

## Programme Specification

### BSc Psychology

For students entering Part 1 in September 2016

UCAS Code: C800

UFPSYCH

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**This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.**

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	3 years
Length of Programme with placement/year abroad	BSc Psychology with Professional Placement - 4 years
Accreditation	British Psychological Society: Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership

### Programme information and content

The programme aims to provide you with a broad introduction to the wide range of approaches that constitute modern Psychology as a social and biological science, and concepts and evidence within the domains of the subject required for British Psychological Society accreditation. Students have the opportunity to apply their knowledge to chosen areas of interest, increasing their degree of choice and independence as they move through the programme. They are made aware of current research - its methods, applications and unresolved issues - and learn how to evaluate research and carry it out themselves, with staff research expertise providing stimulation, guidance and high-quality laboratory facilities.

Part 1:	Introduces you to the British Psychological Society core areas, including Research Methods, as well as a choice of additional psychology modules, or modules from across the university.
Part 2:	Provides you with an in-depth knowledge of the BPS core areas, and focussed training in conducting experiments. Skills to enhance employability are also covered in Part 2.
Placement/Study abroad year:	All students complete a compulsory placement in Part 2, and an optional placement in Part 1. Students can Study Abroad during Spring term in Part 2, or can visit our campus in Malaysia for either Autumn or Spring term.
Part 3:	Gives you the opportunity to apply your knowledge to more specialist areas, offering you an unparalleled choice of Part 3 optional modules led by experts in those fields. You also have the opportunity to design and implement your own research project.

**Module information**

Each part comprises 120 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules as shown below. Compulsory modules are listed.

**Part 1 Modules:**

Module	Name	Credits	Level
PY1CG	Cognition and Learning	10	4
PY1DV	Developmental Psychology	10	4
PY1IN	Introduction to Neuroscience	10	4
PY1PC	Perception	10	4
PY1PR	Psychological Research	20	4

One of the following two modules must be selected at Part 1:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
PY1SK	Skills in Psychology	20	4
Or			
PY1SKE	Skills in Psychology with Academic Language	20	4

Students must select a further 40 credits from a list of optional modules provided by the School of Psychology and Clinical Language Sciences.

The above compulsory modules, with the exception of PY1PC, PY1SK/PY1SKE, are required for British Psychological Society Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (BPS GBC).

Students wishing to transfer to BSc Psychology at the end of Part 1 can substitute PY1SK or PY1SKE with PL1C1L, or an equivalent module covering the same learning outcomes. Students who have not met this requirement will normally be required to take PY1SK or PY1SKE during Part 2.

**Part 2 Modules:**

Module	Name	Credits
PY2CP	Careers in Psychology	20
PY2RM	Research Methods and Data Analysis	20

Students must take a further 80 credits from a list of modules provided by the School of Psychology and Clinical Language Sciences. A minimum of 100 credits out of the required 120 credits at Part 2 must be taken from single subject or combined subject Psychology modules as outlined by the Department, in order to meet BPS GBC accreditation requirements (see below).

British Psychological Society Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (GBC)

- Students must gain Lower Second Class Honours or higher to qualify for BPS GBC.

- Part 2 modules PY2RM + PY2TA + PY2PS + PY2CN + PY2NS (or the equivalent Combined Subject modules) are the minimum required for BPS accreditation. All the modules from this list that are taken must be passed with at least 40%. Subject to those constraints, students may substitute up to 20 credits worth of Part 2 modules outside Psychology, e.g. a foreign language. See also Part 3 Project.

Students must take at least 100 credits from Psychology in Part 2. Students who have transferred and are required to take PY1SK or PY1SKE at Part 2 must take 120 credits from Psychology.

PY2CP is not required for students wishing to transfer to BSc Psychology at the end of Part 2 providing all other criteria are met.

**Modules during a placement year or study year (if applicable):**

In order to qualify for BPS GBC, students on Study Abroad are required to meet the criteria listed below except point 1, where they must pass PY2RM+PY2DSP1+PY2CNS1 with at least 40% per module, plus take and pass at least 10 credits of a module covering Individual Differences at their host institution, with the agreement of the Study Abroad advisor.

Students may be permitted to undertake a placement year between Part 2 and Part 3 of the programme. In such cases students will transfer to a 4-year programme. The placement year should not normally be shorter than nine months full-time.

If you take a year-long placement or study abroad, Part 3 as described below may be subject to variation.

**Part 3 Modules:**

Module	Name	Credits
PY3CHI	Contemporary and Historical Issues	20
PY3P	Project	40

Students will normally take 60 credits of optional modules from a list provided by the School. Students may take a maximum of 20 credits from outside Psychology, with the advice and permission of the Year Tutor or Programme Director. Students will normally substitute PY3PE plus one further 10 credit optional module.

Students taking the Year-long Placement may replace PY3P with PY3EP.

