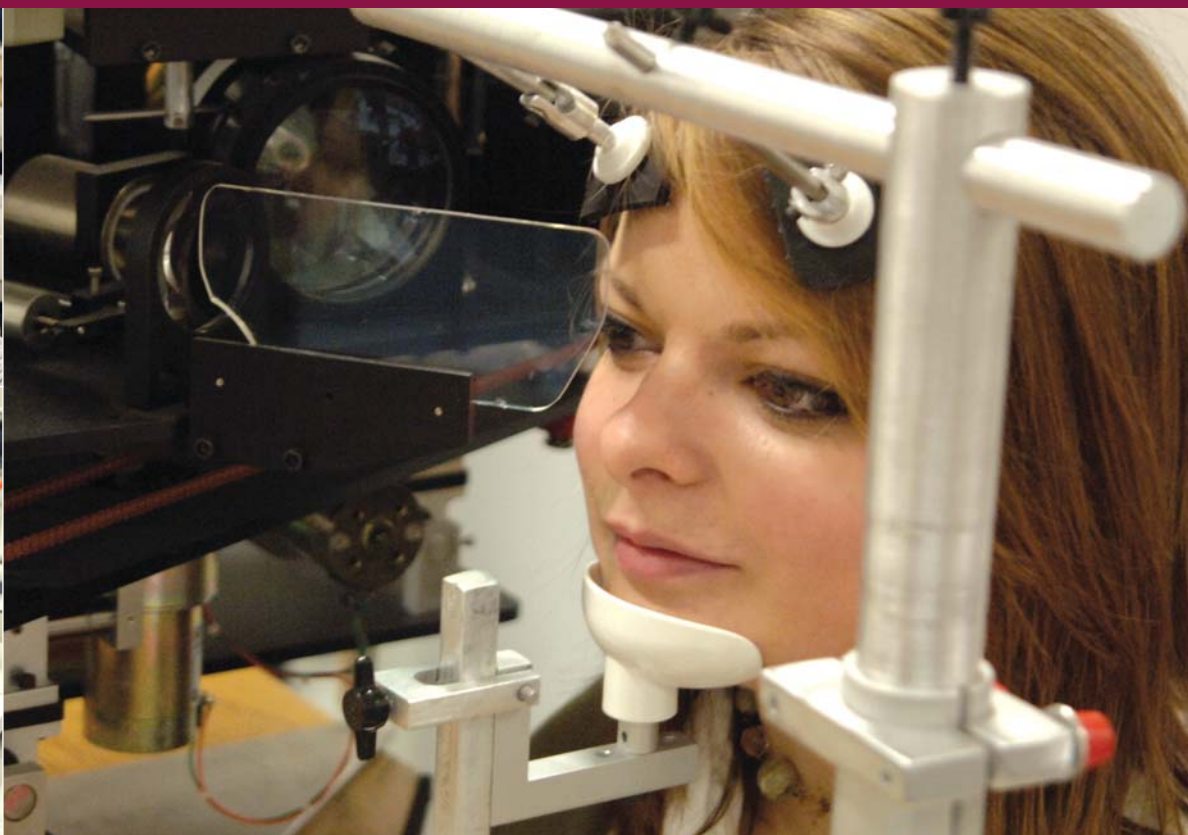




University of
Leicester

School of Psychology

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES IN
Psychology



www.le.ac.uk/psychology

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Welcome to the School of Psychology

Psychology is the science of mind and behaviour: how and why we act and think as we do. The value of psychological expertise is now recognised in all walks of life, and psychology has become a popular subject at degree level. Furthermore, with a training that includes the ability to handle and present complex arguments and to organise and analyse different forms of evidence, graduate psychologists discover a wide range of employment opportunities, both within and beyond services traditionally employing psychologists. Degrees in psychology open the door to a wide range of rewarding career possibilities.

This is also an exciting time to study the subject itself, with recent innovations in research technology and scientific approaches to the subject. For those with an interest in psychological theory and new developments, many opportunities exist for psychology graduates to continue in research positions after graduation.

The School of Psychology at Leicester University has a long-established reputation for the quality of its undergraduate courses. These are taught through lectures, seminars, discussion groups and practical projects carried out in one of our many

specialist laboratories. We have a large and well-equipped school, with talented staff who have interests in both pure and applied aspects of psychology. Find out more by visiting us at one of our Open days or by contacting our web site at www.le.ac.uk/psychology.

