Programme Specification

MSc Cognitive Neuroscience (full-time)	PFTZCOGNEUHM
MSc Cognitive Neuroscience (part-time)	PPTZCOGNEUHM

For students entering in 2020/21

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	MSc Cognitive Neuroscience (full-time) - 1 years MSc Cognitive Neuroscience (part-time) - 2 years
Accreditation	N/A
Programme Start Dates	September

Programme information and content

The purpose of the course is to prepare graduates in Psychology and allied disciplines for academic, clinical, educational, health, and research careers where knowledge of cognitive neuroscience is required or desirable. The course introduces students to topics on the neural and psychological underpinnings of human cognition and behaviour. Topics are covered in more depth, and with greater emphasis on current research, than is typically possible in the course of an undergraduate degree in psychology. Students are exposed to a variety of teaching methods, culminating in the completion of a piece of original research. It is intended that graduates of the course will go on to work in fields which require an understanding of how brain and cognitive function can be investigated in human and non-humans.

Students are required to operate at a more advanced level than in an Honours degree, with emphasis on the psychological issues which arise with particular prominence in this field of enquiry.

Module information

The programme comprises of 180 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules. Compulsory modules are listed.

Compulsory modules

Module	Name	Credits	Level
PYM0EP	Empirical Project	60	M
PYM0FM	fMRI Data Analysis	10	M
PYM0PL2	Placement	40	M
PYM0PP	Project Preparation	10	M
PYM0S1	Data Collection and Analysis 1	10	M
PYM0S2	Data Collection and Analysis 2	10	M

PYMCAN	Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience	10	M
PYMMCN	Methods in Cognition and Neuroscience	10	M
PYMPBC1	Programming for Behavioural and Cognitive Neurosciences	20	M

Part-time or flexible modular arrangements

The course can be studied part-time, over a course of 24 months, by students able to devote at least one full day plus two half-days per week to the demands of the course. To do this we split the course requirements into two roughly equal parts. Usually, the majority of taught (i.e. 10 or 20 credit) modules will be done in the first year. The balance of credits, usually the placement and research project modules, will be done in the second year. Precise details will be agreed with individuals by the Programme Director.

Additional costs of the programme

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 2019.

Optional modules

N/A

Placement opportunities

Opportunity for first-hand research involvement is integral to this course. Students will be offered training and experience in state-of-the-art neuroimaging, psychophysiological and related techniques via a placement in either Centre for Integrative Neuroscience and Neurodynamics (CINN) or one of our partners in the School of Psychology and Clinical Language Science. Due to logistical constraints it is not possible to give students a choice in their placement but the course management will endeavour to match students to placements as fitting.

Study abroad opportunities

N/A

Teaching and learning delivery

Teaching is by a variety of methods, including lectures, small group seminars, web-based work-throughs, self-paced workshops, individual feedback on written work, and one-on-one supervision

Total study hours for your programme will be 1800 hours. The contact hours for your programme will depend upon your module combination; an average for a typical set of modules on this programme is – 180-200. In addition to your scheduled contact hours, you will be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module contact

hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description.

Accreditation details

N/A

Assessment

The programme will be assessed through a combination of written assignments and other coursework, seen essay examinations, open-book test, submission of practical reports, oral and poster presentations, and submission of project dissertation. Further information is contained in the individual module descriptions.

Progression

Part-time and modular progression requirements

Students must pass PYM0S1 and PYM0S2 in their first year.

Classification

The University's taught postgraduate marks classification is as follows:

Mark Interpretation

70 - 100% Distinction

60 - 69% Merit

50 - 59% Good standard (Pass)

Failing categories:

40 - 49% Work below threshold standard

0 - 39% Unsatisfactory Work

For Masters Degree

To qualify for **Distinction**, students must

    i.   gain an overall average of 70 or more over 180 credits; and
   ii.   a mark of 60 or more for the dissertation; and
  iii.   the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
  iv.   students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Merit**, students must

i.   gain an overall average of 60 or more over 180 credits; and
   ii.   a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation; and
  iii.   the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
   iv.   students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Passed**, students must

    i.   gain an overall average of 50 or more over 180 credits; and
   ii.   a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation; and
  iii.   the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
   iv.   the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits.

For PG Diploma

To qualify for **Distinction**, students must

    i.   gain an overall average of 70 or more over 120 credits; and
   ii.   In addition, the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
  iii.   students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Merit**, students must

    i.   gain an overall average of 60 or more over 120 credits; and
   ii.   the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
  iii.   students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Passed**, students must

    i.   gain an overall average of 50 or more over 120 credits; and
   ii.   the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
  iii.   the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits.

For PG Certificate

To qualify for a **Postgraduate Certificate**, students must

    i.   gain an overall average of 50 or more over 60 credits; and
   ii.   the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 10 credits.

For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <u>http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/</u>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant

module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

MSc Cognitive Neuroscience (full-time) for students entering in session 2020/21
12 May 2020