MSc Psychology (Conversion)

Programme Specification

1. Programme title	Psychology (Conversion)
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	Middlesex University
4. Programme accredited by	British Psychological Society
5. Final qualification	MSc
6. Academic year	2022/23
7. Language of study	English
8. Mode of study	Full-time or Part-time

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

Students should normally possess a good honours degree (upper second classification or better) in any subject. International students need to have obtained a minimum IELTS score of 6.5 with no lower than 6 in any component.

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to:

Knowledge:

1. Provide a sound knowledge of psychology appropriate to future professional work;
2. Introduce the broad range of theoretical and methodological approaches to psychology
3. Encourage students to develop a critical approach to their studies, evaluating theory and evidence accordingly;
4. Equip students with basic and advanced research skills covering research design, analysis and dissemination
5. Provide a fundamental grounding in all areas of psychology such that students may progress onto postgraduate training and education in psychology.
6. Maintain wide access to study for students with suitable qualifications or experience.

Skills:

7. Equip students to communicate effectively in written and numerical forms;
8. Encourage independent and experiential learning, the development of oral communication skills, and the capacity for independent work;
9. Provide students with excellent graduate skills

11. Programme outcomes

A. Knowledge and understanding	**Teaching/learning methods**
On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of:	Students gain knowledge and understanding through attendance & participation in teaching sessions and independent research (with tutor support).
A1 The main theoretical approaches to psychology;	
A2 An advanced understanding of psychological research design and analysis;	Teaching and learning will be delivered through a blend of online and face-to-face sessions.
A3 Detailed knowledge and understanding of findings and debates in the core knowledge domains of biological psychology;	Learning is supported with online self-study materials.
A4 Detailed knowledge and understanding of findings and debates in developmental psychology;	
A5 Detailed knowledge of findings and debates in cognitive psychology, including the areas of perception, learning, memory, language and thinking;	**Assessment Method**
A6 Detailed knowledge and understanding of findings and debates in social psychology;	Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by examinations (Essay, short-answer), essays, article reviews, practical reports, workbooks, presentations and dissertation work.
A7 Detailed knowledge and understanding of findings and debates in individual differences in psychology;	
B. Skills	**Teaching/learning methods**
On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:	Students learn skills through class discussion guided independent study and lecturer feedback. More practical orientated skill development is learnt through presenting ideas in written & oral form & participation in practical classes.
B1 Apply multiple perspectives to areas within psychology;	
B2 Integrate perspectives in psychology;	
B3 Identify & evaluate patterns of behaviour & psychological functioning;	
B4 Formulate & explore research questions.	Teaching and learning will be delivered through a blend of online and face-to-face sessions
B5 Comprehensively and critically evaluate research and theories in psychology	
B6 Evaluate research methodology	**Assessment Method**
B7 Perform quantitative & qualitative data analyses	Students' skills are assessed by: examinations (Essay, short-
B8 Use statistical software to analyse complex data	

	answer), essays, workbooks, critical reviews, practical reports, and dissertation work.

B9 Design, implement, analyse and communicate independent and group project work; **B10** Demonstrate effective written and oral communication enabling students to formulate and sustain a coherent argument; **B11** Use literature search software to gather and evaluate academic work; **B12** Use experimental software to design and run experiments **B13** Use psychophysiological equipment to gather and interpret data	

12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)

12. 1 Overall structure of the programme

The programme is assessed at 180 credit points and consists of 5 compulsory modules covering the QAA subject benchmarks. The 4 taught modules: Brain, Body & Mind; Social, Personality & Developmental Psychology, Research and Issues in Applied Psychology, and Research Methods, are assessed at 30 credits. The postgraduate dissertation module is 60 credits. Each 30 credit module represents approximately 300 hours of student study time with two-four hours of contact time per week and covers 1-2 of the QAA core knowledge domains. The Masters dissertation encourages students to work independently, develop expertise in a particular area of psychology and demonstrate advanced research skills.

The MSc programme can be studied over 12 months full-time or 24 months part-time. Part-time students take 60 taught credits in year 1 and 60 taught credits and the dissertation in year 2.

12.2 Levels and modules
Starting in academic year 2010/11 the University is changing the way it references modules to state the level of study in which these are delivered. This is to comply with the national Framework for Higher Education Qualifications. This implementation will be a gradual process whilst records are updated. Therefore the old coding is bracketed below.