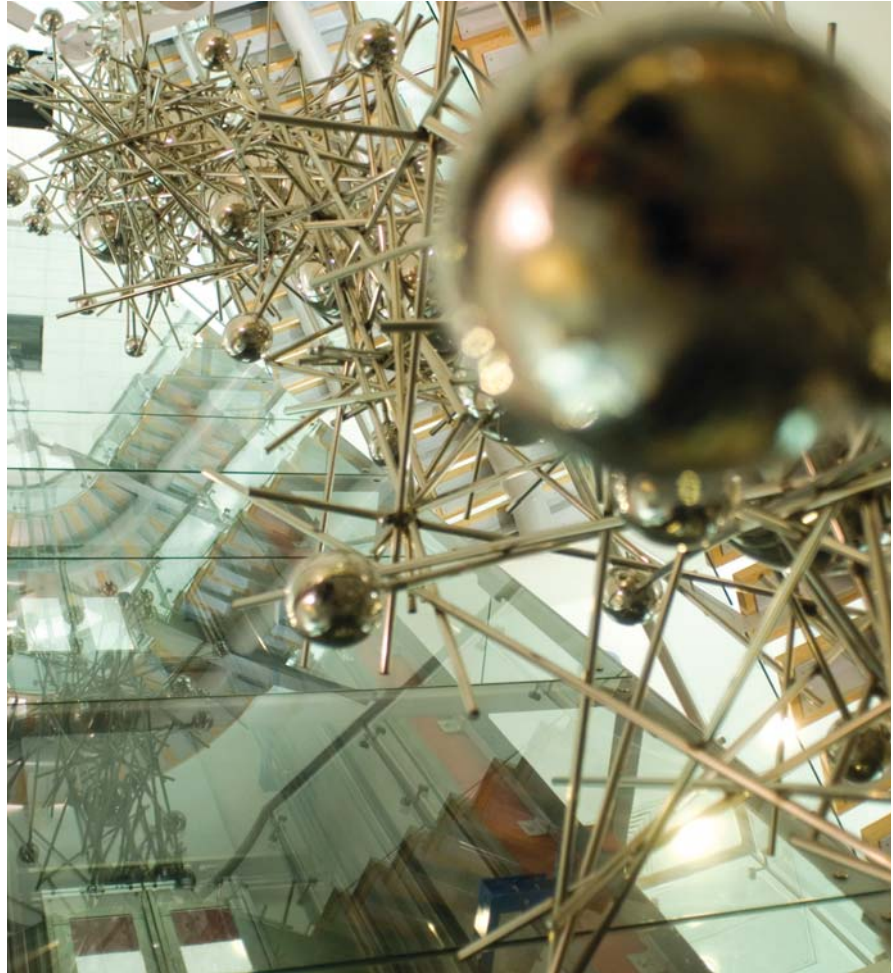
I hope you will choose to come and join us at Leicester to read Psychology either as a single honours subject or combined in one of the combined degrees we offer, and we look forward to welcoming you in the future.

Professor Mark Lansdale
Head of the School of Psychology

Why choose Psychology at Leicester?

As a student of psychology at Leicester you will benefit from the following:

- **Excellent teaching** that is second to none, gaining a maximum of 24 out of 24 in the government subject review (QAA).
- An **international reputation** for excellent research which feeds into our highly-rated teaching – meaning you will work with academics at the cutting-edge of their fields.
- All of our degrees are **British Psychological Society accredited** meaning they will provide you with the necessary academic knowledge, both of psychological theory and practice, for you to progress in your future career.
- A degree in psychology from the University of Leicester provides you with **excellent career support** and could be the first step in a career in scientific research or for training in one of the professional fields of

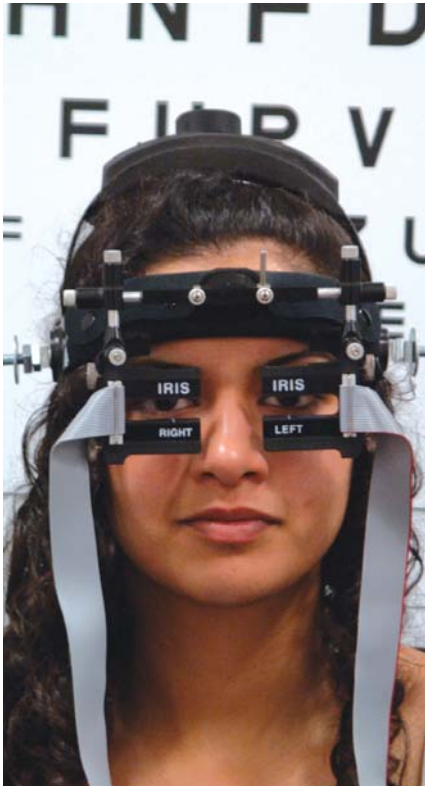


psychology, such as clinical, occupational or forensic psychology.

