

## **MSc Psychology (Conversion)**

**Full-Time and Part-Time Study from October 2022**

**Programme Demands Document**

*V1.0 – April 2022*

## **Introduction**

This document is produced by The University of Law for the information of prospective students. It explains the demands of the course in order that applicants with disability support requirements can assess their ability to undertake the course. Detailed questions about the extent of adjustments which may be made should be addressed to the Disability Support and Inclusion Service. This document may be made available to medical practitioners who may be asked to provide a professional judgement on the ability of an applicant to complete the course.

The information included is an indicative guide for students commencing their programme from October 2022 only. Students who enroll on the course will be subject to the course regulations in force at that time.

Details of the MSc Psychology (Conversion) programme including subject coverage and the learning environment can be found on the University website.

## **Modes of Study**

The Full- and Part-time programme can be studied with timetabled classes online, typically timetabled over one to two days per week.

## Summary of Key Learning Outcomes

### Subject knowledge and understanding

- Understand the scientific underpinnings of Psychology as a discipline, its historical origins, development and limitations;
- Recognise the inherent variability and diversity of psychological functioning and its significance;
- Demonstrate systematic knowledge and critical understanding of a range of influences on psychological functioning, how they are conceptualised across the core areas of psychology, and how they interrelate;
- Demonstrate detailed knowledge of several specialised areas and/or applications; and
- Demonstrate a systematic knowledge of a range of research paradigms, research methods and measurement techniques, including statistics and probability, and be aware of their limitations.

### Subject-specific skills (Intellectual skills)

- Reason scientifically, understand the role of evidence and make critical judgements about arguments in Psychology;
- Adopt multiple perspectives and systematically analyse the relationships between them;
- Detect meaningful patterns in behaviour and evaluate their significance;
- Recognise the subjective and variable nature of individual experience;
- Pose, operationalise and critique research questions;
- Reason analytically and demonstrate competence in a range of quantitative and qualitative methods;
- Competently initiate, design, conduct and report on an empirically-based research project under appropriate supervision, and recognise its theoretical, practical and methodological implications and limitations; and
- Be aware of ethical principles and approval procedures and demonstrate these in relation to personal study, particularly with regard to the research project, and be aware of the ethical context of Psychology as a discipline.

### General transferable skills

- Communicate ideas and research findings by written, oral and visual means;

- Interpret and use numerical, textual and other forms of data;
- Be computer literate, for the purposes of furthering own learning and in the analysis and presentation of ideas and research findings;
- Solve problems by clarifying questions, considering alternative solutions and evaluating outcomes;
- Be sensitive to, and take account of, contextual and interpersonal factors in groups and teams;
- Undertake self-directed study and project management, in order to meet desired objectives; and
- Take charge of own learning, and reflect and evaluate personal strengths and weaknesses for the purposes of future learning.

### **Preliminary Knowledge and Skills**

A minimum of 2.2 UK Honours undergraduate degree (or international equivalent).

A sufficient command of English to follow the course to a successful conclusion (an overall score of 6.5 or above, with no less than 6.0 in any category in the IELTS or an equivalent accepted English qualification), for overseas applicants.

Students should be aware that whilst not an entry requirement for the programme, the Research Methods modules involve statistical analysis and a level of numeracy skill that would suit those with Level 2 mathematics (e.g., GCSE) or above.

### **Disability Support Agreements**

The University has a dedicated Disability Support and Inclusion Service to assist students in accessing the programme. To utilise the Disability Support and Inclusion Service medical evidence ideally should be provided prior to starting to ensure adjustments are put in place promptly. On receipt of the medical evidence the Disability Support and Inclusion Service will create an individual Disability Support Agreement detailing the course and exam adjustments. These are then communicated to tutors and assessments officers to implement the adjustments.

The University is able to provide diagnostic assessments with an Educational Psychologist for students suspecting a Specific Learning Difficulty (SpLD) for example: Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, ADHD, and Dyscalculia.

The student will incur a small contribution fee of £75. Once completed the Disability Support and Inclusion Service can put in place a Disability Support Agreement detailing the relevant adjustments to the course and assessments.

We provide Skills4Study Campus access via our interactive learning environment, ELITE, this service is available for all students. We are not, at this time, offering one-to-one SpLD specific tutoring. However

Disabled Student Allowance funding should be sought if a Specialist Study Skills Tutor is required. The Disability Support and Inclusion Service can advise you on how to obtain DSA, we recommend you apply as soon as possible. If you are eligible you can apply for Disabled Student's Allowance <https://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas>.

