Buckinghamshire New University

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

1. Key Information

Programme Title:	Psychology Psychology with Foundation Year
Awarding Institution:	Buckinghamshire New University
Teaching Institution(s):	Buckinghamshire New University
Subject Cluster:	Psychology
Award Title (including separate Pathway Award Titles where offered):	BSc (Hons) Psychology BSc (Hons) Counselling and Psychotherapy BSc (Hons) Forensic Psychology BSc (Hons) Sport and Exercise Psychology BSc (Hons) Psychology and Criminology BSc (Hons) Psychological Studies
Pathways (if applicable)	Psychology Counselling and Psychotherapy Forensic Psychology Sport and Exercise Psychology Psychology and Criminology Psychological Studies
FHEQ level of final award:	6
Other award titles available (exit qualifications):	Certificate of Higher Education Diploma of Higher Education Bachelor of Science (Ordinary Degree)
Accreditation details:	British Psychological Society: BSc (Hons) Psychology BSc (Hons) Counselling and Psychotherapy BSc (Hons) Forensic Psychology BSc (Hons) Sport and Exercise Psychology BSc (Hons) Psychology and Criminology
Length of programme:	3 years 4 years with Foundation Year 6 years Part Time
Mode(s) of Study:	Full Time Part Time
Mode of Delivery:	In person (on-site) delivery
Language of study:	English
QAA Subject Benchmark(s):	Psychology (2019)
Other external reference points (e.g. Apprenticeship Standard):	
Course Code(s):	BSPSYCFT / BSPSYCFY / BSPSYCPT

	BSCOPSFT / BSCOPSFY / BSFOPSFT / BSFOPSFY / BSSEPSFT / BSSEPSFY / BSPSCRFT / BSPSCRFY / BSPSYSFT / BSPSYSFY /
UCAS Code(s):	C800 / C804 / CPSY / CPSF / C8F1 / C8F4 / C813 / C844 / CM89 / CM84 / C8S1 / C8S4
Approval date:	August 23
Date of last update:	May 2024 / January 2025 / May 2025 / July 2025

2. Programme Summary

This British Psychological Society (BPS) accredited programme is designed to enable you to combine studying the core approaches to contemporary psychology with a choice of applied and theoretical areas. Psychology is a broad and fascinating discipline, and the course will provide you with a scientific understanding of this diverse topic, from the 'hidden' aspects of human behaviour (i.e. how our brain and biological mechanisms support different functions), to those we see in everyday life (e.g. social phenomena such as crime or relationships). This interaction between the brain, body, and the environment is at the very heart of what you will study with us at Buckinghamshire New University.

This is a highly interactive course which will give you hands on practical experience throughout. Our teaching and learning methods will cover a wide range of activities, including interactive lectures, seminars, and workshops, in which you will be encouraged to actively participate. The understanding you develop will be evaluated throughout your degree programme via a broad variety of assessment methods, including quizzes, written documents i.e. essays, reports, exams, and presentations both oral and poster. As you progress through your course you will have the opportunity to choose from different pathways depending on your area of interest. In your final year you will build on the skills developed in previous years, culminating in an independent research project, which allows you to focus on your chosen area of interest.

The programme will not only help you to develop specific knowledge in your area of interest but will also provide you with a variety of other skills, such as how to critically evaluate and present information and data. Upon graduation you will be equipped with an impressive variety of transferable skills that will help to enhance future employability in a wide range of careers, both subject specific and in the broader sector, from teaching to forensics, local government to counselling and much more.

