psychology with Cognitive Neuroscience

BSc (Hons) Psychology with Clinical Psychology

BSc (Hons) Psychology with Forensic Psychology

BSc (Hons) Psychology with Professional Placement

Total credit value for programme:

Name of Interim Exit Award(s): Certificate of Higher Education and/or Diploma of Higher

Education

Duration of Programme: 3 years full time or 4 years with Professional Placement

UCAS Code(s): C800 (Psychology); C991 (PCN); C990 (PCP); C8N2 (PM); 8C00 (PFP);

C804 (PPP).

**HECoS Code(s):** (100497) Psychology (75%)

(101381) Cognitive Neuroscience (25%)

(100494) Clinical Psychology (25%)

(100387) Forensic Psychology (25%)

**QAA Benchmark Group:** Psychology

FHEQ Level of Award: Level 6

**Programme accredited by:** British Psychological Society

Date Programme Specification last updated/approved: October 2022

Home Department: Psychology

Department(s) which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme:

Institute of Management Studies (STACS, ICCE, SOCIOLOGY)



#### Programme overview

Goldsmiths' BSc Honours in Psychology is a three-year full time degree programme (four-year, in the case of BSc Honours in Psychology with Professional Placement) that offers a scientific approach to the study of human behaviour. It develops your understanding of the processes influencing how people think, feel, behave, and interact. It aims to equip you with knowledge and critical appreciation of psychological theory, research, and practice. It imparts analytical skills and methods that enable you to pursue successful careers both within psychologically informed professions and outside them in other related fields of work. Our undergraduate programme is accredited by the British Psychological Society as conferring eligibility for Graduate Membership of the Society and also the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership, which is the first step towards becoming a Chartered Psychologist.

Goldsmiths has a rich heritage of social awareness, civic engagement, creative arts, digital innovation, and equality, diversity, and inclusion. As a Goldsmiths' graduate, you will be among the most critically engaged, interdisciplinary educated, and socially aware graduates of the University of London.

The Psychology degree includes five parallel streams of study in addition to the core programme: Psychology with Cognitive Neuroscience (PCN), Psychology with Clinical Psychology (PCP), Psychology with Forensic Psychology (PFP) and Psychology with Professional Placement (PPP). Each stream offers the same core understanding of Psychology as outlined above, but with a particular focus upon their specialism, or on taking a year working on a work placement relevant to a career in Psychology. Thus, PCN offers a particular focus on neuroscientific explanations of mind and behaviour, PCP places a greater emphasis on clinical applications of psychology, including the study of psychopathology, developmental psychology and cultural issues relevant to clinical practice, PFP places a particular emphasis on the forensic applications of psychology, introducing students to psychological theories, methods, and processes within the context of the legal, criminal, and civil justice systems, and finally, PPP offers students the opportunity to spend a year working in a placement that is relevant to their chosen future career area of Psychology.

#### **Programme entry requirements**

The typical GCE A-Level offer is BBB or equivalent. You should also normally have at least Grade B in GCSE/O-level (or equivalent e.g. standard grade 2 Scottish Certificate of Education or Higher grade B in Certificate of Sixth Year studies or BTEC: Any First, National



or Higher National Certificate or Diploma) in Mathematics or Statistics, and in English. Applicants whose first language is not English must have received a score of 6.0 or more in the IELTS examination for written English (or an equivalent qualification; further details below).

Qualifications considered equivalent to GCE A-Level BBB:

BTEC National Diploma DDM

60 credits overall with 30 distinctions and distinctions/merits in related subject.