For more information please visit our the disability micro-site <http://www.law.ac.uk/disabilitysupport-service/> or contact [disabilitysupportservice@law.ac.uk](mailto:disabilitysupportservice@law.ac.uk)

## Pre-Course Demands

There is no pre course study

## Learning Environment

- Students have the option to study either Full-time, over one calendar year or Part-time, over two calendar years.
  - Full-time: Eight taught modules and one dissertation module studied across three terms spanning one calendar year. In term 1, a comprehensive two-week induction followed by four taught modules. In term 2, four taught modules. In term 3, the dissertation module.
  - Part-time: Eight taught modules and one dissertation module studied across six terms spanning two calendar years. In term 1, a comprehensive two-week induction followed by two taught modules. In terms 2, 4 and 5 two taught modules per term. In term 6, the dissertation module.
- Each taught module is delivered in 6-week blocks. Each module is assessed upon module completion.
- In terms 1 (FT) and 3 (PT), an additional non-credit bearing module on Professional Development is offered.
- You will have access to two 1 hour asynchronous lectures per module per week.
- You will also be able to attend a 1 hour live (synchronous) practical class. The live practicals will be recorded to allow students flexibility and for those unable to attend.
- This is in addition to each student's guided self-study including reading, library based and online research.
- Test and Feedback exercises are available as part of your preparation and/or consolidation via the VLE.
- A variety of e-learning media (for example, video clips; demonstrations; online voting systems) will be used during sessions, and for independent learning on-line via the ELITE virtual learning system (on a University pc or at home using internet).

Students are expected to participate fully in all workshops and carry out self-study and preparation as directed.

## Attendance requirements

## For the Full-time programme

- There are three terms. Each term is approximately 15 weeks in length.
- Term 1 comprises a comprehensive two-week induction programme.
- Terms 1 and 2 are teaching terms. Term 3 is the dissertation term. (PG Dip students only study Terms 1 and 2).
- Each teaching term is made up of 12 substantive teaching weeks (not including induction) and two assessment weeks.
- Each module is run in blocks in six-week sessions.
- You must login to ELITE up to two days per week in teaching weeks and for your scheduled assessments in assessment weeks. Attendance is not required during holiday, reading and revision weeks.
- You will have access to two 1 hour asynchronous lectures per module per week.
- You will also be able to attend a 1 hour live (synchronous) practical class. The live practicals will be recorded to allow students flexibility and for those unable to attend.
- This is in addition to each student's guided self-study.
- The non-credit bearing Professional Development module is an additional module that students can study at their own time, there is no compulsory attendance.

## For the Part-time programme

- There are six terms. Each term is approximately 15 weeks in length.
- Term 1 comprises a comprehensive two-week induction programme.
- Terms 1 to 5 are teaching terms. Term 6 is the dissertation term. (PG Dip students only study Terms 1 to 5).
- Each teaching term is made up of 12 substantive teaching weeks (not including induction) and two assessment weeks.
- Each module is run in blocks in six-week sessions.
- You must login to ELITE one day per week in teaching weeks and for your scheduled assessments in assessment weeks. Attendance is not required during holiday, reading and revision weeks.
- You will have access to two 1 hour asynchronous lectures per module per week.
- You will also be able to attend a 1 hour live (synchronous) practical class. The live practicals will be recorded to allow students flexibility and for those unable to attend.
- This is in addition to each student's guided self-study.
- The non-credit bearing Professional Development module is an additional module that students can study at their own time, there is no compulsory attendance.

The indicative week per module on this programme is as follows:

<b>Learning format</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Asynchronous lectures	2
Synchronous practical's	1
Preparation/ Consolidation	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>

## **Assessment Demands**

A summary of the assessment schedule for this programme is explained below.

If appropriate medical evidence is accepted, we may be able to re-schedule assessments to avoid more than one on any one day. As part of the University's commitment to an inclusive learning environment, we anticipate the needs of our students and design the coursework tasks to have sufficient time for most students, this includes students with SpLDs. A SpLD is generally not considered a sole justification for granting coursework extensions and coursework extensions are only granted in exceptional, evidenced circumstances.

The University operates a fit to sit policy, which means that students who attend an assessment are deeming themselves to be fit to sit that assessment. It is therefore not possible to submit a concession application for impaired performance for an assessment that has been sat, unless there was a procedural defect in the conduct of the assessment.

## **Assessment Adjustments**

The Disability Support and Inclusion Service can offer a range of adjustments on a case-by-case basis. The programmes and assessments have been designed to be inclusive for students. If you have any queries regarding support or adjustments whilst studying at the University of Law please contact the Disability Support and Inclusion Service on [disabilitysupportservice@law.ac.uk](mailto:disabilitysupportservice@law.ac.uk) or 01483216657.

