Course Information Sheet

MSc
Psychology (Conversion)

Mode and course length – Full-time (1 year)

Location – UCLan London (East India Docklands)

Awarding Body – University of Lancashire. As a registered Higher Education provider University of Lancashire is regulated by the Office for Students.

UCLan London

Overview

Build the knowledge, research skills and professional insight to understand human behaviour and turn that understanding into a career in psychology.

This course gives you an evidence-based grounding in psychology. You will explore how biological, cognitive, social, developmental and cultural factors shape the way people think, feel and behave. Alongside this, you will develop the research, critical thinking and ethical skills to question evidence, test ideas and apply psychology in real-world settings.

Course Delivery

Our courses are delivered through a variety of teaching and learning methods that provide students with a modern and engaging higher education experience. These include lectures, seminars, workshops, practical sessions, group projects, reflective practice, case studies, and work-related learning. You will also use our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) to access learning resources, submit assignments, and engage in online discussions.

Each course is structured into 'modules', each focusing on specific subject areas. Module information, including learning outcomes and assessment requirements, will be provided through Module Handbooks and the VLE.

Assessment

Assessment methods are varied and may include written assignments, essays, case study analyses, presentations, reports, health promotion campaigns, reflective logs, and research projects. These approaches allow you to demonstrate both your academic knowledge and your practical skills.

Most modules include more than one assessment, giving you the opportunity to develop a range of competencies. Formative feedback will be provided throughout your studies to help you progress and strengthen your performance.

Fees

Information about your course fee, including any annual fee increases or deposits (if required), can be found in your offer letter.

Additional Costs

During your course, you may be required to take extra or repeated modules to recover any modules you have failed. You will be charged an additional tuition fee to cover the costs of the extra or repeat modules. This additional fee will be based on the credits for the module(s) you repeat or take.

Modules

Core Modules

PS4016 Social and Developmental Psychology with Research

This module explores how people think, behave and relate to one another, and how they change across the lifespan. Topics include attitudes, group processes, identity, attachment, language and emotional development, and neurodiversity. Students will learn qualitative research methods, including interviews, focus groups, observation, thematic analysis and discourse analysis. They will then design, carry out and write up their own empirical study. Throughout, students will apply theory to real-world case studies and develop a critical view of current debates.

PS4017 Historical and Future Developments of Psychology

Looking at where psychology has come from and where it is heading, this module examines the ideas, experiments and controversies that shaped the discipline. Students will explore the philosophy of science, early schools of thought and the ethical questions raised by landmark studies. They will also consider emerging directions such as cross-cultural psychology, technology and positive psychology. Particular emphasis is placed on challenging dominant perspectives and applying interdisciplinary and qualitative approaches. Students also complete a short academic integrity training course.

PS4018 Cognitive and Biological Psychology with Research

This module examines how the mind processes information and how biology underpins thought, emotion and behaviour. Students will study areas including perception, attention, memory, decision making, language, brain function, sleep, genetics and hormones, alongside the role of artificial intelligence. Alongside the theory, students will build quantitative research skills, including experimental design, correlation, t-tests and ANOVA. They will then carry out their own lab-based study and report the findings.

PS4019 Individual Differences, Ethics and Research Methods

Focusing on what makes people different from one another, this module explores personality, intelligence, motivation, emotion, resilience and mental health. Students will critically examine how cultural, social, biological and genetic influences shape these differences, including the use of psychometric testing. The module also develops advanced statistical skills, covering regression and factor analysis. It guides students through the ethical principles behind good research practice and prepares them to plan their own project by writing a research proposal.

PS4021 Professional Psychology

This module introduces students to how psychology is applied across forensic, clinical, educational and business settings. Students will explore topics such as criminal conduct, mental health, inclusive education and workplace wellbeing, and learn how interventions are designed and evaluated. They will apply theory to real case studies and consider the cultural and ethical issues that arise in professional practice. Students will also reflect on career planning models to shape their own professional pathway.

PS4022 Psychology Research Project

In this module, students carry out an independent empirical research project on a topic of their choice in psychology. Working with an academic supervisor matched to their interests, they will plan their study, secure ethical approval, collect and analyse data using quantitative or qualitative methods, and write up their findings. Workshops and allocated class time support each stage, from the literature review to the final report. The project is assessed through a 6,000-word dissertation.