Scottish qualifications BBBBC (higher) BBC (advanced higher)

European Baccalaureate 75%

International Baccalaureate 33 Points, HL655

Other requirements for non A-level candidates: You should normally have at least Grade B in GCSE/O-level (or equivalent) Mathematics or Statistics, and English

English language requirements (Minimum required score/level and Higher equivalence score)

IELTS 6.0 (with a minimum of 6.0 in the written element and no individual element lower than 5.5)

6.5 (with a minimum of 6.5 in the written element and no individual element lower than 6.0) or

TOEFL 92 in the internet based test (with minimum scores of listening 21, reading 22, speaking 23 and writing 23) 100 in the internet based test (with minimum scores of listening 23, reading 24, speaking 25 and writing 25)

Pearson Test of English (Academic)

A score of 58 overall with at least 58 in the written element and no individual element lower than 51 An overall score of 65 with at least 65 in the written element and no individual element lower than 58

IGCSE English as a Second Language Grade C Grade B Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency of English Level 5 Grade C Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English Level 4 Grade B Grade B

#### **Programme learning outcomes**

The aims of this programme are informed and guided by the Quality Assurance Agency's Subject Benchmark Statement for Psychology (2022), and Goldsmiths' Comprehensive Curriculum Review Strategic Framework (2021).

Students of the BSc in Psychology at Goldsmiths will graduate with the following capabilities, skills, and competencies:

Provide a learning environment in which you can attain high standards of rigorous thought regarding psychology combined with the ability to analyse empirical data;



Encourage you to develop your ability to present a reasoned argument, along with high levels of literacy, numeracy and information processing skills;

Provide the basis for pursuing postgraduate study and/or a career in a psychologically informed discipline such as clinical, educational, forensic, or occupational psychology;

Equip graduates with a variety of transferable skills relevant to a wide range of careers outside psychology such as in commerce, industry, government, the health service, science and education;

#### Knowledge and understanding

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A1	evaluate key aspects of psychological enquiry, providing coherent exposition of theory, research and practice	Level 4 modules, PS510: 05A, 06A, 07B, 08C, PT Level 5 modules, PS520: 01B, 02C, 03B, 04C, 06C, 07D  All Level 6 modules
A2	devise and present arguments, and/or solve problems, using ideas and techniques, some of which are at the forefront of modern psychological enquiry	All degree modules
A3	engage in detailed discussion of the neural underpinnings of behaviour and assess the relative strengths and weaknesses of the various neuroscience methods (SUPPLEMENTARY FOR PCN PATHWAY)	Level 4 modules, PS510: 06A, 08C, PT Level 5 modules, PS520: 01B, 07D Level 6 modules, PS530: 12C, 24B, 31B, 32B, 41A
A4	apply knowledge of psychological theory, research and practice to the evaluation of issues and evidence relevant to the causes, assessments and treatments of mental health difficulties (SUPPLEMENTARY FOR PCP PATHWAY)	Level 4 modules, PS510: 05A, 06A, 07B, 08C, PT All level 5 modules Level 6 modules, PS530: 08B, 12C, 24B, 31B, 34B



Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
A5		
A6	demonstrate a thorough understanding of the key issues and debates that relate to psychology, including psychological theories, methods and processes within the context of the legal, criminal and civil justice systems (SUPPLEMENTARY FOR PFP PATHWAY)	Level 4, PS510: 06A, 08C, 10A Level 5, PS520: 01A, 07B Level 6, PS530: 12C, 24B, 31B, 32B

## Cognitive and thinking skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
B1	critically evaluate arguments, assumptions, abstract concepts and empirical data to make judgements, and suggest possible solutions to psychologically relevant questions of importance	All degree modules
B2	identify and present timely, original and relevant research questions and devise and conduct appropriate empirical procedures for addressing that question	Level 4 modules, PS510: 08C Level 5 modules, PS520: 07D Level 6 modules, PS530: 12C
В3	Critically interpret your own or other researchers' research data and relate it to existing empirical findings, methods, models and theory	All degree modules
	identify suitable neuroscience methods and analysis techniques for addressing a given empirical question (SUPPLEMENTARY FOR PCN PATHWAY)	Level 4 modules, PS510: 06A, 08C, PT Level 5 modules, PS520: 01B, 07B Level 6 modules, PS530: 12C, 24B, 31B, 32B, 41A



Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
	evaluate and analyse mental health difficulties within the context of biological, social and cultural influences (SUPPLEMENTARY FOR PCP PATHWAY)	Level 4 modules, PS510: 05A, 06A, 07B, 08C, PT All level 5 modules Level 6 modules, PS530: 08B, 12A, 24B, 31B, 34B
	identify the suitable methods and analysis techniques for addressing a given empirical question within forensic psychology (SUPPLEMENTARY FOR PFP PATHWAY)	Level 4 modules, PS510: 06A, 08C, PT Level 5 modules, PS520: 01A, 07B Level 6 modules, PS530: 12C, 24B, 31B, 32B

### Subject specific skills and professional behaviours and attitudes

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
C1	independently identify and locate primary psychological literature (e.g., peer-reviewed research and review articles) relevant to an issue or research question	All degree modules
Сх	Design and conduct a substantial piece of original or empirical research from study design, ethical application and approval, data collection, analysis, reporting and the communication of results in written and other formats	Level 5 module PS52007D, Level 6 module PS53012B
C2	manage complex and often large datasets from the moment of collection, input, analysis and reporting using appropriate statistical methods and software	Level 4 modules, PS510: 08C Level 5 modules, PS520: 07D Level 6 modules, PS530: 12C
C3	engage in psychologically informed debate and discussion with a small group of peers on complex ideas and empirical findings with relevance to real-world issues	All degree modules



Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
	display neuroscience practical research skills and skills in interpreting and analysing neuroscientific data (SUPPLEMENTARY FOR PCN PATHWAY)	Level 4 modules, PS510: 08C Level 5 modules, PS520: 07B Level 6 modules, PS530: 12C
	apply psychological theory to a range of mental health difficulties, and begin to formulate possible pathways of assessment and intervention (SUPPLEMENTARY FOR PCP PATHWAY)	Level 4 modules, PS510: 05A, 06A, 07B, 08C, 09B, 10A All level 5 modules Level 6 modules, PS530: 08B, 12C, 24B, 31B, 34B
	have experience of working in a psychologically relevant setting providing administrative or practical support to the host organisation (including, where possible and appropriate, having the opportunity to observe or support psychologically relevant work (e.g., assessments, therapy sessions and multidisciplinary team meetings).	Level 5 module: Professional Placement in Psychology

### Transferable skills

Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)
D1	Collaborate and cooperate with peers in order to conduct a piece of research, make an oral presentation or prepare a research poster	Level 4 modules, PS510: 05B, 06B, 07C, 08C, 15B Level 5 modules, PS520: 01B, 02C, 03B, 07E
D2	prioritise your work and manage time effectively in order to meet a number of different deadlines while achieving high-quality work	All degree modules



Code	Learning outcome	Taught by the following module(s)			
D3	communicate, present and conduct yourself in a professional manner	Throughout the degree			
	develop self-evaluation skills during the placement experience, with reference to values, personal traits, the application of transferable skills.	Throughout the degree			
	develop a strategy for further skills development and career preparation	Throughout the degree			

#### **Mode of study**

You will engage in a complementary range of learning activities throughout the degree in order to achieve a synthesis of academic knowledge and applied skills and competencies. The various teaching and learning methods seek to arouse curiosity concerning key aspects of psychology and human behaviour, and will include formal lectures, small group tutorial meetings, mentor meetings, laboratory sessions, formative and summative coursework assignments, oral presentations, research projects and reports. The department places a high priority on research and this contributes to the depth and currency of the contents of the teaching curriculum.

Broadly speaking, degree modules fall into two types: theory/content and practical. Theory/content modules consist of lectures and small group tutorials (containing approximately 10 students each). Practical modules involve students learning to devise research questions, learn hands-on lab skills and conduct empirical research. In level 4 practical modules, students meet in groups of up to 30 and participate in constrained (previously designed) experiments provided by a laboratory tutor. At level 5, small groups of four to five students work together to devise and conduct a research project on a topic of their choosing under the guidance of a laboratory tutor. At level 6, students work closely and regularly with a member of staff to conduct a major original research project which forms the basis of the final year dissertation.