Level 7 (4)

COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following: PSY4042 Social, Personality and Developmental Psychology (30 credits) PSY 4041 Brain, Body and Mind (30 credits) PSY4045 Research and Issues in Applied Psychology (30 Credits) PSY 4025 Research methods (30 credits) PSY4035 Research Practice & Reporting (60 credits)		

12.3 Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)	
Module level	*Module code*
7	PSY4022, PSY4025, PSY4041, PSY4042, PSY4045

13. A curriculum map relating learning outcomes to modules
See Curriculum Map attached.

14. Information about assessment regulations

PSY Modules require a pass in all assessment components.

15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)

not applicable

16. Future careers (if applicable)

The MSc Psychology is accredited by the British Psychological Society (BPS). This accreditation means that successfully completing the graduate programme with an average of 50% or better confers the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership with the BPS. This is a necessary first step for those who wish to pursue further training and careers in particular areas of psychology such as Clinical, Counselling, Educational, Forensic, Health & Occupational Psychology.

17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

Specific tutorial hours are available with the Programme Leader and the various Module Leaders to support learning on each module and all members of staff can be reached by email and telephone.

Learning Resources provide a variety of support including English Language advice, Numeracy support and information technology workshops. The Learning Resources Centre also provides computer rooms (including a postgraduate room).

The Department of Psychology has extensive laboratory and workshop facilities.
- Two computer laboratories
- Group work laboratory
- Psychophysiology laboratory
- Suite of observation laboratories
- Virtual reality lab
- Nine testing cubicles

These facilities are maintained by two Psychology technicians.

Additional support required by disabled students, mature students, overseas students

etc. is readily available to ensure that all students enjoy equal opportunity at

Middlesex

(e, g. lecture notes can be made available in hard copy as well as on my learning, assessment feedback can be provided by email or in hard copy and/or students can meet with module leaders for verbal feedback).

18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)	C800
19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)	Psychology

20. Reference points

The following reference points were used in designing the Programme:
- QAA Subject Benchmark Statement for Psychology (October, 2010)
- British Psychological Society (2010). *Accreditation through partnership: Guidance for undergraduate & conversion psychology programmes*. Leicester: BPS.
- BPS, HEA Psychology Network & AHPD (2011). *The Future of Undergraduate Psychology in the United Kingdom*. York: HEA Psychology Network.
- Middlesex University Learning and Teaching Policies and Strategy
- Student Feedback
- External Examiner Feedback

21. Other information

BPS accreditation requirements:

- broad coverage of the qualifying syllabus
- staff-student ratio lower than 20:1

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the student programme handbook and the University Regulations.

Curriculum map for *MSc Psychology (Conversion)*

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding	
A1	The main theoretical approaches to psychology.
A2	An advanced understanding of the fundamentals of psychological research design & analysis.
A3	Detailed knowledge & understanding of findings & debates in biological psychology.
A4	Detailed knowledge & understanding of findings & debates in developmental psychology.
A5	Detailed knowledge of findings & debates in cognitive psychology.
A6	Detailed knowledge & understanding of findings & debates in social psychology.
A7	Detailed knowledge and understanding of findings and debates in individual differences in psychology.
Cognitive skills	
B1	Apply multiple perspectives to areas within psychology
B2	Integrate perspectives in psychology;
B3	Identify & evaluate patterns of behaviour & psychological functioning
B4	Formulate & explore research questions.
B5	Comprehensively and critically evaluate research and theories in psychology
B6	Evaluate research methodology
B7	Perform quantitative & qualitative data analyses.
B8	Use statistical software to analyse complex data.
B9	Design, implement, analyse and communicate independent and group project work.
B10	Demonstrate effective written and oral communication enabling students to formulate and sustain a coherent argument
B11	Use literature search software to gather and evaluate academic work.
B12	Use experimental software to design and run experiments.
B13	Use psychophysiological equipment to gather and interpret data.

Programme outcomes																			
A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8	B9	B10	B11	B12	B13
Highest level achieved by all graduates																			
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7

Module Title	Module Code by Level	Programme outcomes																	
		A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B8	B9	B10	B11	B12	B13
Research Methods	PSY4025		X						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Brain, Body and Mind	PSY4041	X		X		X		X	X		X		X			X				X
Social, Personality and Developmental Psychology	PSY4042	X			X		X	X	X				X			X	X			
Research and Issues in Applied Psychology	PSY4045									X	X	X	X	X			X			
Research Practice & Reporting	PSY4035		X						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	