University of Suffolk

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	**BSc (Hons) Psychology**
Awarding Bodies	**University of Suffolk**
Level of Award[1]	**FHEQ Level 6**
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	**British Psychological Society**
Credit Structure[2]	**360 Credits** **Level 4: 120 Credits** **Level 5: 120 Credits** **Level 6: 120 Credits**
Mode of Attendance	**Full-time**
Standard Length of Course[3]	**3 years full-time**
Intended Award	**BSc (Hons) Psychology**
Named Exit Awards	**DipHE Psychology**
Entry Requirements[4]	**112 UCAS tariff points (or above), BBC (A-Level), DDM (BTEC), Merit (T-Level) or Access to HE Diploma with a minimum of 30 Level 3 credits at merit grade or above. Plus GCSE grade C/4 or above in English and Mathematics (or equivalent).**
Delivering Institution	**University of Suffolk**
UCAS Code	**C801**

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the BSc (Hons) Psychology course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2025-26 academic year.[5]

Course Summary

The BSc (Hons) Psychology programme offers students a single route degree in psychology. The course covers a range of psychological perspectives including biological, cognitive, developmental, and social. The course is underpinned by a thorough review of a range of research methods, both qualitative and quantitative, and exploration of the scientific method. Delivery of teaching will include face-to-face and online lectures, discussion and seminar groups and practical workshop sessions in dedicated laboratories. In the third year of study students will undertake their own independent research project under supervision. Graduates

[1] For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies 2nd Edition (2024)
[2] All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the Higher education credit framework for England (2021).
[3] Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information about mode of study and maximum registration periods can be found in the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards (2023).
[4] Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the Admissions Policy (2023) and further details about Disclosure and Barring Checks (DBS) can be found on the University's DBS webpage.
[5] The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the Admissions Policy (2023).

from the programme who achieve a minimum of a 2:2 overall will be eligible for the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership of the British Psychological Society.

Course Aims

1. To produce a scientific understanding of the mind, brain, behaviour and experience, and how they interact with the complex environments in which they exist
2. To include knowledge and the acquisition of a range of research skills and methods for investigating experience and behaviour, culminating in an ability to conduct research independently
3. To develop an understanding of the role of empirical evidence in the creation and constraint of theory, and also in how theory guides the collection and interpretation of empirical data
4. To present multiple perspectives in a way that fosters critical evaluation and reflection
5. To develop knowledge, leading to an appreciation of theory and research findings, including relevant ethical and sociocultural issues
6. To lead to an understanding of real-life applications of theory to the full range of experience and behaviour and the application of psychological understanding to real-world questions.

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the BSc (Hons) Psychology course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 6 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)[6],[7].

Learning outcome number	Learning outcome
Subject Knowledge and Understanding	
i	To understand the scientific underpinnings of psychology as a discipline, its historical origins, development and limitations
ii	To recognise the inherent variability and diversity of psychological functioning and its significance
iii	To demonstrate systematic knowledge and critical understanding of a range of influences on psychological functioning, how they are conceptualised and how they interrelate
iv	To demonstrate detailed knowledge of several specialised areas and/or applications, some of which are at the cutting edge of research in the discipline
v	To demonstrate a systematic knowledge of a range of research paradigms, research methods and measurement techniques, including statistics and probability, and be aware of their limitations.
Subject-Specific Skills	
i	To reason scientifically, understand the role of evidence and make critical judgements about arguments in psychology

[6] As set out in the QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies 2nd Edition (2024)
[7] and the QAA Subject Benchmark for Psychology (2023)