- The University is ranked 20th by the Complete University Guide published in the *Independent* and we are one of just 21 UK universities to feature in the **world's top 200 universities**

in the *Shanghai Jiao Tong* Table.

- We offer a **range of degrees** and flexible courses allowing you to tailor your studies to your own interests.
- You will be taught by **enthusiastic, research active and supportive staff.**



Degrees Offered

We provide an education in psychology that gives you breadth of vision and specialised knowledge across the whole range of psychology.

All our degrees are three years, full-time.

BSc Psychology

UCAS code: C800 BSc/Psy

BSc Psychology with Sociology

UCAS code: C8L3 BSc/PsySoc

BSc Psychology with Cognitive Neuroscience

UCAS code: C8BC BSc/PWCN

Our Psychology Degrees

First Year

There are three variations in psychology available at degree level at the University of Leicester. In the first year all students share one-third of their modules. These modules cover the breadth of modern psychology.

Students studying single subject psychology take the remaining two-thirds of their modules in psychology.

Psychology with Sociology students take a further third of their modules in psychology and the rest in sociology.

Psychology with Cognitive Neuroscience students take the remaining majority of the modules in psychology, but specialising with increasing levels into the cognitive neuroscience field as their studies progress.

Course aims

The first year develops your understanding of psychology by introducing major approaches to psychology, including cognitive psychology, visual and auditory perception, social psychology, biological psychology, applied psychology and developmental psychology.

Teaching and assessment methods

Throughout the first year you will gain practical experience in the laboratory classes that will serve to develop this knowledge. You are taught how to handle and analyse data using computers.

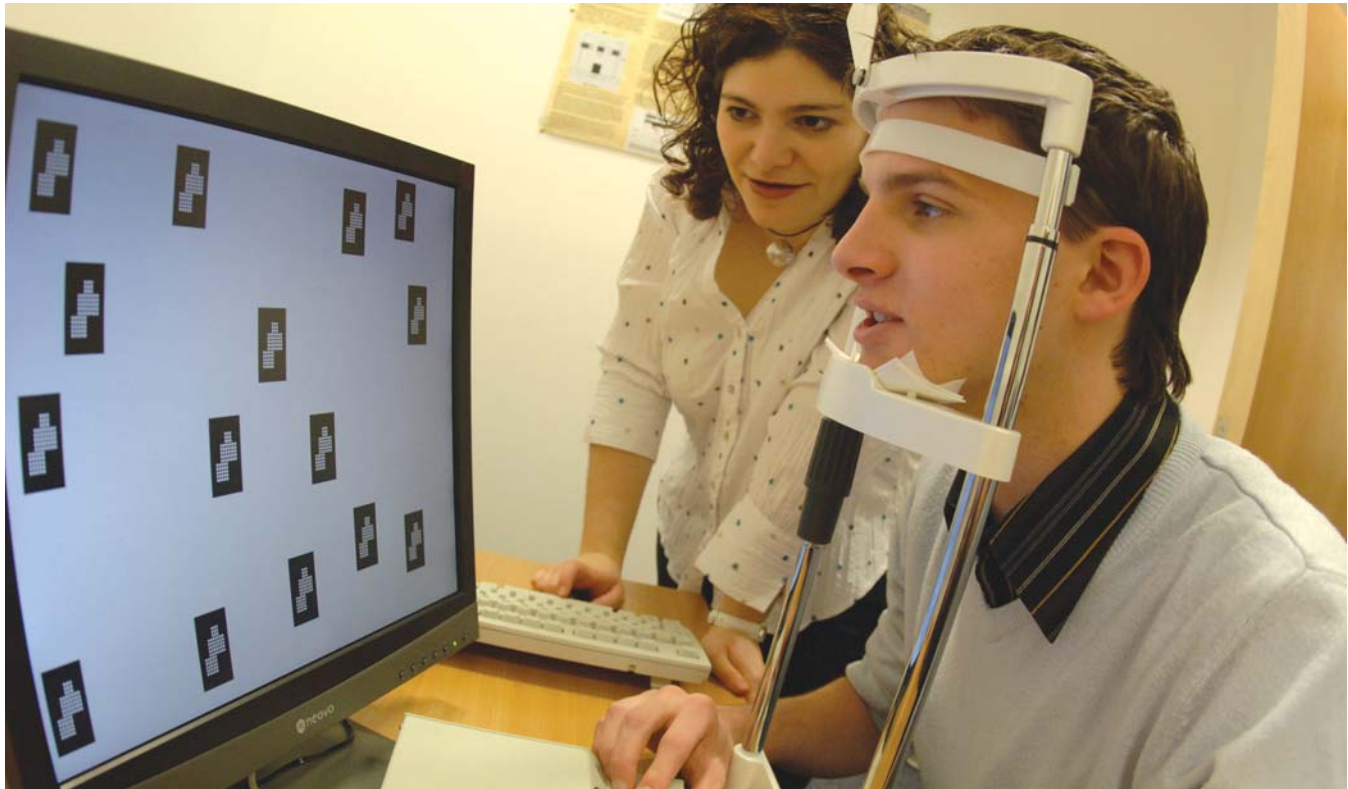
Practical classes and discussion groups have components designed to develop IT, numeracy skills, written and other communication skills. In addition you

