



Psychology MSc

Postgraduate | 21 Months Full-Time | Full Time | Psychology

City Campus, Northumbria University | Newcastle | Start January 2021

Psychology MSc

About this course

PLEASE NOTE: Applications for January 2021 intake have now closed. Please visit our [Postgraduate Study webpage](#) to see all options for September 2021 entry.

Are you looking for a master's course that will fascinate your interest in the human mind? Hoping to change direction after an undergraduate degree in a different subject? This [British Psychological Society \(BPS\)](#) accredited, Psychology MSc is an essential step on your journey towards a career in Psychology.

You will learn from passionate academic staff, who are involved in cutting-edge research. With almost three-quarters of Northumbria's psychology research being judged to have outstanding reach and significance for its impact (REF 2014).

You will learn in a professional research environment, with access to state-of-the-art laboratories which are equipped with industry standard equipment. You will learn from those at the forefront of their fields. In fact, our strength in psychology research has significantly increased. We are currently placed second in the [Alliance group of universities for world-leading research](#) (REF 2014).

You will develop an advanced understanding of

- cognitive and developmental Psychology
- biological and social Psychology
- individual differences
- and psychological research methods.

Successful completion of this master's in psychology will provide you with the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership with the BPS, the first step towards becoming a Chartered Psychologist.

If you want to specialise in Health, Occupational or Sport and Exercise Psychology then your next step will be a Stage 1 Masters, which we also offer here at Northumbria. We can offer you a fast track graduation so that you can move straight on to your Stage 1 qualification, and progress in your career as quickly as possible. You will also complete your Stage 2 qualification in employment.

If you want to specialise in Counselling, Educational or Clinical Psychology then you will need to apply for a highly competitive doctoral programme. You are likely to need substantial experience to be successful in gaining a place, and at Northumbria we will support you in finding that experience.

The third route to a career in Psychology is the academic route, and we can support interested students in applying for our MRes and subsequently a PhD. This would qualify you to lecture and carry our psychological research in a university setting.

Our MSc Psychology has been designed with your employability in mind, and will prove valuable even if you

decide not to pursue a career in Psychology. Our previous graduates have secured roles in management, advertising, marketing and human resources.

Study pattern

The timetable for the full-time programme is two full days (9am-5pm) per week on a Monday and Tuesday, and for the [part-time programme](#) it is one full day per week (Tuesday for year 1, Monday for year 2).

When deciding on which programme to apply for, we would ask applicants to consider carefully the time commitments for the course taking into account work and any other personal commitments. For full-time students we would expect a commitment of approximately 35 hours per week and for part time around 17.5 hours per week. (For both programmes these hours include hours of study on campus.)

Master of Research opportunity

If you already have quite a clear idea about a particular topic you'd like to explore, or you're interested in a research-based career, then you might want to consider our [Psychology MRes](#).

[Find out more about studying an MRes at Northumbria here.](#)

Modules & Learning

You will develop a comprehensive knowledge of Psychology through exploring social, developmental, cognitive and biological Psychology. You will also study individual differences, philosophies and research methods. You will learn through discussion-based sessions, interactive lectures, tutorials and online discussions.

Research workshops will allow you to develop and enhance your qualitative and quantitative methods competence, data collection and analysis. You will be encouraged to take responsibility for your own learning, demonstrating applied understanding and knowledge at the forefront of the discipline. You will learn to defend your work effectively to a wide range of audiences.

Assessment is varied, either seen-exam based or through written assignments such as laboratory reports, research article critiques, data analysis assignments, presentations or conventional essays.

You will also undertake a major research thesis, on a topic of your choice. The breadth of expertise amongst our staff gives us a good chance of supporting your interests, wherever they may lead.

Teaching Staff

Our staff are active researchers; passionate about their subject and dedicated to the discovery of new knowledge through innovative and exciting research

Psychology MSc

projects.

You will learn from those at the forefront of their fields. In fact, our strength in Psychology research has significantly increased, with Northumbria ranked top 20 in the UK for research which has outstanding reach and significant impact on individuals and communities (REF 2014).

You will learn from dedicated academics extensive research and teaching backgrounds. Current staff research projects include working memory, neurocognitive performance and function, psychobiological pathways and the psychobiology of stress and the nutritional influences on performance and mood.

Facilities

You will learn in a professional research environment with access to state-of-the-art laboratories, equipped with industry-standard equipment. You will be able to collect and analyse your data using the most up-to-date software tools.

You will spend much of your on-campus time in the Experimental Psychology Lab, which has been designed to facilitate group work. You will make constant use of Blackboard, where electronic reading lists, lecture capture, interactive workshops, and online submission and feedback tools will support your learning.

Depending on which area you choose to explore for your thesis, you will have access to research equipment including EEG, eye-tracking, virtual reality, galvanic skin response, body scanning, and motion capture.

Research-rich Learning

Research is embedded into the structure of this degree, and from the very beginning you will experience a mix of research-led, research-tutored and research-based teaching.