Note that PCN, PCP, PM, and PFP students will attend tutorials, mentor group meetings, and, in some cases, laboratory sessions that are comprised of students only from their own particular stream. This is to allow for students to be paired with lecturers and tutors who have relevant specialisms, and who will tailor discussions and learning to stream-relevant



learning outcomes. Having this system in place enables the Department to offer a tailored programme at Levels 4 and 5 without changing the core curriculum, which in turn retains the BPS accreditation.

### How you will be assessed

Assessment is the way in which programme content is synchronised with the expected learning outcomes. The learning outcomes are assessed by a variety of means:

- Most 'theory/content' modules have online open book examinations comprising short or extended argument answers. All assessments seek to determine how well students have integrated important information and how able they are to construct critical arguments
- There are pieces of formative and/or summative coursework for all taught modules.
  The format of coursework is variable and will be designed to offer transferable skills
  in terms of communication in applied settings or settings of value to employers.
  These can include literature reviews, position papers/memoranda, public
  communications pieces (e.g. blogs), podcasts, scripts or posters.
- Students in level 4 give formative oral presentations with a small group. Level 5 students informally present their research to lab classes of level 4 students. Final year students give a formative oral presentation about their research dissertation to a small group of peers.
- There are a number of coursework assignments, these are sometimes tailored to teach students skills which may be particularly relevant to the career streams especially associated with those modules (see 'How is the programme structured').

Different marking criteria are used to assess on the one hand written argument/literature reviews and on the other hand laboratory/research reports.

#### **Marking criteria:**

#### Written argument/literature reviews

Five attributes of students' written argument and literature reviews are considered by tutors when assigning marks and providing formal structured feedback to students:

- 1. Answer. (Does the work answer the question or address the issue?)
- 2. Structure. (Is the general structure of the work coherent?)
- 3. Flow. (Does each statement and paragraph follow sensibly from its predecessor?)
- 4. Argument. (Is there a convincing line of argument in the work?)
- 5. Evidence. (Are claims supported by relevant evidence from the literature?)

#### Research/Laboratory reports



Research/Laboratory reports are assessed according to:

- 1. How well the work is related to relevant existing psychological literature
- 2. How well the study aims are justified and the clarity and appropriateness of the hypotheses
- 3. The degree of originality in the stated aims and methods used
- 4. How appropriate the methods are for addressing the stated aims and hypotheses
- 5. How appropriately the data are analysed and the results presented
- 6. The appropriateness of the discussion in terms of the degree to which it:
  - a) follows from the presented results,
  - b) embeds the findings within the wider relevant psychological literature
  - c) reflects upon its relative strengths and weaknesses, and
  - d) suggests avenues of future research
- 7. The degree to which the final write-up adheres to the format stipulated by the American Psychological Association (APA)

#### **Programme structure**

The programme is split into three levels (4, 5 and 6 according to the National Qualifications Framework), each of which corresponds to a standard full-time year of study (there is no part-time degree structure).

At LEVEL 4, students take introductory modules on the main topic areas within psychology (i.e., cognitive psychology, developmental psychology, social psychology, individual differences and biological psychology) and also practical modules training them in the principles, methods and techniques of psychological research.

There will be stream-related emphasis to the academic tutorials, which will be taught by an expert in the relevant area. Furthermore, students on each of the specialist streams will be required to focus their Extended Essay assessment (PS51010A) on a relevant stream-related topic.

At LEVEL 5, modules provide more in-depth knowledge and understanding of concepts, theories and empirical research relating to biological psychology, individual differences; cognitive psychology; developmental psychology; and social psychology. Students take a module in statistics, and a core module in research methods in which they carry out laboratory-based research both individually and within small groups of peers. + Options in the context of the CCR

The research projects undertaken in second year will have a stream-related emphasis, and will be supervised by a member of staff with relevant expertise.



At LEVEL 6, students on the core programme (BSc in Psychology) can develop their own particular interests by choosing five options from a wide range of approximately 17 specialist modules (each worth 15 credits). They also carry out an original research dissertation on a subject of their choice with guidance and support from a supervisor. The research dissertation is a 45 credit core module which is compulsory for all students.