will be encouraged to develop your presentation and team-working skills in small group settings.

The British Psychological Society

The British Psychological Society, based in Leicester, is the professional body that scrutinises the standard of all psychology degrees in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Graduate Basis for Registration (GBR) is an

important benchmark of achievement for all degrees in psychology. In order to qualify for GBR, all undergraduate degrees in Psychology must have at least 50% of the modules in Psychology. A first degree with GBR is the normal requirement for entry into professional training, for example as a clinical; educational; forensic or occupational psychologist. All our honours degrees, offer the opportunity to obtain GBR on successful completion.





Psychology BSc

UCAS code: C800 BSc/Psy

Three years, full-time

By the end of your first year you will have a firm grounding in both basic and applied psychology and will also have gained practical research experience, including the use of computers for data collection and analysis.

In your second year you will build on this grounding with more in-depth modules in social behaviour and development, abnormal psychology and individual differences, biological psychology and cognitive psychology, as well as further practical experience designed to foster the independent

research skills required for completion of your empirical dissertation in the third year.

The final year comprises the study of core modules in social behaviour and development, and brain and cognition and four option modules which you can select from an available range according to your specialist interests. The range of options available varies from year to year but would typically include: individual differences; visual cognition behavioural pharmacology; cognitive; and clinical neuropsychology; psychology of love and attraction; game theory; and some aspects of applied psychology (e.g. clinical, legal). In addition, in your final year you will conduct a major individually

“The School has an excellent reputation for Psychology, which is important as I intend to continue in this field after graduation. A good undergraduate degree with BPS recognition was essential, and Leicester provided that.”

Zoe Okonta, student reading
BSc Psychology

conceived project, and also have the opportunity to participate in professional research being currently undertaken by members of staff.

Typical Offers (C800)

A-Levels: AAB. No preferred subjects.

BTEC: Full Diploma with a minimum of two Distinctions and a Merit.

International Baccalaureate: Pass with full Diploma with between 30-33 points.

Access to HE Diploma: Pass with minimum of 45 credits at level 3, and 60 credit overall.

Scottish Higher: Grades of AAABB.



“Now I’m about to leave Leicester I can honestly say I would do it all again and not change any part of my experience. The staff and students are friendly and helpful, just what you need in a new place.”

Zoe Okonta,
Student reading BSc Psychology

BSc Psychology with Sociology

UCAS code: C8L3 BSc/PsySoc

Three years, full-time

By the end of your first year, two-thirds of your time will have been spent studying psychology and the remaining third in sociology.

The second year will also follow this pattern, ensuring that you cover the core material in both subjects.

In the final year you take core psychology modules in social behaviour and development and brain and cognition. In addition, you will take two option modules in psychology and

two option modules in sociology, chosen to suit your particular academic or vocational interests. The range of options available in psychology typically includes: individual differences; visual cognition; behavioural pharmacology; cognitive and clinical neuropsychology; psychology of love and attraction; game theory; and some aspects of applied psychology (e.g. clinical, legal). Sociology options typically include topics such as class, health, work, education, gender, ethnicity, the city and popular culture. In addition, a research project in psychology is taken by all students.

