Psychology
BSc (Hons)

Introduction

As a student on this course you will develop knowledge and understanding of the mind and behaviour. You will learn about motivation, emotion, personality, relationships, social interaction, memory, perception and reasoning, and see how knowledge of these areas is applied in a variety of real world situations. You will study subjects ranging from schizophrenia and clinical depression through to the psychology of language and decision making, and the social psychology of texting and email.

Duration:
3 years full time

UCAS:
C800

Entry Requirements:
320 tariff points typically from 3 A-levels or equivalent. AS qualifications may be considered in some cases. A minimum of D/D/M from a BTEC 18-unit Diploma

We look at individual applications and make an offer based on your academic achievements and personal statement. Offers may be subject and grade specific.

Preferred subjects:
Psychology, Sociology, Biology

Recommended GCSEs:
4 at grade C minimum including Maths and English

Access to HE
BU welcomes Access to HE Diploma applicants.
This course requires Access to HE in Social Sciences/Humanities normally with 24 Level 3 credits achieved at Merit, and 15 Level 3 credits achieved at Distinction

International Baccalaureate:
32 points for 2011 entry (including 5 points from each of the 3 Higher Level subjects).

If English is not your first language:
IELTS (Academic) 6.0 or equivalent – with a minimum of 6.0 in writing

Accreditations
This course is accredited by the British Psychological Society (BPS).

For more course information
www.bournemouth.ac.uk/bspf

Overview
While you are with us you will acquire a range of transferable skills valued by employers - the graduate employment rate among psychology graduates is excellent. While the course provides a basis for postgraduate studies for professional or academic careers in Psychology (e.g. sports psychologist, forensic psychologist, health psychologist), it will also equip you for a range of others including teaching, management consultancy, advertising, health promotion and personnel work.

The course covers the core British Psychological Society syllabus. Practical classes will equip you with the skills necessary to conduct your own empirical investigations of psychological phenomena.

The programme is accredited as conferring eligibility for the Graduate Basis for Chartership, provided the minimum standard of a Second Class Honours is achieved. This is the first step towards becoming a Chartered Psychologist.

Course content:

Year 1- Level C

Applications of Psychology
You will gain knowledge of the range of applications of psychology as well as an understanding of the significance of the practicing of psychology and its relationship to psychological theory.

Biological & Cognitive Psychology
You will gain an understanding of the basic characteristics and functions of the anatomy and physiology of the nervous system and the relationship between the biology of the brain and higher level cognitive functions. You will also develop an understanding of the main elements of the information processing paradigm.

Experimental Methods & Statistical Analysis 1
You will develop an understanding of the scientific underpinnings of psychology as a discipline, as well as an understanding of the rationale of various empirical methods. You will also have the ability to apply their knowledge of relevant empirical techniques in a range of applied contexts

Developmental & Conceptual Issues in Psychology
You will gain an understanding of the ways in which behaviour changes as the human develops and an awareness and knowledge of historical and conceptual issues surrounding psychology as a science.

Social Psychology & Individual Differences
You will gain an understanding of the ways in which human behaviour is affected by the social context in which it occurs and how behaviour differs between individuals.

Year 2- Level I

Biological Psychology & Intelligence
You will acquire knowledge and understanding of the underlying concepts and principles of biological psychology as well as the experimental methods and techniques used in relevant research. You will also critically examine the nature of intelligence using past and present theoretical and experimental approaches.

Cognitive Psychology & Neuropsychology
You will acquire knowledge and understanding that illustrates and exemplifies the underlying concepts and principles of current research investigating the psychological and neuropsychological basis of cognition.

Developmental Psychology & Language
You will acquire further in-depth knowledge and understanding of the concepts and principles of developmental psychology and the psychology of language. The relationship of these concepts and principles to human interaction with the world around us are an important aspect of this knowledge and understanding.

Experimental Methods & Statistical Analysis 2
You will further develop your experimental skills by planning and designing of experiments as well as by the statistical analysis, interpretation and reporting of experimental findings.

Personality & Social Psychology
You will develop a critical understanding of the concepts and principles in the psychology of personality and of social psychology and this will enable you to carry out experimental work in these areas using the appropriate methodologies. Also, you will gain valuable experiences and develop transferable skills through participation in group activities.

Year 3- Level H

Individual Project (double weighted)
By doing the project you will gain a systematic understanding of key aspects of the fields of psychology, including acquisition of coherent and detailed knowledge, and understanding of current developments in applied psychology. You will also develop an appreciation of the uncertainty, ambiguity and limits of knowledge and methodology

Plus 4 units from*:

Ecopsychology & Environmental Psychology
You will be able to see the relationship between psychology and ecology and explore the idea that the needs of the planet and the person are a continuum. You will also consider the transaction between humans and their natural and built environment and factors that influence pro-environmental behaviour.

