



# **Module Handbook**

**Incoming Students**

**Academic Year 2024/25**

**Part 2**

**Psychology**

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## **A: THE DEPARTMENT**

The Department of Psychology at Durham [<http://www.dur.ac.uk/psychology>] provides a vigorous and intellectually exciting environment for learning and research in all areas of the discipline. The Department is located on the science campus. You can find a map of Durham University at: [www.dur.ac.uk/map/](http://www.dur.ac.uk/map/). Location maps and directions can be found at: [www.dur.ac.uk/about/location](http://www.dur.ac.uk/about/location) .

The Department of Psychology admits around 180 – 200 undergraduate students a year. Our students benefit from a research-led curriculum and are taught by international leaders of their fields. Each student has an academic staff member allocated as Academic Advisor.

Further information for incoming exchange students can be found via the University's International Office link: [Incoming Opportunities - Durham University](#)

We look forward to welcoming you to the Department.

### **A1: Departmental Exchange Coordinator**

#### **Exchange Co-ordinator:**

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## **B: DEGREE PROGRAMMES OFFERED**

There are a number of options for undergraduates in Psychology. The Department offers one single honours degree programme and contributes to the following joint and combined honours degree programmes:

- BSc Psychology (C800)
- BSc Psychological and Behavioural Science (C807)
- BA Philosophy and Psychology (CV85)
- BA Education Studies – Psychology (X1C8)
- BSc Natural Sciences (CFG0)

- BSc Psychology and Anthropology (CL86)

### **B1: Degree Structure**

All degrees at Durham have a modular structure, consisting of the equivalent of six modules 20-credit (in total, 120 Durham credits, amounting to 60 ECTS) each year. 20-credit modules are usually studied over all three terms of the teaching year (October-June) although there are also 10-credit modules that typically cover one term. All modules are examined or assessed in the year in which they are taught. Usually the majority of teaching takes place in terms 1 and 2 (Michaelmas and Epiphany) with exams in term 3 (Easter).

Our *BSc Psychology (C800)* programme is organized around three broad approaches to the subject: Cognitive, Biological and Social & Developmental. That is, we study people in terms of their internal mental processes, the biological mechanisms that underlie their behaviour, and the social and developmental context in which they act. In addition, we consider ways of assessing individual differences between people, and consider abnormal and clinical aspects of psychology. Students are instructed in the statistical and methodological techniques that form the basis of psychological research.

## **C: REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS**

**This section contains important information for setting up your academic programme at Durham University. Please read through this section carefully before considering your modules and filling in the Learning Agreement!**

### **C1: General**

#### **Choice of Modules**

#### **IMPORTANT NOTE FOR STUDENTS: PLEASE READ BEFORE COMPLETING YOUR LEARNING AGREEMENT**

At Durham University European agreements are signed by individual university departments and are not university-wide agreements. This means that, in general, students will have to choose modules (courses) within the Durham University department through which the European agreement with their home university has been signed (students should check with the Exchange Coordinator in their university if they are not sure which department this is). Modules offered by other departments are subject to availability and can only be taken with prior consent from the relevant department. Certain restrictions may also apply to courses in some departments and students need to follow the advice below carefully before completing their Learning Agreements.

Please clearly indicate the modules you wish to take on your Learning Agreement (included in your application package) for approval by the respective department(s). Before

completing your Learning Agreement, it is very important that you read carefully the relevant departmental section(s) of the Module Handbook to check which modules are available to you and any restrictions which may apply. It is imperative that a properly completed Learning Agreement is submitted as part of the application form. Only complete applications can be processed.

Section *D: Module Details* provides a list of modules available for incoming exchange students in the department where the agreement has been established (receiving department) as well as a list of modules available for students coming in through other departments (external departments). Please choose from these modules only!

To find out about the details for each module (teaching methods and contact hours, prerequisite academic background, method of assessment, content, etc) please refer to the Faculty Handbook online under <http://www.dur.ac.uk/faculty.handbook/>

## **C2: Departmental Requirements and Restrictions**

The Department of Psychology offers most of its level 2 and level 3 20-credit (10 ECTS) and 10-credit (5 ECTS) modules to incoming exchange students. We only accept incoming students for a full teaching year (9 months) as this provides the best possible learning experience. However, if the nine months duration conflicts with the degree structure at the Home Institution, we would accept students for half of the teaching year (one or two terms). In such case, we would prefer students to come at the beginning of the academic year (October for Durham University). Given that many of our modules run throughout the three terms, student will be able to attend each module from the beginning. We normally expect incoming students to take between 2 modules (minimum if they come for half a year) and 6 (maximum if they come for the full 9 months), with the total number of credits required to be agreed in advance between the institutions as part of each Learning Agreement. To ensure that the modules are appropriate to your current stage of higher education we offer only second and third year modules. Please note that some modules do get full and so you need to be sure that there are a range of alternative modules that suit your abilities and interests.

As you will notice, many level 1 and level 2 modules have prerequisites, however the department decided that the prerequisites do not apply to international students. That said, it should be noticed that prerequisite ensure that a student is not disadvantaged by having gaps in their background learning. Prerequisites give a guide as to the knowledge required/expected prior to starting the module, and each student is best placed to judge whether or not they have that (this of course in liaison with her/his home university).

Many 20-credit modules (10 ECTS) have a mixture of assessment by exam and by essay. Some modules often set some sort of formative work, which is marked and feedback given but whose marks does not count toward the final module mark. This is a 'practice' piece of work, intended to introduce to the particular format of assessment. Summative work, which counts towards your final year mark, can be set throughout the year, though the majority will be submitted between January and March.