ii	To adopt multiple perspectives and systematically analyse the relationships between them
iii	To detect meaningful patterns in behaviour and evaluate their significance
iv	To recognise the subjective and variable nature of individual experience
v	To pose, operationalise and critique research questions
vi	To demonstrate substantial competence in research skills through practical activities
vii	To reason analytically and demonstrate competence in a range of quantitative and qualitative methods
viii	To competently initiate, design, conduct and report on an empirically-based research project under appropriate supervision, and recognise its theoretical, practical and methodological implications and limitations
ix	To be aware of ethical principles and approval procedures and demonstrate these in relation to personal study, particularly with regard to the research project, and be aware of the ethical context of psychology as a discipline
Generic Skills	
i	To communicate effectively. Effective communication involves developing a cogent argument supported by relevant evidence and being sensitive to the needs and expectations of an audience. This is accomplished through specific demands to write both essays and scientific reports, and through experience in making oral presentations to groups
ii	To demonstrate numerical reasoning skills
iii	To be computer literate, displaying at the very least skill in the use of word processing, databases and analytic software packages
iv	To retrieve and organise information effectively. Psychology graduates are familiar with collecting and organising stored information found in library books and journal collections, and online, critically evaluating primary and secondary sources
v	To recognise what is required for effective teamwork and articulate their own strengths and weaknesses in this regard. The complexity of the factors that shape behaviour and social interaction will be familiar to psychology graduates and will make them more aware of the basis of successful and problematic interpersonal relationships
vi	To take responsibility for their own learning and skill development; this will include effective personal planning, self-reflection and project management skills, so they become more independent and pragmatic as learners

Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following QAA Benchmarks / Professional Standards:

- Subject Benchmark for Psychology (2023)
- British Psychological Society Standards for the accreditation of undergraduate, conversion and integrated Masters programmes in Psychology (2019)

Course Structure

The BSc (Hons) Psychology comprises modules at levels 4, 5 and 6.

Module Specifications for each of these modules is included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

	Module	Credits	Module Type[8]
Level 4			
	Psychological Research Methods and Skills	20	M
	Foundations of Biological and Cognitive Psychology	20	M
	Foundations of Social and Developmental Psychology	20	M
	Everyday Psychology	20	R
	Introduction to Criminology	20	R
	Introduction to Health and Wellbeing	20	R
Level 5			
	Qualitative Research Methods	20	M
	Quantitative Data Analysis	20	M
	Biological and Cognitive Psychology	20	M
	Social and Development Psychology	20	M
Two Optional Modules from:			
	Cyberpsychology	20	O
	Evolutionary Psychology	20	O
	Psychological Aspects of Health and Wellbeing	20	O
	Psychology and Crime	20	O
	Psychology in Education	20	O
Level 6			
	Abnormal Psychology	20	M
	Individual Differences	20	M
	Psychology Project	40	M
Two Optional Modules from:			
	Applied Health Psychology	20	O
	Cyberpsychology	20	O
	Forensic Psychology	20	O
	Fundamentals of Cognitive Neuroscience	20	O
	Psychology in Education	20	O
	Psychology of Gender and Sexuality	20	O

Optional modules available in any academic year will be communicated to you prior to your enrolment to facilitate module choice. Some optional modules may not run in every year of

[8] Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards (2021)

study, and the availability of optional modules depends on the level of student demand, the availability of specialist staff and timetabling constraints. In addition, we regularly review our curriculum to ensure it is up-to-date, relevant, draws on the latest research and addresses contemporary issues. As a result, the modules we offer may change over the course of your degree.

Awards
On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a BSc (Hons) Psychology. Students who leave the course early may be eligible for a DipHE in Psychology on successful completion of 240 credits including all mandatory modules at levels 4 and 5.

Course Delivery
The course is delivered at Ipswich. Students studying full-time on the BSc (Hons) Psychology programme are likely to have approximately 288 contact hours for level 4, 216 contact hours for level 5 and 96 contact hours for level 6 plus an additional 12 contact hours for tutorials associated with the dissertation across an academic year. The contact hours will be a mix of face-to-face or online lectures, seminars and practical workshops. Students will normally be expected to undertake 20 hours of independent study in an average week, but should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

Course Assessment
A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module's intended learning outcomes. Assessment on the course overall will be mostly from coursework (including essays, reports, presentations, group work, reflective learning journals and research projects) with some examinations (dependent on module choice).

Special Features
Graduates who have passed the empirical psychology project and gained a minimum of a 2:2 overall are eligible to apply for the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (GBC) of the British Psychological Society (BPS).

Course Team
The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute and are all registered with the appropriate professional body (i.e. BPS).

Course Costs
Students undertaking BSc (Hons) Psychology will be charged tuition fees as detailed below:

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK/EU	£9,535 per year
Part-time UK/EU	Not applicable
Full-time International	£15,090 per year
Part-time International	No applicable

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

University of Suffolk

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the website.