

## **School of Psychology**

### **Important Degree Information:**

#### **B.Sc./M.A. Honours**

The general requirements are 480 credits over a period of normally 4 years (and not more than 5 years) or part-time equivalent; the final two years being an approved honours programme of 240 credits, of which 90 credits are at 4000 level and at least a further 120 credits at 3000 and/or 4000 (H) levels. Refer to the appropriate Faculty regulations for lists of subjects recognised as qualifying towards either a B.Sc. or M.A. degree.

#### **B.Sc./M.A. Honours with Integrated Year Abroad**

The general requirements are 540 credits over a period of normally 5 years (and not more than 6 years) or part-time equivalent; the final three years being an approved honours programme of 300 credits, of which 60 credits are gained during the integrated year abroad, 90 credits are at 4000 level and at least a further 120 credits at 3000 and/or 4000 (H) levels. Refer to the appropriate Faculty regulations for lists of subjects recognised as qualifying towards either a B.Sc. or M.A. degree.

**Other Information:** Passes in PS3021, PS3022, PS4040 and PS4050 are required for recognition by the British Psychological Society.

In the case of students who spend part of the Honours Programme abroad on a recognized Exchange Scheme, the Programme Requirements will be amended to take into account courses taken while abroad.

<b>Degree Programmes</b>	<b>Programme Requirements at:</b>
(M.A. Honours or B.Sc. Honours): <b>Psychology</b>	<p><b>Single Honours Psychology Degrees:</b></p> <p><b>Level 1:</b> 40 credits consisting of passes in both PS1001 and PS1002</p> <p><b>Level 2:</b> 60 credits consisting of passes at 11 or better in both PS2001 and PS2002</p> <p><b>Level 3:</b> 120 credits from the PS3000 level modules and PS4040</p> <p><b>Level 4:</b> 120 credits from the PS4000 level modules, necessarily including PS4050 and PS4060; with the prior approval of the School, up to 30 credits from elsewhere in the Catalogue may be substituted for PS4000 level modules.</p> <p><b>Other Information:</b> This degree is recognized by the British Psychological Society.</p>
(M.A. Honours): <b>Psychology and Art History, English, French<sup>^</sup>, Geography, German<sup>^</sup>, International Relations, Management, Mathematics, Mediaeval History Modern History, Philosophy, Social Anthropology, Theological Studies.</b>	<p><b>Psychology element of Joint Honours Degrees:</b></p> <p><b>Level 1:</b> 40 credits consisting of passes in both PS1001 and PS1002</p> <p><b>Level 2:</b> 60 credits consisting of passes at 11 or better in both PS2001 and PS2002</p> <p><b>Level 3:</b> 90 credits consisting of passes in PS3006, PS3007, PS3008, PS3009, PS3010, PS3011.</p> <p><b>Level 4:</b> up to a further 60 credits; see Other Information, for BPS recognition.</p>
<sup>^</sup> available also as 'With Integrated Year Abroad Degrees'	

## Psychology - Honours

<b>Degree Programmes</b>	<b>Programme Requirements at:</b>
<p>(B.Sc. Honours):  <b>Psychology and Mathematics</b></p>	<p><b>Psychology element of Joint Degree</b>  <b>Level 1:</b> 40 credits consisting of passes in both PS1001 and PS1002</p> <p><b>Level 2:</b> 60 credits consisting of passes at 11 or better in both PS2001 and PS2002</p> <p><b>Level 3:</b> 90 credits consisting of passes in PS3006, PS3007, PS3008, PS3009, PS3010, PS3011.</p> <p><b>Level 4:</b> up to a further 60 credits; see Other Information, for BPS recognition.</p>
<p>(M.A. Honours):  <b>Psychology with Geography; or Linguistics<sup>^</sup></b>  <sup>^</sup> available also as 'with Integrated Year Abroad Degrees'</p>	<p><b>Psychology element of Major Degrees:</b>  <b>Level 1:</b> 40 credits consisting of passes in both PS1001 and PS1002</p> <p><b>Level 2:</b> 60 credits consisting of passes at 11 or better in both PS2001 and PS2002</p> <p><b>Level 3:</b> 90 credits consisting of passes in PS3006, PS3007, PS3008, PS3009, PS3010, PS3011.</p> <p><b>Level 4:</b> At least 60 credits from PS3021, PS3022, PS4040 and other PS4000 level modules.</p>
<p>(B.Sc. Honours):  <b>Psychology with French<sup>^</sup> or Spanish<sup>^</sup></b>  <sup>^</sup> available also as 'with Integrated Year Abroad Degrees'</p>	<p><b>Psychology element of Major Degree:</b>  <b>Level 1:</b> 40 credits consisting of passes in both PS1001 and PS1002</p> <p><b>Level 2:</b> 60 credits consisting of passes at 11 or better in both PS2001 and PS2002</p> <p><b>Level 3:</b> 90 credits consisting of passes in PS3006, PS3007, PS3008, PS3009, PS3010, PS3011.</p> <p><b>Level 4(H):</b> At least 90 credits from PS3021, PS3022, PS4040, and other PS4000 modules.</p>

