



Abertay University

Bachelor of Science with Honours in Psychology; and pathways - BSc (Hons) Psychology with Development and Education, BSc (Hons) Psychology with Forensic and Investigative Psychology, BSc (Hons) Psychology with Forensic Scene Investigation - 2022 entry

Duration of programme: 4 years (where students join the programme in year 1)

Award on successful completion: Bachelor of Science with Honours

Location of delivery: Abertay University, Bell Street, Dundee

Accreditation: British Psychological Society – eligibility for Graduate Basis for Chartership

Composition of the programme: 120 SCQF (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework) credits in each academic year, delivered largely in modules of 20 credits each, with 3 modules taken in term 1, and 3 in term 2 each year. First and second year of the programme includes a choice of microcredential modules worth a total of 20 credits per year. All students complete a 40-credit individual research project in the final year. The programmes are:

- Psychology
- Psychology with Development and Education
- Psychology with Forensic and Investigative Psychology
- Psychology with Forensic Scene Investigation

Students will be given the option to register with a pathway at the beginning of their degree programme, or to register for the BSc (Hons) Psychology (with no pathway). They will be given another opportunity to register for a pathway at the start of Year 2 when they make the first option module choices that will affect pathway availability, and again the start of Year 3 providing they have taken the required Year 2 pathway module. Finally, if a student initially chooses a pathway but subsequently changes their mind, they can choose to graduate with a BSc (Hons) Psychology as they will have completed all the core psychology modules.

Contact hours and workload: Each academic year typically requires 1200 hours of student effort; on average across the 4 years of this programme, 20-25% of that time is in seminars, practicals and accessing online content (lectures, activities, etc.); the remainder is independent study.

Assessment methods: Assessment is by a range of methods including reports, case studies, essays, exams, vivas and student presentations.

Academic staff: This programme is delivered by staff in the Division of Psychology and Forensic Sciences in the School of Applied Sciences. Staff profiles can be viewed at <https://www.abertay.ac.uk/schools/school-of-applied-sciences/>

BSc with Honours in Psychology

Core modules in the programme*:
Introductory Psychology
Comparative Psychology
Being Successful at Abertay (5 credits)
Introduction to Psychological Research Methods
Cognitive Perspectives on Psychology
Research Methods (Direct Entrants Only)**
Essential Research Methods and Analysis for Psychology
Human Variability: Psychobiology and Behaviour
Social cognition across the lifespan
Human Development Across the Lifespan
Advanced Research, Design and Analysis
Psychology Honours Project
Applied Cognitive Psychology
Other modules that may be offered, but are subject to change over time:
Microcredentials (various)
Evidence-based thinking: scientific approaches to studying human behaviour
Tomorrow's Child
Psychology in the real world
Forensic Psychology: Understanding Offender Behaviour
Behavioural and Brain Sciences
Psychology and Technology: Advanced Methods
Brain in action: from dance to trance
Eyewitness Psychology
Human Evolution: Sex, cognition and culture
Brain Investigations
Investigative Psychology and Policing
Mental health psychology: living with a diagnosis
Language, Education and the Early Years
Work-based Learning
Mindfulness

BSc with Honours in Psychology with Development and Education

Core modules in the programme*:
Introductory Psychology
Comparative Psychology
Being Successful at Abertay (5 credits)
Introduction to Psychological Research Methods
Cognitive Perspectives on Psychology
Research Methods (Direct Entrants Only)**

Essential Research Methods and Analyses for Psychology
Tomorrow's Child
Human Variability: Psychobiology and Behaviour
Social cognition across the lifespan
Human Development Across the Lifespan
Advanced Research, Design and Analysis
Psychology Honours Project
Language, Education and the Early Years
Applied Cognitive Psychology
Other modules that may be offered, but are subject to change over time:
Microcredentials (various)
Evidence-based thinking: scientific approaches to studying human behaviour
Psychology in the real world
Forensic Psychology: Understanding Offender Behaviour
Behaviour and Brain Sciences
Psychology and Technology: Advanced Methods
Eyewitness Psychology
Brain in action: from dance to trance
Human Evolution: Sex, cognition and culture
Mental health psychology: living with a diagnosis
Brain Investigations
Investigative Psychology and Policing
Work-based Learning
Mindfulness

BSc with Honours in Psychology with Forensic and Investigative Psychology

Core modules in the programme*:
Introductory Psychology
Comparative Psychology
Being Successful at Abertay (5 credits)
Introduction to Psychological Research Methods
Cognitive Perspectives on Psychology
Research Methods (Direct Entrants Only)**
Forensic Psychology: Understanding Offender Behaviour
Essential Research Methods and Analysis for Psychology
Human Variability: Psychobiology and Behaviour
Social cognition across the lifespan
Eyewitness Psychology
Human Development Across the Lifespan
Advanced Research, Design and Analysis
Psychology Honours Project
Investigative Psychology and Policing
Applied Cognitive Psychology
Other modules that may be offered, but are subject to change over time:

Microcredentials (various)
Evidence-based thinking: scientific approaches to studying human behaviour
Tomorrow's Child
Psychology in the real world
Behavioural and Brain Sciences
Human Evolution: Sex, cognition and culture
Brain Investigations
Mental health psychology: living with a diagnosis
Scene examination and Management
Language, Education and the Early Years
Work-based Learning
Mindfulness
Interpretation and presentation of evidence

BSc with Honours in Psychology with Forensic Scene Investigation

Core modules in the programme*:
Introductory Psychology
Introduction to Psychological Research Methods
Comparative Psychology
Being Successful at Abertay (5 credits)
Cognitive Perspectives on Psychology
Forensic Human Identification
Research Methods (Direct Entrants Only)**
Essential Research Methods and Analyses for Psychology
Human Variability: Psychobiology and Behaviour
Social cognition across the lifespan
Human Development Across the Lifespan
Advanced Research, Design and Analysis
Scene Examination and Management
Psychology Honours Project
Applied Cognitive Psychology
Interpretation and Presentation of Evidence
Other modules that may be offered, but are subject to change over time:
Microcredentials (various)
Essential Skills in Forensic Science (year 1 entry students only)
Evidence-based thinking: scientific approaches to studying human behaviour
Tomorrow's Child
Psychology in the real world
Forensic Psychology: Understanding Offender Behaviour
Behavioural and Brain Sciences
Psychology and Technology: Advanced Methods
Brain in action: from dance to trance
Eyewitness Psychology
Brain Investigations

Investigative Psychology and Policing
Language, Education and the Early Years
Work-based Learning
Mindfulness

Developments in the discipline

The discipline of psychology is continually evolving, with most new developments coming in experimental and statistical methods. The use of neural imaging techniques is the most significant advancement in understanding the links between brain and behaviour of recent times, along with advances in open science practices. However, the core subject disciplines are unlikely to change (*core modules are correct at the time of writing but are subject to annual review and may change because of this). This keeps the curriculum relevant and maintains a real-world connection as new policy, practice, employability, and professional approaches come to the forefront. New developments are readily incorporated into the core curriculum without having to fundamentally change the programme structure.