

Psychology

Psychology continues to be one of the most popular undergraduate courses. At Abertay we are proud of our Psychology programmes which the 2008 *Guardian Unlimited University Guide* rated as the best in Tayside. Psychology is the scientific study of the mind, brain, behaviour, experience and the complex interactions between them. You will learn about a wide range of human experiences including emotions, thinking, vision, attitudes, memory and learning. The Psychology single honours course covers normal and abnormal behaviour, as well as classic and modern theories that attempt to explain behaviour patterns. You will gain an understanding of the human mind, as it works consciously and non-consciously. The course also provides training in scientific methods, allowing you to learn how to collect data to test theories. You will be able to gain an insight into many phenomena that affect all humans, including yourself.

Course content

The first two years will give you a broad introduction to psychology, sociology and research methods. In your third and fourth years, you will specialise in psychology and study core modules and specialist options. In fourth year, you will carry out a supervised psychology research project.

The core areas covered in this degree programme are:

- biological psychology (e.g. how the brain works, and how drugs can alter its functioning; how we treat schizophrenia, depression, or anorexia nervosa)
- cognitive psychology (e.g. how we remember, learn, think, reason; perceive, speak and understand)
- developmental psychology (e.g. how humans develop mentally, socially and physically across the lifespan)
- social psychology (e.g. how human behaviour is affected by other people)
- personality and individual differences (e.g. why some people are more introverted than others)
- conceptual and historical issues (e.g. how psychological explanations have changed over time)
- research methods (e.g. experimental design; data collection using experiments, surveys, observation and other methods; data analysis and interpretation).

There are also further specialist options in third and fourth year.

The Psychology content is delivered through a combination of core modules and optional modules across four years:

Year 1: Introduction to Psychology; Introduction to Psychological Research Methods, including Information and Communication Technology (ICT).

Year 2: Cognition and Perception; Biological Psychology including health and mental disorders; Psychological Research Methods.

Course

BSc (Hons) Psychology

UCAS Code

C800 BSc/Psy

Duration

Four years FT



**Abertay
University**
Breaking Barriers

Psychology

Year 3: Biological and Cognitive Psychology; Development and Intelligence; Personality and Social Psychology; Advanced Research Methods.

Specialist options might include Behaviour and Health; Sport Psychology; Animal Behaviour; Applied Psychology; Psychology and the Law; Social Influence.

Year 4: Psychology Research Project, plus specialist advanced Psychology options.

Specialist options might include: Psychology in Education and Health; Cognitive Development and Ageing,; Face Recognition and Perception; The Psychology of Assaultive Behaviour; Clinical Psychology; Community Psychology; Neuropsychology; Biological Psychology.

Teaching and Assessment

The programme uses a variety of teaching methods, such as lectures, laboratory classes, small group seminars and private study and individual research. Typically, you would have 6-8 lectures, a laboratory class and 1 or 2 seminars or tutorials each week, although this varies across years. The course is assessed by coursework, exams, lab reports, presentations and posters.

Professional Accreditation and Career Opportunities

This programme is accredited by the British Psychological Society as conferring eligibility for Graduate Membership of the Society with the Graduate Basis for Registration, provided the minimum standard of qualification of second class honours is achieved. This is the first step towards becoming a Chartered Psychologist. Being a Chartered Psychologist is essential for working in professional psychology (for example in neuropsychology, clinical, counselling, educational, forensic, health, occupational and sport psychology). Occupations for which a psychology degree will provide a good basis, often following additional postgraduate training, include primary or secondary school teacher, lecturer, social worker, careers adviser, personnel officer, market research executive, social researcher, psychotherapist, speech and language therapist, occupational therapist and drug rehabilitation worker, among others. Psychology graduates have an ability understand and analyse human behaviour, and have many transferable skills, such as numeracy and statistics, communication of complex information, analytical thinking, critical evaluation and Information & Communication Technology skills, all of which are in high demand in the general graduate job market

Course Accessibility

Students participating in this course may be involved in the following activities: attending lectures and tutorials, undertaking practical work in IT and network laboratories and conducting verbal presentations. For advice on course accessibility, please contact John Petrie (Student Advisor) at j.petrie@abertay.ac.uk or telephone (01382) 308051.

Further Information

Details of the entrance requirements can be found on our website and in the printed prospectus. If you would like more information on this course, please contact the Student Recruitment Office (details at the bottom of page).

The information in this leaflet is correct at the time of going to print. As the University has a policy of regularly reviewing its courses, the course or content may be subject to change without prior notice.

10/07

Contact

For further information contact:
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