## **Modules**

**Normally the prerequisite for each of the following Honours modules is entry to the Honours Programme(s) for which they are specified, as well as any additional specific prerequisite(s) given.**

**General Degree and non-graduating students wishing to enter 3000 or 4000 level modules must consult with the relevant Honours Adviser within the School before making their selection.**

## **Psychology (PS) Modules**

### **PS3006 Perception, Cognition and Action I**

Credits: 15.0 Semester: 1

Description: This module is designed to develop those skills required to analyse human behaviour in addition to providing an opportunity for students to develop familiarity with computational modeling and its application to the principles of sensory coding. Stress will be laid on the integration of findings from physiology, neuropsychology, anatomy, psychophysics and cognition. The major areas covered will include the empirical study of perception, memory and action; theories of human vision and their application to understanding the nature of visual defects; the ability to perceive distinct visual properties (e.g. object motion, size, distance and identity) with emphasis given to specialised brain systems and coding at the level of brain cells.

Class Hour: 9.00 - 11.00 am Wednesday and 2.00 - 5.00 pm Monday.

Teaching: One 2 hour lecture and one 3 hour laboratory class or seminar

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 25%, 2 Hour Examination = 75%

### **PS3007 Perception, Cognition and Action II**

Credits: 15.0 Semester: 2

Description: This module is designed to complement PS3006 in developing skills required to analyse human behaviour in addition to providing an opportunity for students to develop familiarity with computational modeling and its application to the principles of sensory coding. Stress will be laid on the integration of findings from physiology, neuropsychology, anatomy, psychophysics and cognition. The major areas covered will include the empirical study of perception, memory and action; theories of human vision and their application to understanding the nature of visual defects; the ability to perceive distinct visual properties (e.g. object motion, size, distance and identity) with emphasis given to specialised brain systems and coding at the level of brain cells.

Class Hour: 9.00 - 11.00 am Wednesday and 2.00 - 5.00 pm Monday.

Teaching: One 2 hour lecture and one 3 hour laboratory class or seminar

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 25%, 2 Hour Examination = 75%

### **PS3008 Brain, Behaviour and Health I**

Credits: 15.0 Semester: 1

Description: This module aims to provide an understanding of psychological knowledge in several inter-related domains concerned with (i) the biological bases of mental health; (ii) the relationships between psychological theory and treatment. In both cases emphasis will be laid on the relationship between basic experimental science and its applicability in practical settings, and the relationship between cognitive, emotional, behavioural, neurological and physiological processes will be examined.

Class Hour: 9.00 - 11.00 am Tuesday and 2.00 - 5.00 pm Tuesday.

Teaching: One 2 hour lecture and one 3 hour laboratory class or seminar

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 25%, 2 Hour Examination = 75%

## **Psychology - Honours**

### **PS3009 Brain, Behaviour and Health II**

Credits: 15.0 Semester: 2

Description: This module is designed to further understanding developed in PS3008. The module aims to provide an understanding of psychological knowledge in several inter-related domains concerned with (i) the biological bases of mental health; (ii) the relationships between psychological theory and treatment. In both cases emphasis will be laid on the relationship between basic experimental science and its applicability in practical settings, and the relationship between cognitive, emotional, behavioural, neurological and physiological processes will be examined.

