

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	MSc Applications of Psychology
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 7

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Course Aims

The aims of the MSc Applications of Psychology are to offer an innovative, dynamic and flexible programme:

- To enable students to develop and refine their in-depth knowledge of psychological theory, so as to be able to assess, evaluate and apply appropriately in the given context;
- To provide students with opportunities to foster and develop a core set of analytical problem-solving skills that can be translated into effective professional practice within a range of different contexts;
- To enable students to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively and make sound judgements;
- To provide students with a conceptual understanding of research and the skills necessary to interrogate, analyse and evaluate psychological studies and other primary resources, to be able to critically evaluate current research and have a practical understanding of how established research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge;
- To enhance the ability of students to effectively communicate to specialist and non-specialist audiences, plan strategically and manage and lead in transformational change;
- To provide students with the skills necessary to apply the lessons of 'what works' literature into confronting psychological practice and make decisions in complex and unpredictable situations;
- To enable students to develop an understanding of the significance of community engagement, national guidelines, the NHS structure and inter-professional practice and be able to apply this within an operational context;
- To develop in students a range of intellectual skills reflecting both the ethos of lifelong learning and the rigour required at Masters level, a high level of student autonomy and self-direction in order to facilitate the student to demonstrate initiative, originality alongside integrity and ethical judgement in their advanced scholarship and to become influential and effective specialists in their field of practice.

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the MSc Applications of Psychology course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 7 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)⁶.

Successful completion of the MSc Applications of Psychology will see graduates having acquired the following skills:

Knowledge and Understanding

⁶ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

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Professional Practice/Subject Specific Skills

- Development and maintenance of effective working alliances with clients, including individuals, families, carers and services;
- Effective and efficient application of principles of psychology in the selection of, use and interpretation of a broad range of psychological assessment methods appropriate for the client and type of intervention it is required for;
- Development of psychological formulations for presenting problems or situations, integrating information from assessments within coherent frameworks that draw upon psychological theory and evidence which incorporate interpersonal, societal, cultural and biological factors;
- Decision making about clients' needs and welfare through evidence-based reasoning;
- Based on formulation, implementing psychological interventions appropriate to the presenting problem and to the psychological, cultural and social circumstances of the client(s);
- Development of original knowledge of the governance, ethical and organisational issues of working in psychological practice, and reflecting subsequently on own practice in a work based setting;
- Planning, conducting and writing-up of research that addresses important and relevant issues within the discipline of psychology.

Transferable/Key Skills

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Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following QAA Benchmarks:

- QAA [Subject Benchmark Statement – Psychology \(2019\)](#) used to inform and adapted to reflect an advanced level of scholarship appropriate for level 7 master’s qualification
- QAA [Characteristics Statement - Master's degree \(2020\)](#)

Course Structure

The MSc Applications of Psychology comprises modules at level 7.

Module Specifications for each of these modules are included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

	Module	Credits	Module Type ⁷
Level 7			
	Self-Directed Research	60	M
	Research Design and Analysis	0	M
	Clinical Psychology and Clinical Neuropsychology	40	M
	Psychology Placement	0	M
	Educational Psychology	40	M
	Health Psychology	40	O
	Forensic Psychology	40	O

Optional modules available in any year will be communicated to you prior to your enrolment to facilitate module choice. Some optional modules may not run in every year of study, and

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Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module's intended learning outcomes. Dependent on modules taken assessment on the course overall will be approximately 95% coursework (including essays, reports, presentations, group work, reflective learning journals and research projects), and 5% practical assessments.

Course Team

The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute.

Course Costs

Students undertaking MSc Applications of Psychology will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

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