Typical Offers (C8L3)

A-Levels: ABB. No preferred subjects.

BTEC: Full Diploma with a minimum of one Distinction and two Merits.

International Baccalaureate: Pass with full Diploma with between 30-33 points.

Access to HE Diploma: Pass with minimum of 45 credits at level 3, and 60 credit overall.

Scottish Higher: Grades of AABBB.



BSc Psychology with Cognitive Neuroscience

UCAS code: C8BC BSc/PWCN

Three years, full-time

The first year will follow the same course structure as Psychology BSc, providing a firm grounding in both basic and applied psychology. It will also provide an opportunity to gain valuable practical research experience, including research design and data analysis.

The second year will build on the knowledge and skills gained in the first year through in-depth modules in psychology and cognitive neuroscience. Although elements of the second year psychology modules already adopt a cognitive approach, as a psychology

with cognitive neuroscience student, the emphasis of your degree program will begin to focus more on investigating human behaviour from a cognitive neuroscience perspective. This will be reflected in both the module topics and the practical (research) component of the second year program.

The final year comprises core psychology and cognitive neuroscience modules that have been specially tailored to the psychology with cognitive neuroscience degree. These include modules on brain and cognition, social and behavioural development, visual cognition and research methods in the neurosciences. In the final year, you will also conduct

your own research in an area of cognitive neuroscience, under the supervision of a member of staff from the Cognitive Neuroscience section of the School.

Typical Offers (C8BC)

A-Levels: AAB. No preferred subjects.

BTEC: Full Diploma with a minimum of two Distinctions and a Merit.

International Baccalaureate: Pass with full Diploma with between 30-33 points.

Access to HE Diploma: Pass with minimum of 45 credits at level 3, and 60 credit overall.

Scottish Higher: Grades of AAABB



Your Learning Experience

How will I be taught?

Lectures form a vital part of university teaching. They are used to define the basic material for a given module. Lecture styles vary considerably and may include demonstrations as well as the traditional lecture format. Practical course lectures are compulsory while some lectures are voluntary. However, since the lecturers at Leicester are all research active, in practice students want to attend their lectures to be at the cutting-edge of science.

In a tutorial a small group of you meet with a member of staff for an hour. For tutorials students may be required to research a particular topic and discuss their findings with other members of your tutorial group.

A third of the modules in the first and second years involve laboratory work. During your undergraduate career you will acquire a full range of personal transferable practical, IT, team-work and presentation skills.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is based on the following:

- There are two semesters in each year and the examinations are at the end of each semester in years one and two and at the end of the second semester in your final year.



- Coursework: Practical modules involve writing up of laboratory reports. Some modules have no coursework element; others have tutorial essays, short reports or small group presentations.
- Joint accredited degrees have a final year project in the first semester, which is submitted as a long report followed by an oral presentation within the group that you worked with. Final year students studying Psychology and Psychology with Cognitive Neuroscience write up a dissertation in their first and second semesters.

What facilities will I be able to use?

As well as the facilities within the laboratories, we also provide a networked microcomputer service to students. This is supplemented by Faculty

PC sites, offering applications software, e-mail, access to the internet and the University Campus Wide Information Service. Student-access computer suites, operating on the Windows XP system are used for formal teaching sessions and are available to students for individual work. You will have access to your own computer file store, with common user interface, application software etc, from any of the 18 Open Access Areas on and off campus. In addition there are three computer labs in the Maurice Shock Building that are solely dedicated for the use of psychology students.

The University's David Wilson Library, which opened in April 2008, combines state-of-the-art technology with the strengths of a traditional research library and over 1,500 study places.

What advice is available for international students

We welcome overseas applicants, including Junior Year Abroad, for all our undergraduate degree courses. We accept many overseas qualifications as well as International or European Baccalaureates.

We can also provide information regarding pre-undergraduate courses at the University leading to qualifications acceptable for entry to our undergraduate courses. Potential applicants who are interested in taking such a course, and/or those who are uncertain about the acceptability of their qualifications, are invited, in the first instance, to visit. The International Office website which provides valuable information for all international students

www.le.ac.uk/international/

How will I be supported?

Personal Tutor: All students are allocated a personal tutor who is a member of staff in Psychology. You will normally see your personal tutor two or three times a term to discuss progress in your studies, and of course at any other time if you need advice. Your tutor will provide a sympathetic ear for all matters of personal concern, whether they are academic, financial, housing, career, social or personal problems.