Class Hour: 9.00 - 11.00 am Tuesday and 2.00 - 5.00 pm Tuesday.

Teaching: One 2 hour lecture and one 3 hour laboratory class or seminar

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 25%, 2 Hour Examination = 75%

### **PS3010 Social and Evolutionary Psychology I**

Credits: 15.0 Semester: 1

Description: This module aims to provide an understanding of psychological knowledge at large-scale levels of analysis. Thus the module includes such topics as: (i) psychological processes operating at whole individual, inter-individual and inter-group levels, (ii) the social, evolutionary and developmental influences in the acquisition of skills and knowledge, (iii) how individuals exist in society and the social influences on individual, (iv) the impact of evolution, individual history and history of inter-group relations on the development of psychological processes, (v) social and cognitive evolution of thought processes, (vi) the relationship between communication and cognition.

Class Hour: 9.00 - 11.00 am Thursday and 2.00 - 5.00 pm Thursday.

Teaching: One 2 hour lecture and one 3 hour laboratory class or seminar

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 25%, 2 Hour Examination = 75%

### **PS3011 Social and Evolutionary Psychology II**

Credits: 15.0 Semester: 2

Description: This module is designed to further understanding developed by PS3010. This module aims to provide an understanding of psychological knowledge at large-scale levels of analysis. Thus the module includes such topics as: (i) psychological processes operating at whole individual, inter-individual and inter-group levels, (ii) the social, evolutionary and developmental influences in the acquisition of skills and knowledge, (iii) how individuals exist in society and the social influences on individual, (iv) the impact of evolution, individual history and history of inter-group relations on the development of psychological processes, (v) social and cognitive evolution of thought processes, (vi) the relationship between communication and cognition.

Class Hour: 9.00 - 11.00 am Thursday and 2.00 - 5.00 pm Thursday.

Teaching: One 2 hour lecture and one 3 hour laboratory class or seminar

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 25%, 2 Hour Examination = 75%

### **PS3021 Research Design and Analysis I**

Credits: 10.0 Semester: 1

Description: This module is designed to provide a basic understanding of research design and statistics that will provide the foundations for independent empirical research and critical analysis required in the final year of the Honours programme. Emphasis will be placed on the acquisition of design and analysis skills and an understanding of the underlying philosophy that guides research. The syllabus will include core aspects such as ethical issues in research, basic statistics, technical writing and the use of statistical packages.

Class Hour: 4.00 pm Friday and 2.00 - 4.00 pm Friday.

Teaching: One lecture and one 2 hour laboratory class or seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 40%, 2 Hour Examination = 60%

**PS3022 Research Design and Analysis 2**

Credits: 10.0 Semester: 2

Prerequisite: PS3021

Description: This module is designed to provide a more advanced understanding of research design and statistics. Emphasis will be placed on the acquisition of analytical skills covering typical research situations encountered in the behavioural sciences. The syllabus will include advanced analysis of variance, multivariate statistics and non-parametric statistics, as well as training in computerised data analysis and presentation.

Class Hour: 4.00 pm Friday and 2.00 - 4.00 pm Friday.

Teaching: One lecture and one 2 hour laboratory class or seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 40%, 2 Hour Examination = 60%

**PS4040 Psychology Review**

Credits: 10.0 Semester: Whole Year

Co-requisite: PS3021 and PS3022.

Description: This module will foster the abilities needed to search, collate and integrate an extensive area of psychological literature. Emphasis will be placed on analytical and methodological issues, and this module therefore complements PS3021 and PS3022. A systematic approach to the analysis of a specific body of literature will be encouraged. Students are invited to identify preferred subject matters so long as they fall within the area of the supervisor's expertise. Supervision will be given to aid students in the collation, planning and organisational phases of their work. The review will be limited to 5,000 words.

Assessment: Review = 100%

**PS4050 Psychology Project**

Credits: 30.0 Semester: Whole Year

Prerequisites: PS4040, PS3021 and PS3022

Description: The aim of the project is to develop and foster the skills of experimental design, appropriate research management and statistical analysis. A wide choice of topics is possible, but the skills developed in modules PS3021, PS3022 and PS4040 are an essential preparation. The empirical part of the project may be conducted with another student, to allow greater research scope and the choice of more realistic problems, but all analysis and report-writing must be carried out individually. Topics range over all areas of psychology under active investigation in the School, and effort is made to arrange for students to work in one of their preferred areas.