3. Programme Aims and Learning Outcomes

Programme Aims

This programme aims to:

1. Provide a scientific understanding of the brain, the body and the environment and the complex interactions between them
2. Develop a critical approach to how psychological science is applied in a range of contexts
3. Examine appropriate research methods in the acquisition and interpretation of empirical data

4. Develop the generic key skills, knowledge and values that provide the foundations for life-long personal development

Programme Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding (K)

On successful completion of the programme you will be able to:

ID	Learning Outcome
K1	Explore the scientific underpinnings of psychology as a discipline, and how this has developed over time.
K2	Recognise the inherent variability and diversity of psychological functioning and its significance in the discipline of psychology.
K3	Demonstrate a systematic, critical and evaluative understanding of a range of influences on psychological functioning.
K4	Devise and sustain arguments based on detailed knowledge of diverse specialised areas and/or applications of psychology.
K5	Interpret a range of research processes, methods and measurement techniques, including quantitative and qualitative analysis, applicable to the behavioural sciences, and be aware of their limitations.

Analysis and Criticality (C)

On successful completion of the programme, you will be able to:

ID	Learning Outcome
C1	Analyse evidence to reason scientifically, and make critical judgments about arguments in psychology.
C2	Adopt multiple perspectives to systematically detect and evaluate meaningful patterns of behaviour and the relationships between them.
C3	Use a range of empirical methods to explore and analyse data with confidence.
C4	Appraise problem solving and decision-making skills.

Application and Practice (P)

On successful completion of the programme, you will be able to:

ID	Learning Outcome
P1	Develop computer literacy and the ability to use applied statistical software.
P2	Execute effective communication skills at the appropriate level through a range of modalities.
P3	Execute an independent empirical research project under supervision and discuss its implications and limitations.
P4	Demonstrate ability to work both independently and as part of a team.

P5	Demonstrate competence in research and practical skills, including an awareness and application of ethical principles regarding research projects.

Transferable skills and other attributes (T)

On successful completion of the programme, you will be able to:

ID	Learning Outcome
T1	Communicate ideas and research findings effectively and fluently, through a range of modalities.
T2	Analyse, and present information and data relevant to your programme.
T3	Demonstrate solving problems by clarifying questions, considering alternative solutions and evaluating outcomes.
T4	Reflect critically on personal strengths and weaknesses for the purposes of future learning.
T5	Undertake self-directed study and project management, in order to meet desired objectives.

Graduate Attributes

The BNU Graduate Attributes of: Knowledge and its application; Creativity; Social and ethical awareness and responsibility; and Leadership and self-development focus on the development of innovative leaders in professional and creative capacities, who are equipped to operate in the 21st Century labour market and make a positive impact as global citizens.

On this programme, attributes are developed by drawing on skills that are associated with the study of psychological sciences (T1-T6) as specified by the QAA. There is a focus on the development of innovative leaders in professional and creative capacities (P1-P5, C4), who are equipped to operate in the modern labour market and make a positive impact as global citizens. In addition, the diversity of learning opportunities provided supports the development and use of a range of transferable skills (C1-C4, T1-T6, P1-P5), scaffolded by the knowledge gained over the duration of the programme(K1-K5). For example, "communication skills can be enhanced by knowledge of theories of learning, critical thinking, which can be underpinned by knowledge of cognitive biases, and teamwork which can be supported by knowledge of group processes" (QAA, 2019, p.6).

4. Entry Requirements

The University's general entry requirements will apply to admission to this programme with the following additions / exceptions:

- GSCE English & Maths at grade C/4
- The UCAS entry points required for this programme are 104-128

Students studying the pathways of Forensic Psychology and Counselling Psychotherapy will be required to complete a Disclosure and Barring Services (DBS) check due to the placement modules within these courses. A flag on a DBS check does not mean a student will not be able to study on the programme but it may limit the type of placement available.

If you do not meet the entry requirements you may, if you have relevant professional experience, still be invited for interview, where you will be required to demonstrate the necessary knowledge and understanding for entry onto the course.

Previous study, professional and / or vocational experiences may be recognised as the equivalent learning experience and permit exemption from studying certain modules in accordance with our accreditation of prior learning (APL) process.