You will learn how knowledge in Psychology is developed through research and how to design and carry out research studies using a range of methodologies. Developing your own advanced research skills and critical understanding, you will have the opportunity to work alongside active researchers at the forefront of research in the Psychology fields. You will be encouraged to ask and explore innovative research questions, reflecting upon the research process and knowledge creation, culminating in the production of a research thesis.

Your Career

Psychology can offer you a hugely rewarding career, and this course – which will give you the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership with the BPS – is an essential first step.

If you want to specialise in Health, Occupational or Sport and Exercise Psychology then your next step will be a Stage 1 Masters, which we also offer here at Northumbria. We can offer you a fast track graduation so that you can

move straight on to your Stage 1 qualification, and progress in your career as quickly as possible. You'll complete your Stage 2 qualification in employment, and ultimately register as a Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) practitioner. (This is also the route to Forensic Psychology, which is offered at other local universities.)

If you want to specialise in Counselling, Educational or Clinical Psychology then you will need to apply for a highly competitive doctoral programme. You are likely to need substantial experience to be successful in gaining a place, and at Northumbria we will support you in finding that experience. We will open doors to the many volunteering opportunities at the University and within the sector, and the MSc will also qualify you to apply for a valuable Assistant Psychologist role.

The third route to a career in Psychology is the academic route, and we can support interested students in applying for our MRes and subsequently a PhD. This would qualify you to lecture and carry out psychological research in a university setting.

Our MSc Psychology has been designed with your employability in mind, and will prove valuable even if you decide not to pursue a career in Psychology. You will develop a critical approach to analysing qualitative and quantitative data, which will equip you to make sound informed decisions – one of the most important aspects of leadership. Our previous graduates have secured specialist roles in management, advertising, marketing and human resources, with many moving into the public sector for careers in the police and prison services, health and social services or education.

Who would this course suit?

Northumbria's MSc in Psychology is the perfect starting point for those fascinated by human behaviour, perhaps looking for a change in direction, and who wish to pursue a career in Psychology. The course is structured to support you in continuing your career outside of the teaching sessions, with sessions delivered over two days.

Entry Requirements 2020/21

Standard Entry

Applicants should normally have:

A minimum of a 2:2 honours degree in any discipline.

International qualifications:

If you have studied a non UK qualification, you can see how your qualifications compare to the standard entry criteria, by selecting the country that you received the qualification in, from our country pages. Visit www.northumbria.ac.uk/yourcountry

English language requirements:

International applicants are required to have a minimum

Psychology MSc

overall IELTS (Academic) score of 6.5 with 6 in each component (or approved equivalent*).

*The university accepts a large number of UK and International Qualifications in place of IELTS. You can find details of acceptable tests and the required grades you will need in our English Language section. Visit www.northumbria.ac.uk/englishqualifications

Entry Requirements 2021/22

Standard Entry

Applicants should normally have:

A minimum of a 2:2 honours degree in any discipline.

International qualifications:

If you have studied a non UK qualification, you can see how your qualifications compare to the standard entry criteria, by selecting the country that you received the qualification in, from our country pages. Visit www.northumbria.ac.uk/yourcountry

English language requirements:

International applicants are required to have a minimum overall IELTS (Academic) score of 6.5 with 6 in each component (or approved equivalent*).

*The university accepts a large number of UK and International Qualifications in place of IELTS. You can find details of acceptable tests and the required grades you will need in our English Language section. Visit www.northumbria.ac.uk/englishqualifications

Module Overview

Year 1	
PY0776	MSc Thesis
PY0790	Quantitative Research Methods
PY0791	Historical Psychology and Qualitative Research Methods
PY0792	Biological, Cognitive and Developmental Psychology
PY0793	Individual Differences, Psychometrics and Social Psychology

Finance

Tuition Fees (UK students)

2021 entry: Full Fee £8,400

2020 entry: Full Fee £8,190

Please note that the tuition fee amount you will pay may increase slightly year on year in line with inflation and subject to government regulations.

Tuition Fees (EU students)

2021 entry: Full Fee £16,000

2020 entry: Full Fee £8,190

Please note that the tuition fee amount you will pay may increase slightly year on year in line with inflation and subject to government regulations.

Tuition Fees (International students)

2021 entry: Full Fee £16,000

2020 entry: Full Fee £15,500

Please note that the tuition fee amount you will pay may increase slightly year on year in line with inflation and subject to government regulations.

Additional Costs (All Students)

2021 entry: There are no Additional Costs

2020 entry: There are no Additional Costs

Psychology MSc

Financial Support

Northumbria University is committed to supporting our students. We offer scholarship packages for students depending on their abilities.

You can find out more information on our individual packages at www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/fees-funding/pg-fees-funding

Financial support opportunities have associated eligibility conditions, therefore it is essential applicants consider all requirements and observe the application process and deadlines.

Other Additional Costs

Accommodation Costs

Many students find that staying in University accommodation enhances their student experience, and Northumbria has a fantastic selection available for you. Visit our [accommodation pages](#) to investigate your options for living and studying in Newcastle. All costs incurred are optional and students should select the most appropriate accommodation for their needs.