Assessment: 6,000 word Project = 100%

**PS4060 Review Essay**

Credits: 15.0 Semester: Whole Year

Prerequisite: Available only to students in the second year of the Honours Programme.

Description: In this module candidates will choose a title from a range of topics and questions and write an unsupervised review essay addressing it. Titles will be designed to allow candidates both to tackle an issue of current active interest in psychology and to display their ability to appreciate links between material from different areas of psychological inquiry.

Teaching: This is an unsupervised assignment

Assessment: 5,000 Word Dissertation = 100%

## **Psychology - Honours**

### **PS4062 Cognitive Development**

Credits: 15.0 Semester: To be arranged.

Prerequisites: Available only to students in the second year of the Honours Programme.

Description: The purpose of this module is to use the study of cognitive development as a tool for discussing basic issues of cognitive science, such as the nature and acquisition of knowledge, the distinction between social and physical cognition, domain general and domain specific conceptions of the mind, implicit and explicit knowledge, etc. Atypical cases of cognitive development (e.g. Autism, Williams syndrome) and/or cognitive development in other species (e.g. non-human primates) are discussed as a source of insight for understanding the mechanisms of basic cognitive processes such as communication, theory of mind, executive function etc. The module is based on seminar discussions of selected readings.

Class Hour: 9.00 am or 11.00 am, to be arranged.

Teaching: Two seminar hours

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 25%, 2 Hour Examination = 75%

### **PS4064 Working Memory**

Credits: 15.0 Semester: To be arranged.

Prerequisites: Available only to students in the second year of the Honours Programme.

Description: This module will have both a theoretical and an applied aspect. It will illustrate how cognitive models are developed, what type of evidence is important in sustaining this development and the weight of evidence required to significantly alter the direction of such development. In its theoretical aspect, the module will investigate an influential model of memory - the Working Memory Model. The model is wide-ranging with aspects concerned with verbal and visual memory and with attention. Increasingly, there is neuropsychological input to the model's development. In its applied aspects, the module will acknowledge the fact that WM is often used as a theoretical backdrop to our understanding of a variety of different "real life" matters. Teaching will be based on seminars in which class members will be expected to play an active part, contributing on the basis of their own extensive reading. Emphasis will be placed on development of the skill of critical evaluation of research reports, and those skills necessary for going beyond current topics into future directions of research.

Class Hour: 9.00 am or 11.00 am, to be arranged.

Teaching: Two seminar hours

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 25%, 2 Hour Examination = 75%

### **PS4065 Visual Perception**

Credits: 15.0 Semester: To be arranged.

Prerequisites: Available only to students in the second year of the Honours Programme.

Description: This module will include lectures and seminars in which class members will be expected to play an active part, contributing on the basis of their own extensive reading and reviewing of research papers. The aim of the module is to develop an advanced understanding of visual recognition and its functions. Emphasis will be placed on development of the skill of critical evaluation of evidence and theory. Topics will be selected from those of particular current interest in visual processing (e.g. information conveyed by the face). The module emphasises the biological underpinnings of perception and will draw on evidence from a variety of experimental methods (e.g. neuroscience and psychophysics).

Class Hour: 9.00 am or 11.00 am, to be arranged.

Teaching: Two seminar hours

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 25%, 2 Hour Examination = 75%

**PS4069 Group Behaviour**

Credits: 15.0 Semester: 1

Prerequisites: Available only to students in the second year of the Honours Programme.

Description: This module aims to develop an advanced understanding of selected topics relating to the psychology of groups and collective behaviour. It will address how behaviour is affected by the group context and examine the psychological mechanisms which shape how people act as group members. Teaching will be seminar based and students will be expected to read independently and contribute actively to sessions. Emphasis will be placed on the development of critical skills and the ability to relate individual studies and theories to broader conceptual debates in social psychology. More detailed course content will be announced in advance of student choices.

Class Hour: 9.00 am or 11.00 am, to be arranged.