Welfare Services: The University has a professional Welfare Service and the staff are available to assist with a wide range of issues from managing your money to



dealing with landlords etc. These issues will, of course, be treated in the strictest confidence.

Student Learning Centre: Support for the development of students' independent learning skills is provided by this Centre. You can make use of a year round programme of study workshops, a drop-in advisory centre and a wide range of written study guides.

Careers Service: Starting in Year One, the careers staff provide guidance to all undergraduates on the importance of skills development, work experience and career planning. They offer drop-in careers advice, as well as a well-stocked information room, workshops and practice interviews.

Student Health Centre: This provides a full NHS practice for all students.



About the University

Some universities consider their primary purpose to be high quality research, others concentrate on excellent teaching. Here at Leicester we think that the two are not only complementary, they're inseparable. We believe that teaching is more inspirational when delivered by passionate scholars engaged in world-changing research – and that research is stronger when delivered in an academic community that includes students.

We think that a university should be about empowering people to explore what they don't know. We achieve this through passionate, dedicated research and teaching. When we were named University of the Year for 2008-9 by the *Times Higher Education*, the judges applauded Leicester's very different approach, calling us "elite without being elitist." Of Britain's top 15 universities only one – Leicester – exceeds its government benchmarks for inclusivity.

Our dedication to providing an excellent student experience can be seen in our

consistent performance in the *National Student Survey*. In 2008 92% of our full-time students were satisfied with their course. This is a level of satisfaction exceeded only by Cambridge amongst mainstream universities teaching full-time students in England.

With these ideas at heart, Leicester is re-framing the values that govern academia and re-defining what a university needs to be in the 21st century; we are constantly finding new ways of being a leading university.

About the city of Leicester

Leicester is a lively and diverse city with all the activities and facilities you would expect from a major city. This is combined with a friendly and safe atmosphere.

Developments in the city have led to the opening of the Curve Theatre with its unique 'inside out' design where the stage is visible from the street. Further developments in the city's cultural quarter will join the existing museums and galleries within the city, and help to cement Leicester's reputation for culture.

Leicester is a city for individuals and this is shown throughout the city; from the individual shops and boutiques of the Lanes area which rub shoulders with the larger stores and designer shops of the Highcross Leicester shopping development; to the festivals held within the city throughout the year, including the Summer Sundae Music Festival.

This diversity is also celebrated through the city's wide range of restaurants, cafes and music venues which provide something for every taste.

We are passionate about our city with many of our students choosing to locate here after graduation.

“Geographically, Leicester is ideal as it is central and easily accessible from all areas of the country. The city is a good size and has a great choice of shops, pubs, bars and clubs. The University has a healthy reputation and continues to perform well in all areas of academic achievement.”

Luke Pollock, student reading
Psychology with Neuroscience



“I naturally wanted to choose a University that would be able to provide a good level of teaching in psychology, needless to say Leicester is among some of the Universities in the country that has received awards for excellent teaching in this field.”

Luke Pollock, student reading Psychology with Neuroscience

How to apply

Entry Requirements

For specific entry requirements for each degree see individual course entries, or access our website at www.le.ac.uk/psychology

- A/AS Levels: Three A levels usually required, two AS levels considered in place of one A level. General Studies accepted.
- GCSE: Mathematics or Statistics, English Language and Biology or Dual Award Integrated Science normally required at grade C or above.
- Access to HE Diploma: A minimum of 45 credits at level 3 to a suitably high standard, plus core study skills.
- European Baccalaureate: Pass with 70% overall for Psychology and Psychology with Cognitive Neuroscience (68% for Psychology with Sociology).
- International Baccalaureate: Pass with Full Diploma with between 30-33 points, depending on degree applied for.
- BTEC Nationals: Psychology and Psychology with Cognitive Neuroscience: Full Diploma with minimum 2 Distinctions and a Merit. Psychology with Sociology: Full Diploma with minimum 1 Distinction and 2 Merits plus GCSEs as above in all cases.
- Other Qualifications: Other national and international qualifications welcomed.
- Mature students welcomed: Alternative qualifications considered.
- Second Year Entry: Subject to availability and may be possible for those with advanced qualifications strictly comparable with our degree structure.
- Interviews are not normally required. All applicants receiving an offer will be invited to visit the Department.
- These degrees are not available on a part-time basis.



For further information please contact

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