

## School of Psychology

### Head of School

Professor S D Reicher

### Degree Programmes

M.Res.: Psychology

### Programme Requirements

M.Res.: 180 credits from modules SS5101-SS5104, PS5003, PS5005 & Dissertation module PS5002

These modules are designed to constitute an M.Res. Programme and also as training for students who are accepted into a higher research degree in Psychology, in order both to equip them with the specific skills necessary for the completion of their research and to provide them with the general skills necessary for undertaking a career as an research psychologist. The M.Res. Programme in Psychology is appropriate for students who wish to pursue research in psychology that is related to the social sciences. The programme is recognized by the UK Economic and Social Research Council.

**Co-requisite:** All seven modules are to be taken together in the same session. In the case of part-time students, students arriving at non-standard times, or other special circumstances, the 'same session' requirement may be waived at the discretion of the Head of School.

### Modules

A set of postgraduate interdisciplinary modules in the social sciences (Economics, Management, International Relations, Psychology, Geography and Social Anthropology) composes the core of the basic research training. Complementary modules specific to psychology are offered for advanced training in research design, analysis and professional skills.

#### PS5002 Research Project

Credits: 60.0 Semester: Whole Year

Prerequisite: Acceptance into a research degree in Psychology

Co-requisite: All seven modules are to be taken together in the same session. In the case of part-time students, students arriving at non-standard times, or other special circumstances, the 'same session' requirement may be waived at the discretion of the Head of School.

Programme(s): Compulsory module for M.Res. in Psychology.

Description: The student will carry out a major piece of original and independent research under the guidance of an academic supervisor. Supervision will be regular and will normally average approximately one hour per week. The aim of the module is to give the student an opportunity to develop expertise in designing, conducting and analysing psychological research, and also to learn how to present such work in writing.

Class Hour: To be arranged with the supervisor

Teaching: Personal tutorials at approximately two-weekly intervals

Assessment: 15,000 word (maximum) research report

## **Psychology – 5000 Level Modules 2006/07 – September 2006**

### **PS5003 Generic Research and Professional Skills in Psychology**

Credits: 30.0 Semester: Whole Year

Prerequisite: Acceptance into a research degree in Psychology

Co-requisite: All seven modules are to be taken together in the same session. In the case of part-time students, students arriving at non-standard times, or other special circumstances, the 'same session' requirement may be waived at the discretion of the Head of School.

Programme(s): Compulsory module for M.Res. in Psychology.

Description: This module introduces students to the various skills and issues which are of importance to academic psychologists irrespective of their particular area of research. Weekly seminars will cover the various means of academic presentation (published writing, talks, posters), the use of technology in order to enhance communication, how to read research reports, how to gain ethical approval for research, how to deal with a series of legal and practical issues, and how to build an academic career.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: Seventeen 2 hour seminars

Assessment: Ten elements of Continuous Assessment

### **PS5005 Methods of Data Analysis in Psychology**

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Prerequisite: Acceptance into a research degree in Psychology

Co-requisite: All seven modules are to be taken together in the same session. In the case of part-time students, students arriving at non-standard times, or other special circumstances, the 'same session' requirement may be waived at the discretion of the Head of School.

Programme(s): Compulsory module for M.Res. in Psychology.

Description: This module aims to ensure that students are competent in the use of advanced data analysis in psychology. This includes such things as basic probability theory, non-parametric statistics, uni- and multi-variate parametric statistics. Students will also study advanced topics such as statistical modelling. Students will be given an initial assessment at the start of the session and, depending on their performance, will be given a guided programme of personal study which will focus on the areas where they need to gain competence.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: Eleven 2-hour workshops

Assessment: Ten elements of Continuous Assessment

### **SS5101 Being a Social Scientist: Skills, Processes and Outcomes**

Credits: 15.0 Semester: 1 & 2

Programme(s): Compulsory module for M.Res. in Psychology.

Description: This module focuses on developing students' specific research thinking and writing skills in a practically based way. Thus, the module will address the nature of being a research social scientist including exploring some of the ethical issues involved. The module will also consider selecting suitable research questions and framing these as appropriate for Masters and PhD dissertations.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: Eleven 2.5-hour sessions

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

**SS5102 Philosophy and Methodology of the Social Sciences**

Credits: 15.0 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Compulsory module for M.Res. in Psychology.

Description: Beginning with a discussion of the evolution of the social sciences, this module addresses central philosophical questions of social science including discussion of epistemological and methodological aspects of positivism and interpretivism.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Twelve 2-hour sessions

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

**SS5103 Qualitative methods in Social Research**

Credits: 15.0 Semester: 2

Programme(s) Compulsory module for M.Res. in Psychology.

Description: This module offers both a theoretical and practical introduction to qualitative research. The diversity of the approaches to qualitative research will be addressed but the focus of the module is primarily practical necessitating the active participation of students.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: Nine 2-hour sessions

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

**SS5104 Quantitative Research in Social Science**

Credits: 15.0 Semester: 1

Programme(s) Compulsory module for M.Res. in Psychology.

Description: This module will cover basic concepts and approaches to quantitative research in the social sciences in order to provide students with the basic quantitative tools for collecting, organising and analysing data.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: Ten 2-hour workshops

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