British Psychological Society Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (BPS GBC)

To qualify for BPS GBC, students must meet the following requirements:

1. Pass PY2RM with minimum 40% plus either: PY2CN+PY2NS+PY2PS+PY2TA or PY2CN+PY2NS+PY2DSP or PY2PS+PY2TA+PY2CNS all with a minimum of 40% (see progression rules for further details); except when they have taken Study Abroad (see Study Abroad section for details)
2. Pass PY3P or PY3EP with a minimum of 40%
3. Gain a Lower Second Class Honours degree

**Optional modules:**

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your Programme is set out in the Further Programme Information. Details of optional modules for each part, including any Additional Costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the Part in which they are to be taken and you will be given an opportunity to express interest in the optional modules that you would like to take. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability and may be subject to pre-requisites, such as completion of another module. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

**Additional costs of the programme**

During your programme of study you will incur some additional costs.

For textbooks and similar learning resources, we recommend that you budget between £100 to £200 a year. Some books may be available second-hand, which will reduce costs. A range of resources to support your curriculum, including textbooks and electronic resources, are available through the library. Reading lists and module specific costs are listed on the individual module descriptions.

Printing and photocopying facilities are available on campus at a cost of £0.05 per page.

Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations.

The estimates were calculated in 2016.

**Placement opportunities**

All students have the opportunity to undertake a credit-bearing placement as part of PY2CP. Students must secure their own placement, with the advice and support of the School Placement Officer.

In order to undertake some placements, you might be required to have an enhanced criminal records check with the Disclosure and Barring Service, which is organised by the University.

**Teaching and learning delivery:**

You will be taught using a range of approaches to teaching which are tailored to the learning outcomes of the different subjects you will study and the overall objective of the programme. Part 1 and Part 2 modules are principally taught by lectures with supporting online discussion boards. Some Part 1 modules, all Part 2 modules and Part 3 options are supported by seminars and . Research Methods teaching is supported by interactive workshops and specialist drop-in sessions. Throughout the programme you will complete practical work, either in large groups (Part 1) or in small groups or individually (Part 2 and

Part 3 project). Modules are typically assessed by a mixture of coursework and formal examination. Coursework includes essays, project reports, oral and poster presentations, portfolios and weekly continuous assessment questions.

The contact hours for your Programme will be over an academic year, approximately 300 hours in lectures, seminars, online discussions or practical classes. The remaining time is for your independent study, completing coursework and preparing for assessments. Most direct teaching occurs in the Autumn and Spring terms and so you will find that you spend more time than average in class in these terms. Contact hours vary in each year of the degree. In Part 1 and 2 contact hours are between 300-350 hours per year; in Part 3 contact hours are between 250-300 hours per year. Hours depend upon your module combination; information about module contact hours can be located in the relevant module description.

### **Accreditation details**

To be awarded British Psychological Society Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership, you must achieve an overall degree classification of 2:2, including a pass in your project.

### **Assessment**

Throughout the programme you will complete practical work, either in large groups (Part 1) or in small groups or individually (Part 2 and Part 3 project). Modules are typically assessed by a mixture of coursework and formal examination. Coursework includes essays, project reports, oral and poster presentations, portfolios and weekly continuous assessment questions.

### **Progression**

The University-wide rules relating to 'threshold performance' as follows:

#### *Part 1*

- (i) obtain an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 1; and
- (ii) obtain a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 100 credits taken in Part 1.

In order to progress from Part 1 to Part 2, a student must achieve a threshold performance; and

- (iii) obtain a mark of at least 40% in all compulsory modules.

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 1 qualifies a student for a Certificate of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

To gain a threshold performance at Part 2, a student shall normally be required to achieve:

- (i) a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken at Part 2;
- (ii) marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to not less than 80 credits; and
- (iii) marks of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 120 credits,

except that a mark below 30% may be condoned in no more than 20 credits of modules owned by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3, a student should normally be required to achieve a threshold performance at Part 2 and

(iv) obtain marks of at least 40% in PY2RM.

In addition, all modules that are taken from the list shown above under British Psychological Society Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (GBC) must be passed with at least 40%. Students must also achieve an average of 40% or above across 120 credits.

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 2 qualifies a student for a Diploma of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

To be eligible for Honours students must pass the Project module.

Those students studying this programme at the University of Reading Malaysia, are additionally required to complete the Mata Pelajaran Umum (MPU) programme prior to graduation, in accordance with Act 555 of the Malaysian Office for Education.

### **Classification**

Bachelors' degrees

The University's honours classification scheme is based on the following:

Mark	Interpretation
70% - 100%	First class
60% - 69%	Upper Second class
50% - 59%	Lower Second class
40% - 49%	Third class
35% - 39%	Below Honours Standard
0% - 34%	Fail

The weighting of the Parts/Years in the calculation of the degree classification is:

*Three year programmes:*

Part 2: one-third

Part 3: two-thirds

*Four year programmes, including professional/work placement or study abroad:*

Part 2: one-third

Placement/Study Abroad Year abroad not included in the classification

Part 3: two-thirds

**For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.**

BSc Psychology for students entering Part 1 in session 2016/17

9 January 2020

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