Psychology MSci

This four-year programme, accredited by the British Psychological Society, exposes you to a wide coverage of the field of psychology and offers a considerable choice of topics. There is also the opportunity to gain additional research experience in the final year, either with a UCL research group or in an applied (workplace) setting.

Key information

Programme starts
September 2020

Location
London, Bloomsbury

Degree benefits

UCL Psychology and Language Sciences was one of the university’s top research performers in the most recent Research Excellence Framework (REF2014), the system for assessing the quality of research in UK universities. The division is one of the largest centres of psychology teaching and research in the UK. Its cutting-edge research is internationally recognised.

There are two routes to this programme: research and applied. Students on the research route will be embedded within a UCL research lab or department for most of their final year, working alongside world-leading researchers and their teams to produce an independent piece of research.

Students on the applied route will gain experience of applying psychological theory within a workplace setting and will also be exposed to the challenges of carrying out research within a work environment.

Excellent resources include our up-to-date web-based system, which makes all teaching materials (including course outlines, lecture presentation slides, handouts, video recordings of lectures) available to registered students.

Accreditation

This programme is accredited and audited by the British Psychological Society. UK applicants for graduate membership and the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (GBC) require a minimum of a lower second-class degree. The Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership is required for entry to all accredited postgraduate and doctoral programmes as part of the route to becoming a chartered psychologist.

Degree structure

In each year of your degree you will take a number of individual modules, normally valued at 15 or 30 credits, adding up to a total of 120 credits for the year. Modules are assessed in the academic year in which they are taken. The balance of compulsory and optional modules varies from programme to programme and year to year. A 30-credit module is considered equivalent to 15 credits in the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

The first year of your degree comprises a combination of compulsory and optional modules. Compulsory modules make up the majority of credits and include the study of experimental design in psychology, the neurological underpinnings of behaviour, individual differences, and social psychology.

There are no optional modules in the second year, but your learning will continue into areas such as health and clinical psychology, language and cognition, and research methods in Psychology.

In your third year, you will choose modules to be taken in psychology, and you will undertake a research project on a subject of your choice. Your project will be supervised by a member of staff and will be an empirical and usually experimental piece of research which utilises the skills you have learned.

In the final year you will take Master’s-level modules in advanced data analysis techniques. Students on the applied route will take a compulsory module on behavioural research methods in applied settings.

Students on both routes will take other Master’s-level modules relevant to their research interests, in order to prepare them for the independent piece of research carried out in either a UCL laboratory (on the research route) or in an applied setting (for the applied route).

YEAR ONE

Core or compulsory module(s)

- Evidence and Enquiry in Psychology
- Introduction to Psychological Experiments
- Introduction to Statistical Methods in Psychology
- Memory and Decision
- The Psychology of Individual Differences
- Social Psychology

Optional modules

- You will take 15 credits of subsidiary modules from across UCL.

YEAR TWO

Core or compulsory module(s)

- Brain and Behaviour
- Design and Analysis of Psychological Experiments
- Developmental Psychology
- Health and Clinical Psychology
- Language and Cognition
- Perception
- Research Methods in Psychology
- Qualitative and Mixed Research Methods

Optional modules

- There are no optional modules in Year 2.
YEAR THREE

Core or compulsory module(s)

// Research Project

Optional modules

You will select six optional modules to the value of 90 credits. Options may include:

// Applied Decision Making
// Behaviour Change
// Brain in Action
// Cognitive Neuroscience
// Genes and Behaviour
// Human Computer Interaction
// Human Learning and Memory
// Language in Context
// Organisational Psychology
// Psychology and Education
// Social Psychology of Health Risks
// Social Psychology
// Topics in Developmental Psychology
// Topics in Neurobiology

FINAL YEAR

Core or compulsory module(s)

Research route
// Advanced Research Project
// Statistics

Applied route
// Placement Project
// Statistics for Applied Research Settings
// Behavioural Research in Applied Settings

Optional modules

// You will select either three (research route) or two (applied route) optional modules from a wide range.

Your learning

Your learning will involve attendance at lectures. You will also experience laboratory classes and independent research projects. Small academic tutorial groups meet weekly, for which you will be asked to produce essays and prepare discussion topics. Progression to the second, third and fourth years is dependent upon your achievement in years one, two and three.

Assessment

Assessment is primarily by end-of-year examinations, but other methods include multiple choice, computational tests, oral presentations and written coursework.