5. Programme Structure

BSc Psychology

Level	Modules (Code, Title and Credits)	Exit Awards
Foundation Year[1]	**Core modules:** SOC003 Human Behaviour SOC004 Research Matters SOC005 Human Science – Dissecting the details SOC006 Human Communication SOC007 Exploring Intersections SOC008 Knowledge Unleashed **Option modules:** No option modules are available at this level.	**N/A.** No credit is awarded at this Level.
Level 4	**Core modules:** PSY4001 Frameworks of Living Psychology (20 credits) PSY4002 Applying Psychology (20 credits) PSY4003 Researching Psychology (20 credits) PSY4004 Nature and Nurture in Psychology (20 credits) PSY4007 The Mind in Context: Cognitive and Social Psychology (20 credits) PSY4006 Digital Minds: Exploring Personality and Cyberpsychology (20 credits) **Option modules:** No Option modules are available at this level.	**Certificate of Higher Education**, awarded on achievement of 120 credits at Level 4
Level 5	**Core modules:** PSY5001 Personality and Development (20 credits) PSY5005 Sensation, Perception, and Beyond (20 credits)	**Diploma of Higher Education**, awarded on achievement of 240

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[1] Modules on the Foundation Year only apply to learners who are enrolled on the "with Foundation Year" programme.

	PSY5003 Quantitative Methods in Psychology (20 credits) PSY5004 Qualitative Approaches in Psychology (20 credits) PSY5002 Approaches to Positive Human Development (20 credits) **Option modules:** Choose modules to the total of 20 credits: PSY5014 The Therapeutic Process (20 credits) PSY5006 Client Diversity and Therapeutic Spaces (20 credits) PSY5007 Psychological Perspectives in Classifying Criminality (20 credits) SOC5002 Employability and Professional Development (20 credits) SES5007 Inclusive Practice in Sport and Physical Activity (20 credits) SES5012 Approaches to Applied Sport and Performance Psychology (20 credits)	credits, including a minimum of 120 credits at Level 5
Level 6	**Core modules:** PSY6002 Conceptual and Critical Social Psychology (20 credits) PSY6001 Psychology Undergraduate Dissertation (40 credits) **Option modules:** Choose modules to the total of 60 credits: PSY6009 Police Psychology and the Legal Framework (20 credits) PSY6010 Investigative and Forensic Psychology (20 credits) PSY6014 Interpersonal Violence (20 credits) SES6016 Psychology of Physical Education and Youth Sport (20 credits) PSY6017 Employability and Professional Development (20 credits) PSY6020 The Therapeutic Process (20 credits) PSY6022 States, Beliefs, Values: Psychology in Practice (20 credits) PSY6024 Victimology (20 credits) PSY6025 The Human Brain: Evolution, Cognition and Behaviour (20 credits) PSY6026 Applied Psychology Pathways to Practice (20 credits)	**Ordinary Degree**, awarded on achievement of 300 credits, including 60 credits at Level 6 and 120 credits at each of Levels 4 and 5 **Honours Degree**, awarded on achievement of 360 credits, including 120 credits at each of Levels, 4, 5 and 6

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Please note: Not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year. Other option modules may also be introduced at a later stage enabling the programme to respond to changes in the subject area.

BSc Counselling and Psychotherapy

Level	Modules (Code, Title and Credits)	Exit Awards
Foundation Year[2]	**Core modules:** SOC003 Human Behaviour SOC004 Research Matters SOC005 Human Science – Dissecting the details SOC006 Human Communication SOC007 Exploring Intersections SOC008 Knowledge Unleashed **Option modules:** No option modules are available at this level.	**N/A.** No credit is awarded at this Level.
Level 4	**Core modules:** PSY4001 Frameworks of Living Psychology (20 credits) PSY4002 Applying Psychology (20 credits) PSY4003 Researching Psychology (20 credits) PSY4004 Nature and Nurture in Psychology (20 credits) PSY4007 The Mind in Context: Cognitive and Social Psychology (20 credits) PSY4006 Digital Minds: Exploring Personality and Cyberpsychology (20 credits) **Option modules:** No option modules are available at this level.	**Certificate of Higher Education**, awarded on achievement of 120 credits at Level 4
Level 5	**Core modules:** PSY5001 Personality and Development (20 credits)	**Diploma of Higher Education**, awarded on achievement of 240

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2 Modules on the Foundation Year only apply to learners who are enrolled on the "with Foundation Year" programme.