Students following any one of the specialist streams will be required to take one or more compulsory modules (in addition to the research dissertation) and choose three or four modules from a pre-defined group related to their stream. Specifically, students following the PCN and PCP streams are required to take one 15 credit core module related to their particular stream. PCN students must take the module PS53041A Cognitive Neuroscience and PCP students must take PS53008B Psychopathology and PS53031B Neurodevelopmental Disorders. To graduate with a PCN or PCP stream degree students must also choose three options from a limited pool of modules related to their stream. They will then be free to choose any option from the remaining list of options. Students following the PM stream are required to take three 15 credit modules: IM53008A Organisational Behaviour & Health, IM53003A Global Leadership and Talent Management, and IM53001A Training, Coaching & Counselling. They further choose two out of the following IMS options: IM53002A Project Management; IM53004A The Psychology of Advertising and Marketing; IM53009A Consumer Behaviour; IM53006A Assessment and Selection. Finally, PFP students are required to take PS53030B Psychology & Law, and PS53034B Addictive Behaviours. The remaining four level 6 options can be selected from a pre-defined group related to the forensic stream.

In addition, students following any one of the specialist streams will be required to conduct their final year project in an area relevant to their particular stream. They will receive guidance and support with respect to choosing their options and the topic of their final year project from a supervisor/personal mentor who will be an expert in the field.

Each level contributes a different percentage weighting to the overall degree. Level 4 contributes 11%, level 5 contributes 33%, and level 6 contributes 56%. Individual modules are weighted according to a credit system. To graduate, students are required to complete the equivalent of 120 credits at each level. Students take all level 4 and 5 modules. Students on PPP will be required to complete 120 credits during their placement year. At Level 6, all students are required to take the 45-credit module PS53012B Research Dissertation. Students on the core (BSc in Psychology) programme will then register for 5 further 15 credit modules that they choose from a pool of approximately 17 options. The number and/or composition of level 6 options available each year tends to vary slightly depending upon staff availability.

Note that while students will be able to switch to BSc Psychology from a stream at any point in their degree, students will not be permitted to switch from BSc Psychology to a stream (or



between streams) after the end of their first year (Level 4). This is because the minidissertation in year two (Level 5) is part of the learning objective for the stream work, and should be focused on a topic relevant to the stream.

The procedure in place for students who request, and are able, to switch is to write a short personal statement about why they wish to transfer. They can then only transfer if there is space in the requested stream, and the stream coordinator decides to accept the student.

#### **Full-time mode**

### Academic year of study 1

Module Name	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Type	Term
The Psychology of the	PS51005B	15	4	Compulsory	1-2
Person					
Biological and Comparative	PS51006B	15	4	Compulsory	1-2
Approaches to Psychology					
Information Processing and	PS51007C	15	4	Compulsory	1-2
Cognition					
Design and Analysis of	PS51008E	30	4	Compulsory	1-2
Psychological Investigations				(non-	
				compensatable)	
Practical Issues:	PS51009B	15	4	Compulsory	1-2
Psychological Research					
Extended Essay in	PS51010A	15	4	Compulsory	1-2
Psychology					
Essential Skills for	PS51015C	15	4	Compulsory	1-2
Psychologists					

#### Academic year of study 2

Module Name	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Type	Term
Biological Substrates of	PS52001B	15	5	Compulsory	1-2
Behaviour					
Personality and Individual	PS52002C	15	5	Compulsory	1-2
Differences					
Social Psychology	PS52003B	15	5	Compulsory	1-2
Developmental Psychology	PS52004C	15	5	Compulsory	1-2
Design and Analysis of	PS52005C	15	5	Compulsory	1-2
Psychological Studies					



Module Name	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Type	Term
Cognitive Psychology	PS52006C	15	5	Compulsory	1-2
Research Methods in Psychology II	PS52007E	30	5	Compulsory (Non-	1-2
				compensatable)	

# Academic year of study 3 for BSc (Hons) Psychology (Professional Placement Pathway)

Module Name	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Type	Term
Professional Placement in Psychology	PS52011A	120	5	Compulsory	1-3