Your career

In addition to subject-based skills and knowledge, psychology graduates also acquire a number of transferable skills e.g. numeracy, IT literacy, data-management, time-management, independent research, team working, report writing, presentation skills, communication and literacy skills, and the ability to work ethically and professionally with people. These abilities are all highly valued in a range of employment fields.

Your knowledge of all areas of the subject makes you eligible for entry into any field normally open to psychology graduates, or further graduate training (this is required for graduates wishing to work as a chartered professional psychologist in the areas of health, forensic, clinical, educational and occupational psychology).

Your application

Application for admission should be made through UCAS (the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service). Applicants currently at school or college will be provided with advice on the process; however, applicants who have left school or who are based outside the United Kingdom may obtain information directly from UCAS.

Together with academic requirements, we are looking to attract well-qualified students with a range of subjects at A level (or equivalent). We are also looking for you to demonstrate your appreciation that psychology, in all its branches, is truly a scientific subject.

All applicants who are offered a place and resident in the UK will be invited to attend an offer holder open day. This is intended to allow candidates to make an informed decision about whether the degree programme is right for them. Virtual open days will also be organised.
Entry requirements

**A LEVELS**

Standard Offer: A*AA. To include two subjects from: Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics and Psychology.

Contextual Offer: AAB. To include Grade A in two subjects from: Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics and Psychology.

**GCSE**

English Language, Mathematics and two Sciences (double award acceptable) at grade B or 6. For UK-based students, a grade C or 5 or equivalent in a foreign language (other than Ancient Greek, Biblical Hebrew or Latin) is required. UCL provides opportunities to meet the foreign language requirement following enrolment, further details at: www.ucl.ac.uk/ug-reqs

**IB DIPLOMA**

Standard Offer: 39 points. A score of 19 points in three higher level subjects to include grade 6 in two subjects from Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics and Psychology, with no score lower than 5.

Contextual Offer: 36 points. A score of 17 points in three higher level subjects to include grade 6 in two subjects from Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics or Psychology, with no score lower than 5.

**CONTEXTUAL OFFERS – ACCESS UCL SCHEME**

As part of our commitment to increasing participation from underrepresented groups, students may be eligible for a contextual offer as part of the Access UCL scheme. For more information see www.ucl.ac.uk/prospectus

**OTHER QUALIFICATIONS**

UCL considers a wide range of UK and international qualifications for entry into its undergraduate programmes. Full details are given at: www.ucl.ac.uk/otherquals

**UNDERGRADUATE PREPARATORY CERTIFICATES** (International foundation courses)

UCL Undergraduate Preparatory Certificates (UPCs) are intensive one-year foundation courses for international students of high academic potential who are aiming to gain access to undergraduate degree programmes at UCL and other top UK universities.

Typical UPC students will be high achievers in a 12-year school system which does not meet the standard required for direct entry to UCL.

For more information see: www.ucl.ac.uk/upc.

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**TUITION FEES**

The fees indicated are for undergraduate entry in the 2019/20 academic year. The UK/EU fees shown are for the first year of the programme at UCL only. Fees for future years may be subject to an inflationary increase. The Overseas fees shown are the fees that will be charged to 2019/20 entrants for each year of study on the programme, unless otherwise indicated below.

- **UK & EU:** £9,250 (2019/20)
- **Overseas:** £27,220 (2019/20)

Full details of UCL’s tuition fees, tuition fee policy and potential increases to fees can be found on the UCL Students website.

**Additional costs**

If you are concerned by potential additional costs for books, equipment, etc. on this programme, please get in touch with the relevant departmental contact (details given on this page).

**FUNDING**

Various funding options are available, including student loans, scholarships and bursaries. UK students whose household income falls below a certain level may also be eligible for a non-repayable bursary or for certain scholarships. Please see the Fees and funding pages for more details.

**CONTACT**

Miss Sarah Coppard

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Department: Division of Psychology and Language Sciences

**Brexit**

For up-to-date information relating to specific key questions following the UK’s decision to leave the EU, please refer to: www.ucl.ac.uk/brexit

**Disclaimer**

This information is for guidance only. It should not be construed as advice nor relied upon and does not form part of any contract. For more information on UCL’s degree programmes please see the UCL Undergraduate Prospectus at www.ucl.ac.uk/prospectus