	PSY5005 Sensation, Perception, and Beyond (20 credits) PSY5003 Quantitative Methods in Psychology (20 credits) PSY5004 Qualitative Approaches in Psychology (20 credits) PSY5014 The Therapeutic Process (20 credits) PSY5006 Client Diversity and Therapeutic Spaces (20 credits) **Option modules:** No option modules are available at this level.	credits, including a minimum of 120 credits at Level 5
Level 6	**Core modules:** PSY6002 Conceptual and Critical Social Psychology (20 credits) PSY6012 Professional Practice Placements in Counselling & Psychotherapy (20 credits) PSY6001 Psychology Undergraduate Dissertation (40 credits) **Option modules:** Choose modules to the total of 40 credits: PSY6009 Police Psychology and the Legal Framework (20 credits) PSY6025 The Human Brain: Evolution, Cognition and Behaviour (20 credits) PSY6026 Applied Psychology Pathways to Practice (20 credits)	**Ordinary Degree**, awarded on achievement of 300 credits, including 60 credits at Level 6 and 120 credits at each of Levels 4 and 5 **Honours Degree**, awarded on achievement of 360 credits, including 120 credits at each of Levels, 4, 5 and 6

Please note: Not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year. Other option modules may also be introduced at a later stage enabling the programme to respond to changes in the subject area.

BSc Forensic Psychology

Level	Modules (Code, Title and Credits)	Exit Awards
Foundation Year[3]	**Core modules:** SOC003 Human Behaviour SOC004 Research Matters	**N/A.** No credit is awarded at this Level.

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[3] Modules on the Foundation Year only apply to learners who are enrolled on the "with Foundation Year" programme.

	SOC005 Human Science – Dissecting the details SOC006 Human Communication SOC007 Exploring Intersections SOC008 Knowledge Unleashed **Option modules:** No option modules are available at this level.	
Level 4	**Core modules:** PSY4001 Frameworks of Living Psychology (20 credits) PSY4002 Applying Psychology (20 credits) PSY4003 Researching Psychology (20 credits) PSY4004 Nature and Nurture in Psychology (20 credits) PSY4007 The Mind in Context: Cognitive and Social Psychology (20 credits) PSY4006 Digital Minds: Exploring Personality and Cyberpsychology (20 credits) **Option modules:** No option modules are available at this level.	**Certificate of Higher Education**, awarded on achievement of 120 credits at Level 4
Level 5	**Core modules:** PSY5001 Personality and Development (20 credits) PSY5005 Sensation, Perception, and Beyond (20 credits) PSY5003 Quantitative Methods in Psychology (20 credits) PSY5004 Qualitative Approaches in Psychology (20 credits) PSY5007 Psychological Perspectives in Classifying Criminality (20 credits) PSY5015 Forensic Psychology Placements (20 credits) **Option modules:** No option modules are available at this level.	**Diploma of Higher Education**, awarded on achievement of 240 credits, including a minimum of 120 credits at Level 5
Level 6	**Core modules:** PYS6002 Conceptual and Critical Social Psychology (20 credits) PSY6009 Police Psychology and the Legal Framework (20 credits) PSY6014 Interpersonal Violence (20 credits)	**Ordinary Degree**, awarded on achievement of 300 credits, including 60 credits at Level 6 and 120 credits at each of Levels 4 and 5

| | PSY6001 Psychology Undergraduate Dissertation (40 credits)

Option modules:
Choose modules to the total of 20 credits:
PSY6010 Investigative and Forensic Psychology (20 credits)
SOC6004 Disability, Mental Health and the Criminal Justice System (20 credits)
PSY6022 States, Beliefs, Values: Psychology in Practice (20 credits)
PSY6024 Victimology (20-credits) | **Honours Degree**, awarded on achievement of 360 credits, including 120 credits at each of Levels, 4, 5 and 6 |

Please note: Not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year. Other option modules may also be introduced at a later stage enabling the programme to respond to changes in the subject area.

