BSc (Hons) Psychology

About the course

Psychology is rather like detective work. Although complex there are many aspects of human thought and behaviour that can be directly observed and measured. Psychology helps us answer questions like: how do we change as we grow older? Is our behaviour influenced by our genes, our environment, or both? How do our brains work? How are mental health problems diagnosed and treated?

Psychology as an undergraduate subject is changing, and the Psychology Department at LSBU is at the forefront of such changes. We are one of the first universities in the UK to deliver courses that integrates core areas of psychological knowledge, so that graduates have a deeper understanding of the subject, and are even better equipped for employment. This new course structure stems from recent industry recommendations made by The British Psychological Society, the Association of Heads of Psychology Departments, and the Higher Education Academy Psychology Network.

All our courses have a strong applied element so that students can see the real world applications of their studies. This means our graduates are well equipped to apply their skills both in psychology-related professions and in other industries. Our alumni are employed in areas such as clinical, forensic and counselling psychology, teaching, the probation and court services, human resources and business.

The BSc (Hons) Psychology route is designed for anyone with a broad interest in the subject. This route is the best choice for someone who wants to remain flexible and who has no fixed ideas on their long term specialisation.

We also offer two specialised Psychology degrees, the BSc Psychology (Child Development) and BSc Psychology (Clinical Psychology) which give students the opportunity to graduate with a qualification that reflects their specific interests in an area of Psychology. All students follow the same programme in the first and second years of the BSc Psychology. In the final year, however, students on the BSc Psychology (Child Development) or BSc Psychology (Clinical Psychology) courses specialise with a research project and options in the appropriate topic areas.

Our department runs a voluntary work placement scheme which helps students to find and prepare for part-time psychology related voluntary work. We work with a number of organisations within the scheme, including:

- NHS clinics and hospital units (psychosexual, forensic and clinical psychology units)
- charitable organisations working with stroke patients
- brain damage units
- addiction rehabilitation units
- children with disabilities
- young offenders
Career Opportunities

A BPS accredited Psychology degree, together with an appropriate postgraduate qualification, can lead to a career as a Chartered Psychologist in, for example, clinical, forensic, educational or occupational psychology. Psychology graduates have excellent written, analytical and numerical skills and are highly regarded in other careers such as market research, advertising and teaching.

With a good BSc in Psychology you can study for a PhD here at LSBU or at other universities. We also offer masters courses in Investigative Forensic Psychology and Addiction Psychology and Counselling.

Suggested Reading list

These books will give you a good idea of the breadth of Psychology as a discipline and will heighten your awareness of the theoretical and methodological issues to be covered during the course of your degree studies:


Module-specific reading for Semester 1

- Introducing Real World Psychology (Module for Single Honours Psychology only)
- Introducing Psychological Approaches (Module for Single and Combined Honours Psychology)
- Psychological Research Methods 1 (Single Honours Psychology and Psychology with Criminology)
First Semester Teaching days*

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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Introducing Real World Psychology (lecture)</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Psychological Research Methods 1 (Lecture)</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Introducing Psychological Approaches (lecture)</td>
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Times vary according to student group you are allocated to.

**Course Contact(s)**

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Tel: 020 7815 5888

*Times/days are based on 2012/13 academic year timetable. For indicative purposes only.*