

Master of Science Psychology (Conversion)

Programme Requirements

Psychology (Conversion) - MSc

100 credits from Module List: SS5104, PS5005, PS5240, PS5231 - PS5234 **and**
 10 credits from Module List: PS5235 - PS5236 **and**
 10 credits from Module List: PS5237 - PS5238 **and**
 PS5002 (60 credits)

Compulsory modules:

SS5104 Quantitative Research in Social Science

SCOTCAT Credits:	15	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	1.00 - 5.00 pm Mon			
This module provides a user-friendly introduction to the fundamental concepts of quantitative analysis. It will cover underlying principles, terminology, research design, sampling strategies, uncertainty and missing data, computerised data management and univariate and multivariate approaches to data analysis. The assessment will be in the form of practical tasks completed in class and/or independently.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for MRes in Human Geography / Sustainable Development Compulsory for MSc Psychology (Conversion). Compulsory for Research Methods in Psychology (MSc) Compulsory for various other MRes Programmes. Optional for Sustainable Development (MSc), Sustainable Development and Environmental Economics (MSc) Optional for various other MRes Programmes			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 3-hour combined lecture and practical session.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Dr M Kesby			
Module teaching staff:	Dr J Ales			

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PS5005 Methods of Data Analysis in Psychology				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	12.00 noon Mon			
This module aims to ensure that students are competent in the use of advanced data analysis in psychology. This includes advanced training in common statistics (including regression, analysis of variance and multivariate techniques) plus additional training in qualitative methods. Students will also study more complex topics such as statistical modeling.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for MSc Evolutionary and Comparative Psychology: the Origins of Mind, MSc Psychology (Conversion), MSc in Health Psychology, Compulsory for Research Methods in Psychology (MSc)			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 11 x 3-hour workshops plus optional tutorials.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Dr E Bowman			
Module teaching staff:	Dr E Bowman, Dr R Spence, Dr S Pehrson and Professor S Reicher			

PS5240 Review				
SCOTCAT Credits:	15	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	Whole Year
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
This review will critically analyse and review complex current material in one particular topic in the study of the mind. Students will be required to attend the School Seminar series and to elect the work presented by one of the speakers as the basis for this essay. As part of the essay they should read relevant publications both by the speaker and by others in the relevant field. Students should consider both the theoretical significance and the real-world relevance of the work.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for MSc Psychology (Conversion)			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: To be arranged with tutor.			
Assessment pattern:	Review = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Dr B Dritschel			

PS5231 Conceptual Issues and Theoretical Perspectives				
SCOTCAT Credits:	10	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	9.00 am - 11.00 am and 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm Thu (first half of semester)			
This module addresses the historical and philosophical background to current debates in psychology. The module will be taught via lectures and seminars including student presentations. Emphasis will be placed on the development of critical analysis of alternative models and levels of explanations of behaviour, and the ability to relate conceptual debates in psychology to issues in the real world.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for MSc Psychology (Conversion)			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 x 2-hour lecture and 1 x practical/workshop class of up to 3 hours. Additionally 5 x 1-hour tutorials across the semester.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Additional information from School:	Lectures are shared with undergraduates			
Module coordinator:	Mr P L Gardner			

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PS5232 Assessment in Clinical Psychology				
SCOTCAT Credits:	10	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	9.00 am - 11.00 am and 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm Thu (second half of semester).			
<p>This module presents psychopathological conditions and provides a basic understanding of the underlying neuronal and/or cognitive-behavioural mechanisms. Examples will be drawn from the field of clinical psychology and/or clinical neuropsychology. The module will further explore in detail the tools and procedures used to assess psychopathological conditions by discussing their theoretical/statistical background and by demonstrating how to use these tools in clinical and experimental settings. In addition, the use of these tools will be trained in small group settings.</p>				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for MSc Psychology (Conversion)			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 x 2-hour lecture and 1 x practical/workshop class of up to 3 hours. Additionally 5 hours of tutorials across the semester.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Additional information from School:	Lectures are shared with undergraduates			
Module coordinator:	Dr D Balslev			

PS5233 Developmental Psychology				
SCOTCAT Credits:	10	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	9.00 am - 11.00 am and 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm Thu (first half of semester)			
<p>This module is designed to equip students with an appreciation of key principles, concepts, methods and discoveries in developmental psychology, with an emphasis on evolutionary and Comparative perspectives that are a particular strength of such work in St Andrews. The module aims to offer a broad perspective spanning infancy to childhood, and a range of key topics in cognitive and social development.</p>				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for MSc Psychology (Conversion)			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 x 2-hour lecture and 1 x practical/workshop class of up to 3 hours. Additionally 5 x 1-hour tutorials across the semester.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Additional information from School:	Lectures are shared with undergraduates			
Module coordinator:	Dr E Robbins			