Disability Support

In order to access disability or dyslexia support, students may be required to provide evidence of their disability. This evidence is often provided by an external body (for example, by a medical specialist or GP) and these external bodies may charge for providing this evidence. Also, if a disabled student is eligible for DSA funding for computer equipment, depending on their funding body, the student may be required to make a contribution of £200 towards the cost of any computer equipment. For more information about how to access disability support, contact [Student Support and Well-being](#).

Healthcare Costs

Students, depending on their circumstances, may incur some charges for accessing healthcare or medication from the National Health Service. These include charges for prescriptions, charges for dental checks and treatment, and charges for other services, such as providing vaccinations or for certain types of medical evidence (for example, evidence to support a Personal Extenuating Circumstances/PEC claim at the University, if required). These charges are set and charged by NHS services, rather than by the University, and will be subject to change.

Certain applicants who apply for a UK visa will pay an Immigration Health Surcharge. International students from particular countries may also be required to pay to have a tuberculosis (TB) test.

We also strongly recommend that all EU and international students take out their own insurance policy to cover costs which are not met by the National Health Service. It is your responsibility to ensure you pay for adequate insurance cover for the duration of your stay in the UK.

For more information about healthcare-related charges in the UK, you can speak to the [Welfare, Immigration and Funding team](#) based in Student Support and Well-being.

Congregation Costs

When you graduate you will be invited to attend your graduation ceremony. Congregation ceremonies have associated costs, for instance **to take part you will be required to hire a graduation gown and cap**, you may also wish to purchase a professional photograph or additional guest tickets. To give you an approximation of costs, for students graduating in 2018/19, the price of an additional guest ticket was £12.50. Please be aware that the associated costs of graduation ceremonies are subject to review each year. Gown hire and photography are purchased from external providers, therefore the University cannot demonstrate prices.

Library Costs

Your University Library provides a postal service for books and journal articles which will be sent world-wide to Northumbria students who are studying part-time, by distance learning or are work based learners. Students who are placement for more than six weeks are eligible to use the service whilst on placement.

There is no charge for posting books out, but you will be required to pay the cost of any return postage. We recommend that items are returned by recorded delivery. You can of course, return books in person to either University Library campus.

Overdue charges apply to all library loans to encourage you to return items on time when they have been recalled for use by another reader. Loan renewal is automatic for up to four months or until another reader requests that item. Charges are entirely avoidable by returning items on time, but where incurred will vary according to loan status and the length of time an item is overdue. Overdue charges exist to ensure the Library Collection benefits the whole student community.

Library books which have been lost or damaged beyond repair will be charged at the replacement cost of the item and a non-refundable handling charge.

If you lose your University smart card there is a replacement charge of £10 to obtain a new one. This cost is waived if your smart card has been stolen and you can provide a police crime reference number.

Placement Costs

Placements in industry are a core element of many of Northumbria's courses. Whilst many of these placements are optional, some are mandatory. They offer you a great opportunity to gain hands-on experience, giving you a distinct edge in the job market. To undertake a placement, you will need to budget for any accommodation and travel charges.

Printing & Photocopying Costs

Students will receive a printing credit of £10 in 2019/20 and

2020/21*. This will provide 1,000 pages of A4 single-sided black and white printing. Any additional printing is paid for by the student.

*Newcastle and London campus only. Amsterdam endeavours to be a paperless campus and printing of submission is not required. Costs at Newcastle Campus may be subject to change for 2020/21.

Visa Costs

International students will be required to pay visa application fees, and associated fees as required - such as the Immigration Healthcare Surcharge, Tuberculosis tests, fees to renew or extend a visa, and fees associated with appealing a visa/immigration decision. These fees are set and charged by the UK government, rather than by the University, and are subject to change. More information about these fees can be found on the [UK Government's website](#), and information about applying for a visa to study at Northumbria can be found on our [here](#).

Useful Links

Facilities

www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/courses/psychology-dtfpsj6/facilities/

www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/courses/psychology-dtfpsj6/pfna-accordions/

Tutor Profiles

www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/courses/psychology-dtfpsj6/tutor-profiles/

Alumin Profiles

www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/courses/psychology-dtfpsj6/alumni-profiles/

Student Profiles

www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/courses/psychology-dtfpsj6/student-profiles/

Course Guides

www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/courses/psychology-dtfpsj6/course-guides/

FAQs

www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/courses/psychology-dtfpsj6/faqs/

Study and Travel Abroad

www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/courses/psychology-dtfpsj6/study-and-travel-abroad/

www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/courses/psychology-dtfpsj6/discount-pods/

www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/courses/psychology-dtfpsj6/facilities-v2/

www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/courses/psychology-dtfpsj6/general-links-folder/

www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/courses/psychology-dtfpsj6/image-row/

www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/courses/psychology-dtfpsj6/modules-and-learning/

www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/courses/psychology-dtfpsj6/open-day/

www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/courses/psychology-dtfpsj6/research/

www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/courses/psychology-dtfpsj6/staff-pods/

www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/courses/psychology-dtfpsj6/students-v2/

www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/courses/psychology-dtfpsj6/videos/