### Academic year of study 3 (and 4 for Professional Placement Pathway)

Module Name	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Type	Term
Research Dissertation	PS53012B	45	6	Compulsory	1-2
				(non-	
				compensatable)	
5 optional modules from list of 17	Various	15 per	6	Optional	1 or 2

## Academic year of study 3 for BSc (Hons) Psychology with Cognitive Neuroscience

Module Name	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Type	Term
Research Dissertation	PS53012B	45	6	Compulsory	1-2
				(non-	
				compensatable)	
Cognitive Neuroscience	PS53041A	15	6	Compulsory	1
Optional modules to the value of 60 credits from an approved list available annually from the Psychology Department (see list of optional modules provided under the BSc Psychology core programme, above)	Various	15 per	6	Optional	1 or 2



# Academic year of study 3 for BSc (Hons) Psychology with Clinical Psychology

Module Name	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Type	Term
Research Dissertation	PS53012B	45	6	Compulsory	1-2
				(non-	
				compensatable)	
Clinical Psychology:	PS53008E	15	6	Compulsory	2
Common Presentations					
and Interventions	_			_	
Neurodevelopmental	PS53031D	15	6	Compulsory	2
Disorders					
Optional modules to the	Various	15 per	6	Optional	1 or 2
value of 45 credits from an					
approved list available annually from the					
Psychology Department					
(see list of optional modules					
provided under the BSc					
Psychology core					
programme, above)					

# Academic year of study 3 for BSc (Hons) Psychology with Forensic Psychology

Module Name	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Type	Term
Research Dissertation	PS53012B	45	6	Compulsory	1-2
				(non-	
				compensatable)	
Psychology and Law	PS53030C	15	6	Compulsory	1
				(non-	
				compensatable)	
Addictive Behaviours	PS53034B	15	6	Compulsory	1
				(non-	
				compensatable)	
Optional modules to the	Various	15 per	6	Optional	1 or 2
value of 45 credits from an					
approved list available					
annually from the					
Psychology Department					
(see list of optional modules provided under the BSc					
provided under the bod					



Module Name	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Type	Term
Psychology core					
programme, above)					

#### **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 three 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 <u>Library</u> and information available on <u>Learn.gold (VLE)</u> 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 <u>Goldsmiths website</u> 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 <u>Disability</u> and <u>Wellbeing</u> Services maintain caseloads of students and provide on-going support.

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

The <u>Centre for Academic Language and Literacies</u> 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**

Placements are available to students via the Professional Placement Pathway.

### **Employability and potential career opportunities**

Careers in psychology include for example clinical psychology, counselling, forensic psychology, occupational psychology, educational psychology, and psychological research (to name but a few). Psychology graduates also very often pursue careers in the caring professions such as social work, speech therapy, child-care and care for the elderly. Although many students pursue careers in psychology or the caring professions, the literacy, numeracy, communication and practical skills acquired by psychology students are very marketable in many other employment fields such as personnel management, advertising, and education.

Students are advised to think about careers early on in the course of their degree, and this is made particularly salient to those students on PPP. Every year there is a series of Psychology Careers Talks available to all students. Students thereby gain the opportunity to hear from and ask questions of professionals acting in different areas of psychology and psychology related careers. The first year module, PS51014B Skills and Employability in Psychology incorporates activities designed to encourage students to focus upon and develop their future employability. PS51015B runs at least one session dedicated to Goldsmiths' 3D Graduate scheme (which is further supporting through personal mentoring



meetings). Goldsmiths introduced the 3D Graduate scheme to support students in becoming reflective, self- managing learners who are able to progressively take responsibility for their development. This scheme is also in place to guide students' identification of a future career path after their degree. For students taking PPP, discussion about career directions and placement decisions will happen during the first and second year of the degree with a mentor who will help them to consider the best placement options for them. In addition, students discuss career option with their personal mentor and are often referred to the college Careers Office, which provides a career education programme for students and useful on-line resources and leaflets.