PS5234 Social Psychology				
SCOTCAT Credits:	10	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	9.00 am - 11.00 am and 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm Tue (first half of semester)			
<p>This module explores in depth key topics across the breadth of social psychological enquiry. A variety of research approaches will be examined in order to develop the scientific understanding and critical skills in this field. Approaches that will be covered include social cognition, social identity and the study of intergroup relations. In each case, the strengths and limitations of the approaches are explored, and theoretical knowledge will be linked to current events.</p>				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for MSc Psychology (Conversion)			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 x 2-hour lecture and 1 x practical/workshop class of up to 3 hours. Additionally 5 x 1-hour tutorials across the semester.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Additional information from School:	Lectures are shared with undergraduates			
Module coordinator:	Dr N Tausch			

Either:

PS5235 Cognitive and Behavioural Neuroscience				
SCOTCAT Credits:	10	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	9.00 am - 11.00 am and 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm Tue (first half of semester)			
This module aims to provide an understanding of psychological knowledge in several inter-related domains concerned with the biological bases of behaviour. Emphasis will be laid on basic experimental science from analysis of molecular and synaptic events, single cell studies, brain activity scans, and clinical studies, and the relationship between cognitive, emotional, behavioural, neurological and physiological processes will be examined.				
Programme module type:	Either PS5235 or PS5236 is compulsory for MSc Psychology (Conversion)			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 x 2-hour lecture and 1 x practical/workshop class of up to 3 hours. Additionally 5 x 1-hour tutorials across the semester.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Dr I Jentsch			

OR:

PS5236 Evolutionary and Comparative Psychology				
SCOTCAT Credits:	10	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	9.00 am - 11.00 am and 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm Tue (second half of semester)			
This module will address evolutionary and comparative approaches to psychology. The aim is to provide an understanding of major evolutionary forces and how they have shaped animal and human behaviour and psychology. Key principles, concepts and methodologies will be introduced and related to specific topic areas such as the evolution of social behaviour and the evolutionary origins of language and cognition.				
Programme module type:	Either PS5235 or PS5236 is compulsory for MSc Psychology (Conversion)			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 x 2-hour lecture and 1 x practical/workshop class of up to 3 hours. Additionally 5 x 1-hour tutorials across the semester.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Additional information from School:	Lectures are shared with undergraduates			
Module coordinator:	Dr C Hobaiter			

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PS5002 Research Project				
SCOTCAT Credits:	60	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	Whole Year
Planned timetable:	To be arranged with the supervisor.			
<p>The student will carry out a major piece of original and independent research under the guidance of an academic supervisor. Under normal circumstances the research will be planned during the academic semesters and then conducted during the summer after successful completion of the other MSc modules. Supervision will be regular and will normally average approximately one hour every two weeks. 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.</p>				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for Research Methods in Psychology (MSc) and for the MSc Psychology (Conversion).			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: Personal tutorials at approximately 2-weekly intervals.			
Assessment pattern:	15,000 word (maximum) research report = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Dr K Spencer			

Either:

PS5237 Perception				
SCOTCAT Credits:	10	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	9.00 am - 11.00 am and 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm Tue (second half of semester)			
<p>The aim of this module is to develop an understanding of visual perception and its functions. Stress will be laid on the integration of findings from physiology, neuropsychology, anatomy, and psychophysics. Topic areas covered will include theories of human vision and their application to understanding our ability to perceive distinct visual properties, for example the shape, size, location and identity of objects. Emphasis will be placed on the development of the skill of critical evaluation of evidence and theory, with particular focus on awareness of the latest issues in the discipline.</p>				
Programme module type:	Either PS5237 or PS5238 is compulsory for MSc Psychology (Conversion)			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 x 2-hour lecture and 1 x practical/workshop class of up to 3 hours. Additionally 5 x 1-hour tutorials across the semester.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Additional information from School:	Lectures are shared with undergraduates			
Module coordinator:	Prof J Harris			

OR:

PS5238 Cognition				
SCOTCAT Credits:	10	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	9.00 am - 11.00 am and 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm Thu (second half of semester)			
<p>The aim of this module is to develop an understanding of human memory and attention. Topic areas covered will include theories of attention, short and long-term memory, processes involved in memory encoding, maintenance and retrieval. Emphasis will be placed on the development of the skill of critical evaluation of evidence and theory. Lectures will be accompanied by practical classes, in which students will gain experience of the experimental methods used in cognitive research, and seminars in which research papers will be critically evaluated.</p>				
Programme module type:	Either PS5237 or PS5238 is compulsory for MSc Psychology (Conversion)			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 x 2-hour lecture and 1 x practical/workshop class of up to 3 hours. Additionally 5 x 1-hour tutorials across the semester.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Additional information from School:	Lectures are shared with undergraduates			
Module coordinator:	Dr T Otto			

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Assessment pattern:	15,000 word (maximum) research report = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Dr K Spencer			