## **Time limits**

Irrespective of any adjustments made, in order successfully to complete this programme all students are required under the regulations to pass all elements of the course within five years of commencing the course.

## Summary of Assessment Demands

The following tables provide an indication of the duration, style and number of assessments.

### Courses starting in October 2023

#### Informal Assessments (formative assessment)

Each module has formative assessment opportunities scheduled throughout the module block. The style of formative assessment will vary depending on the summative assessment required for the module. The formative assessments can include the preparation and feedback from teaching sessions. Questions and activities will be used throughout the module to encourage students to reflect on their understanding and learning. For example, students will take part in problem solving exercises and reflect and discuss this process in relation to the theoretical approaches being taught during the practical sessions. Discussions during the practical sessions will assess students understanding of key aspects of the module. The first written assignment will be accepted as a draft version with feedback provided. This will provide students with formal formative feedback at the beginning of the course. This will be especially important for students that have not studied for several years. The research methods modules will also have weekly MCQ's to allow students to gain feedback on their progress and areas of development required.

#### Formal Assessments (summative assessments)

Assessment of each module will take place at the end of the module block in which it was studied to allow students and tutors to monitor progress.

Module	Assessment
Neuroscience of Behaviour	Written Assignment (2,000 words)
	Educational leaflet (500 words)
Cognitive Psychology	Research Proposal (2000 words)
	Video presentation/vlog (7 minutes or 650 words)
Research Methods 1	Practical report (4000 words)
Research Methods 2	Practical report (3000 words)
Personality & Individual Differences	Written assignment (3000 words)
Lifespan Development	Written assignment (2000 words)
	Video presentation/vLog (7 minutes or 650 words)
Social & Critical Psychology	Asynchronous presentation (10-15 minutes)
Applications of Professional Psychology	Reflective assignment (1,500 words)
	Poster (500 words)
Dissertation	Dissertation (12,000 words)
	Oral presentation (10 minutes)

#### Number of Assessments

12 x Taught Module Assessments  
2 x Dissertation Assessments

#### Potential Resit Assessments:

Candidates who are unsuccessful in any module will be required to resit the assessment. The resit assessment will be undertaken in the same manner as the original assessment. Ordinarily, candidates must resit any outstanding assessment at the next resit assessment point. The resit assessments are normally scheduled over a two-week period in the summer term. On the programme there are 3 attempts permitted



for any taught module assessment and 2 attempts permitted for the dissertation assessments.

### Digital and technological resources and requirements

Students will be expected to be able to access all their learning resources using the University of Law's virtual learning environment Blackboard. Students are recommended to use the latest version of Chrome or a Firefox web browser to access Blackboard. The list of supported browsers is available from:

- [https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting\\_Started/Browser\\_Support](https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support)

Students may check if their browser is supported by accessing:

- [https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting\\_Started/Browser\\_Support/Browser\\_Checker](https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support/Browser_Checker)

For general computer hardware students are recommended to have access to a computer which can access the latest browsers (see above). This will enable them to access wider institutional software, including Microsoft OneDrive & Teams, Blackboard Collaborate Conferencing System, Panopto Multimedia Player and the Library Systems. The computer (laptop or desktop) should be multimedia enabled with a webcam. Students are also recommended to have a headset with built-in microphone.

Additionally, students will require the following software on the programme: SPSS, NVivo and Gorilla. Students will need to download the software onto a device. An activation key for a licence will be sent from IT. The minimum system requirements to download the software are:

#### Minimum system requirements

- 1.2 GHz single-core processor (32-bit), 1.4 GHz single-core processor (64-bit)
- 2 GB RAM
- 1024 x 768 screen resolution
- Microsoft Windows 7 Service Pack 1
- Approximately 5 GB of available hard-disk space – or more depending on data storage needs

### Methods of Communication

The programme will follow the University approved Student Communication Framework. Communications to students will follow the suggested channels of communication and will use the matrix of communication to determine the most appropriate platform. Students are expected to regularly monitor the primary communication channels and will be considered first before other communication platforms.

- Primary Channels:
- Dynamics CRM
- ELITE
- My ULaw App
- Live chat
- Outlook

- Text

Secondary Channels:

- Social Media including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn
- Internal Apps & Portals (Library, Wellbeing, Employability)
- Plasma Screens
- Campus Newsletters
- Campus Facebook

All programme and module specific information will be sent through the programme or module lead via ELITE and will be stored in a central repository. Other communications will be sent from the relevant departments, centralised where possible, using the communications matrix.

Students will be encouraged to communicate with each other through discussion forums on ELITE.