Forensic Psychology
You will examine current research at the forefront of knowledge exploring the application of Psychology in forensic contexts. You will gain comprehensive, coherent, detailed knowledge and understanding of Forensic Psychology.

Clinical Psychology
In this unit you will examine psychological and psychiatric disorders and develop an understanding of their aetiology and treatment. You will examine the organisations that deliver mental health services. You will also explore the models of recovery from mental illness.

Occupational Psychology
You will apply psychological theory to the consideration of people at work. You will primarily be concerned with employee wellbeing and how this can be enhanced by effective task design, assessment, and training procedures.

Reading Acquisition & Autism
You will acquire a knowledge and understanding of psychological theory and experimentation relating to reading acquisition, dyslexia and autism. This includes knowledge of the skills underpinning reading and how they can be assessed as well as the diagnosis and developmental trajectory of autism.

Social Psychology & the Internet
You will examine the impact of the Internet on individuals, groups, organisations and society. You will be able to apply social psychological theories and methodologies to evaluate and understand the impacts of online technologies on human thought and behaviour.

Face Recognition and its Disorders
In this unit you will gain a comprehensive and detailed understanding of the key models and contemporary debates in face processing research. You will develop critical evaluation skills in the assessment of research papers, particularly regarding research methods and analytical techniques, and the contribution of data to relevant research questions.

Visual & Spatial Cognition
You will gain a comprehensive understanding of key contemporary issues in spatial cognition and object recognition. You will explore the experimental techniques used in the study of visual cognition across humans and animals. You will gain the ability to digest and evaluate empirical papers and also experience in conducting informal visual cognition and spatial cognition experiments.

Health, Wellbeing & Older People
This unit will provide you with an understanding of the role of psychology in promoting health and well-being, and its role in promoting quality of life in older people. This unit will be particularly useful for students wishing to pursue a career in health psychology, health services, or wishing to work with older people.

* Options shown are an indication of available units and may alter to reflect current staff expertise and sufficient student demand

Career Opportunities
A psychology degree has one of the widest of applications to careers, both directly and in associated occupations. Our Psychology course will prepare you either for postgraduate studies in specialised areas of psychology or will provide you with a range of transferable skills and knowledge highly valued by employers in a range of other careers.

Entry Requirements
320 tariff points. AS qualifications may be considered in some cases.

We look at individual applications and make an offer based on your academic achievements and personal statement. Offers may be subject and grade specific.

GCSEs
A minimum of 4 GCSEs grades A* - C including a Science, Maths and English or equivalent qualifications

Numeracy and literacy
In order for you to contribute fully to your course and enjoy your learning experience with us, you'll need to have the right skills to study with us. For that reason, we need to be sure that you can express yourself in written English, have basic numeracy skills, and have an understanding of the subject area. We usually use Level 2 of the National Qualifications Framework as a demonstration of these skills. Level 2 includes GCSEs and Key Skills Level 2.

If you are a mature candidate who does not have formal qualifications to this level, we may still be able to consider your application – please contact the askBU enquiry service to find out more.

BTEC National Diploma
A minimum of a D/D/M from a BTEC 18-unit Diploma

Advanced / Progression Diplomas
This course does not accept advanced / progression diplomas as entry onto this course.

Access to HE
BU welcomes Access to HE Diploma applicants. This course requires Access to HE in Social Sciences/Humanities normally with 24 Level 3 credits achieved at Merit, and 15 Level 3 credits achieved at Distinction

Selection Methods
We'll be selecting the candidates for this course by looking at their UCAS applications. For that reason, make sure your application really stands out from the crowd, and leave us in no doubt as to why you should be joining BU.

International Students
International students are very welcome at BU – we think that a bustling, cosmopolitan mix of students enhances the learning experience for everybody.

To find out more about how your qualifications relate to those in the UK, take a look at the NARIC website www.naric.org.uk. Your application will be processed by our dedicated International Admissions Team that is familiar with a wide range of international qualifications. We look at your entire application to see how you would benefit from the course, and how able you are to complete it successfully.

You will find our country-specific information www.bournemouth.ac.uk/international gives you clear advice about the entry requirements from a particular country. If your country is not listed, then contact our askBU Enquiry Service for further information.

Contact askBU Enquiries:
Tel: 08456 501501 (BU does not profit from this service)
Tel: +44 (0) 1202 961916 (UK and International/EU alternative number)
Email: **askBUenquiries@bournemouth.ac.uk**

Please note:
The University reserves the right to introduce changes to the information given, including the addition, withdrawal, re-location or restructuring of courses.

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