The Programme is supported by a mixture of lectures, tutorial meetings and laboratory work. Lectures are used to provide information, challenge students and generate enthusiasm for learning. A central component of your teaching and learning experience will be the independent reading of academic articles and books. Extensive reading lists are provided with each module, so you should be willing and able to undertake independent reading as part of research into your subjects.

We would prefer students to study in Psychology on the basis of a departmental link, and taking a substantial number of their modules in Psychology. We will, however, accept students on the basis of an external link (to another Durham Department).

#### **D: MODULE DETAILS**

This section contains a list of modules incoming exchange students can choose from. Please only select from the modules listed in sections D1 or D2 in the Module Handbooks for each subject!

To find further details for each module (teaching methods and contact hours, prerequisite academic background, method of assessment, content, etc) please refer to the Faculty Handbook online under <http://www.dur.ac.uk/faculty.handbook/>.

#### **D1: Modules (BSc. Psychology, C800) available to incoming exchange students coming on a departmental link**

##### **YEAR 2**

<b>MODULE CODE</b>	<b>MODULE TITLE</b>	<b>TERMS</b>	<b>ECTS</b>
PSYC2241	COGNITIVE AND BIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY	FULL YEAR	10
PSYC2251	DIFFERENTIAL AND CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY	FULL YEAR	10
PSYC2271	SOCIAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY	FULL YEAR	10

Please note that Term 2 modules may have prerequisites in Term 1. Please check with the departmental co-ordinator.

##### **YEAR 3**

<b>MODULE CODE</b>	<b>MODULE TITLE</b>	<b>TERMS</b>	<b>ECTS</b>
PSYC3201	LEARNING AND ANIMAL COGNITION	Full Year	10
PSYC3277	HUMAN EVOLUTIONARY PSYCHOLOGY	TERM 1	5

PSYC3297	NEUROPSYCHOLOGY OF AMNESIA	TERM 2	5
PSYC3337	THE MULTISENSORY BODY	TERM 2	5
PSYC3367	FALLACIES AND BIASES: SOCIAL COGNITIVE PERSPECTIVES	TERM 2	5
PSYC3401	EMOTION AND SOCIAL PERCEPTION		10
PSYC3411	CLINICAL NEUROPSYCHOLOGY		10
PSYC3427	FACE RECOGNITION	TERM 1	5
PSYC3431	FETAL DEVELOPMENT	TERM 1	10
PSYC3477	BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC PSYCHOLOGY	TERM 2	5
PSYC3487	EVALUATING EVIDENCE IN BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCE	TERM 1	5
PSYC3557	CRIMINOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY	TERM 1	5
PSYC3567	MIND, BRAIN AND CONSCIOUSNESS	TERM 2	5
PSYC3587	PSYCHOLOGY AND HEALTH PROMOTION	TERM 2	5
PSYC3637	CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS	TERM 2	5
PSYC3647	THE EVER ADAPTING BRAIN – SENSORY NEUROPLASTICITY	TERM 2	5
PSYC3657	ENVIRONMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY AND SUSTAINABILITY	TERM 2	5
PSYC3697	STATISTICAL MODELLING	TERM 1	5
PSYC3717	CURRENT ISSUES IN MENTAL HEALTH	TERM 2	5
PSYC3727	EATING DISORDERS	TERM 1	5
PSYC3737	NEURAL CIRCUITS UNDERLYING BEHAVIOUR AND DISEASE	TERM 1	5

PSYC3757	PSYCHOLOGY OF HAPPINESS AND FLOURISHING	TERM 2	5
PSYC3767	THE PSYCHOLOGY OF EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVITY (EDI)	TERM 1	5
PSYC3777	PSYCHOLOGY AND LAW: AN EMPIRICAL PERSPECTIVE	TERM 1	5
PSYC3797	SENSORY AND SOCIAL PROCESSING IN AUTISM	TERM 2	5
PSYC3807	VISUAL ATTENTION AND WORKING MEMORY	TERM 1	5
PSYC3827	ACTIVE VISION: EYE MOVEMENTS FROM THEORY TO APPLICATION	TERM 1	5

Please note that the available Year 3 modules might change at short notice. Additionally, timetabling conflicts or capacity limits can also impact Year 3 module availability, and there is no guarantee that students will be able to register for any given module on this list. International students should identify several alternate modules in case they are unable to register for one of their first choice modules.

Additionally, please note that Year 3 modules are generally only offered to students with psychology backgrounds (i.e., students who have taken relevant psychology modules at their home institutions).

For more information, please check the following list at

[www.dur.ac.uk/faculty.handbook/module\\_search/?search\\_dept=PSYC&search\\_level=3](http://www.dur.ac.uk/faculty.handbook/module_search/?search_dept=PSYC&search_level=3).

From this list, students can normally take any 10 or 20 credit modules (5 or 10 ECTS, respectively), with the exception of the dissertation and project modules.



**D2: Modules for incoming exchange students coming on an external link (through a different department)**

For students with no prior knowledge of Psychology there are two Year 1 modules available from C800.

Students with background in Psychology should refer to section D1 for a choice of modules.

**YEAR 1**

**Modules available from the BSc Psychology (C800)**

<b>MODULE CODE</b>	<b>MODULE TITLE</b>	<b>TERMS</b>	<b>ECTS</b>
PSYC1071	INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY 1: COGNITIVE & BIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY	FULL YEAR	10
PSYC1081	INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY 2 DEVELOPMENTAL, SOCIAL & ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY	FULL YEAR	10