Many careers in psychology require further training, such as with respect to clinical, counselling, forensic, occupational, and educational psychology. Generally, a place on a postgraduate course or a grant or both will depend on students gaining at least a lower second final degree classification on a BPS accredited degree programme such as ours. Competition for places is generally fierce and as such students are encouraged to build up their CV with relevant work or professional placement experience. The department does not run a formal placement system. However, members of staff advertise internal placement opportunities. In addition, any external placement opportunities are advertised via email and on a Careers Noticeboard within the department. Students are also encouraged and supported by their Personal Mentors to seek out opportunities for relevant work experience during their studies.

Goldsmiths BSc Psychology graduates perform very well in the job market. Data collected by Unistats (2009-2010) revealed that 42 months after graduating, Goldsmiths' Psychology graduates have the highest median salary (tied with graduates of 3 other universities) out of more than 50 English universities offering an undergraduate psychology degree.

Students taking the BSc in Psychology with Cognitive Neuroscience are likely to pursue an academic career in areas including cognitive and/or clinical neuroscience, or continue into a field in which they can apply neuroscience, such as advertising (neuromarketing), education (educational neuroscience) or therapeutic work. The BSc in Psychology with Cognitive

Neuroscience is ideally placed to offer students many of the skills that will make them desirable to potential employers and MSc admission tutors.

Students taking the BSc in Psychology with Clinical Psychology are likely to continue into a clinically-relevant field, which may include assistant clinical psychology positions, clinically-relevant research, or other caring professions such as social work, speech therapy, community mental health care, child care and care for the elderly.



The BSc in Psychology with Forensic Psychology would naturally lead students to continue their education and training at Goldsmiths via enrollment on the BPS accredited MSc Forensic Psychology programme that launched in 2015.

#### **Programme-specific requirements**

In order to be awarded an honours degree students need to pass or receive a compensated fail for all modules on the programme (360 credits, or 480 credits for PPP). If, at the end of the programme, having used up all permitted further attempts to pass one or more modules, a student passes modules to a total value of less than 360 credits (480 for PPP), but of at least 300 credits (420 for PPP) they will be awarded a "Pass" degree. Among the credits for each of these qualifications, all students must have passed the following "core" modules without compensation: PS52007C and PS53012B. To be eligible for the Graduate Basis for Registration (GBR) membership of the British Psychological Society (BPS) a 2:2 degree or above classification (Honours) must be awarded, including a pass grade for PS53012B, Research Dissertation.

#### **Professional Placement**

#### Approval of placements

It is the responsibility of the student to secure their placements with the support of the department and the College Careers Service. All placements must be secured and approved by 30th June of each year. Students must provide the module co-ordinator with information about the placement (see below) so that it can be considered for approval. The module co-ordinator will collaborate with the proposed placement to confirm the information and make any other necessary enquiries.

- Name and address of organisation
- Sector
- Name and contact details of supervisor
- Start and end date of placement
- Number of days that will be worked per week
- Working hours (e.g. 9-5)
- Whether expenses will be provided
- The duties the student will undertake
- Confirmation of public liability insurance
- Confirmation that if a DBS check is needed the organisation will pay
- Confirmation that the student will have the necessary equipment/resources available to complete placement



 A risk assessment should be undertaken if the placement is new (usually involves a visit to the institution

Adequate progress on placement will be measured at the end of the placement, but also at the placement visit so that any issues can be highlighted sooner and resolved before the placement finishes. Please note that the student and the placement organisation will be encouraged to speak to the module co-ordinator if there are any problems. The following criteria will be used to measure progress:

- Good attendance
- Good punctuality
- Professional attitude at work
- Good at following direction
- · Completes tasks set
- Gets on well with the team
- Working within organisation protocol

Students who cannot find a suitable placement, or who fail the Placement year would be able to transfer to the BSc Psychology programme to complete their studies.

#### **Tuition fee costs**

Information on tuition fee costs is available at: <a href="https://www.gold.ac.uk/students/fee-support/">https://www.gold.ac.uk/students/fee-support/</a>

#### Specific programme costs

Not applicable