Teaching: Two seminar hours

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 25%, 2 Hour Examination = 75%

**PS4071 Behavioural Neuroscience**

Credits: 15.0 Semester: To be arranged.

Prerequisites: Available only to students in the second year of the Honours Programme.

Description: The overall aim of this module is to allow students access to current research in the area of behavioural neuroscience. Possible topics include motivation, learning and attention. Past themes explored in the module include: the relationship between ‘normal’ learning and addiction; the transition from goal-directed action to stimulus-response habit; the neural basis of compulsive gambling; the efficacy of biological treatments of addiction; and the behavioural and neural effects of MDMA (‘ecstasy’). Results from both human and animal research will be considered in parallel, with examples of papers ranging from molecular neuroscience to neuropsychology. The format of the course will include lectures (which are designed to provide the students with the background necessary to read research articles); guided seminars and student presentations summarising research articles. In order to maximise the benefits of the students presentations, each student will meet with the lecturer at least twice to discuss the topic and content of their talk.

Class Hour: 9.00 am or 11.00 am, to be arranged.

Teaching: Two seminar hours

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 25%, 2 Hour Examination = 75%

**PS4074 Cognitive Psychology and the Emotional Disorders**

Credits: 15.0 Semester: To be arranged.

Prerequisites: Available only to students in the second year of the Honours Programme.

Description: This module is designed to demonstrate how theories from cognitive psychology can enhance our understanding of the emotional disorders Teaching will be based on individual seminar presentations followed by class discussion. In the presentations students will be expected to review and critically evaluate original research. Seminars will focus on topics such as autobiographical memory and depression, autobiographical memory and anxiety, attentional bias in depression and anxiety, and interpretative biases in depression and anxiety. At the end of the seminar series, students should understand how depression and anxiety can be differentiated on the basis of these biases.

Class Hour: 9.00 am or 11.00 am, to be arranged.

Teaching: Two seminar hours

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 25%, 2 Hour Examination = 75%

## **Psychology - Honours**

### **PS4075 Animal Communication and Language**

Credits: 15.0 Semester: To be arranged.

Prerequisite: Available only to students in the second year of the Honours Programme.

Description: This seminar-based module will go over current research to determine the cognitive abilities necessary for human language and how these abilities have evolved. Topics will include linguistic and biological approaches to language evolution, linguistic diversity, design and evolution of signals, natural and artificial communication systems, and the cognitive abilities underlying communication and language. Students will be expected to lead discussions based on a selection of empirical and theoretical research articles in order to acquire a detailed knowledge of the state-of-the-art of the field.

Class Hour: 9.00 am or 11.00 am.

Teaching: Two seminar hours.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 25%, 2 Hour Examination = 75%.

### **PS4076 Theoretical Perspectives in Psychology**

Credits: 15.0 Semester: To be arranged.

Prerequisite: Available only to students in the second year of the Honours Programme.

Description: This module aims to develop an advanced understanding of the historical and philosophical background to current debates in psychology. Teaching will be based on seminars in which class members will be expected to play an active part (individual presentations followed by class discussion). Overall, the purpose of the module is to involve participants in discussion and debate on the importance and relevance of psychological research today. This will be accomplished by the reading and evaluation of original material. A particular emphasis will be placed on the development of the skill of critical analysis of alternative models and levels of explanations of behaviour, with a central focus on current debates and critiques of psychology.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two seminar hours

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 25%, 2 Hour Examination = 75%

### **PS4077 Theory of Mind and Executive Functioning**

Credits: 15.0 Semester: To be arranged.

Availability: This module will not be available in 2003-04

Prerequisite: Only available to students in the second year of the Honours Programme.

Description: This module aims to develop an advanced understanding of topics that have recently been the subject of extensive research. The module concentrates on the relationship between children's understanding of the mind and their executive functioning skills. A number of theories will be discussed and students will be expected to evaluate these theories in light of up-to-date research as well as the classic work of Piaget, Vygotsky and Luria. The module will be presented in a number of seminar sessions in which class members will be expected to play an active part, contributing on the basis of their own extensive reading and reviewing of research papers.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two seminar hours.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 25%, 3 Hour Examination = 75%