BSc Sport and Exercise Psychology

Level	Modules (Code, Title and Credits)	Exit Awards
Foundation Year[4]	**Core modules:** SOC003 Human Behaviour SOC004 Research Matters SOC005 Human Science – Dissecting the details SOC006 Human Communication SOC007 Exploring Intersections SOC008 Knowledge Unleashed **Option modules:** No option modules are available at this level.	**N/A.** No credit is awarded at this Level.
Level 4	**Core modules:** PSY4001 Frameworks of Living Psychology (20 credits) PSY4002 Applying Psychology (20 credits)	**Certificate of Higher Education**, awarded on achievement of 120 credits at Level 4

[4] Modules on the Foundation Year only apply to learners who are enrolled on the "with Foundation Year" programme.

	PSY4003 Researching Psychology (20 credits) PSY4004 Nature and Nurture in Psychology (20 credits) PSY4007 The Mind in Context: Cognitive and Social Psychology (20 credits) PSY4006 Digital Minds: Exploring Personality and Cyberpsychology (20 credits) **Option modules:** No option modules are available at this level.	
Level 5	**Core modules:** PSY5001 Personality and Development (20 credits) PSY5005 Sensation, Perception, and Beyond (20 credits) PSY5003 Quantitative Methods in Psychology (20 credits) PSY5004 Qualitative Approaches in Psychology (20 credits) SES5012 Approaches to Applied Sport and Performance Psychology (20 credits) SES5007 Inclusive Practice in Sport and Physical Activity (20 credits) **Option modules:** No option modules are available at this level.	**Diploma of Higher Education**, awarded on achievement of 240 credits, including a minimum of 120 credits at Level 5
Level 6	**Core modules:** PSY6001 Psychology Undergraduate Dissertation (40 credits) PSY6002 Conceptual and Critical Social Psychology (20 credits) SES6010 Sport Science in Practice (20 credits) SES6016 Psychology of Physical Education and Youth Sport (20 credits) **Option modules:** Choose modules to the total of 20 credits: PSY6020 The Therapeutic Process SES6014 Coaching Leadership (20 credits) PSY6025 The Human Brain: Evolution, Cognition and Behaviour (20 credits)	**Ordinary Degree**, awarded on achievement of 300 credits, including 60 credits at Level 6 and 120 credits at each of Levels 4 and 5 **Honours Degree**, awarded on achievement of 360 credits, including 120 credits at each of Levels, 4, 5 and 6

Please note: Not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year. Other option modules may also be introduced at a later stage enabling the programme to respond to changes in the subject area.

BSc Psychology and Criminology

Level	Modules (Code, Title and Credits)	Exit Awards
Foundation Year[5]	**Core modules:** SOC003 Human Behaviour SOC004 Research Matters SOC005 Human Science – Dissecting the details SOC006 Human Communication SOC007 Exploring Intersections SOC008 Knowledge Unleashed **Option modules:** No option modules are available at this level.	**N/A.** No credit is awarded at this Level.
Level 4	**Core modules:** PSY4001 Frameworks of Living Psychology (20 credits) PSY4002 Applying Psychology (20 credits) PSY4003 Researching Psychology (20 credits) PSY4004 Nature and Nurture in Psychology (20 credits) PSY4007 The Mind in Context: Cognitive and Social Psychology (20 credits) PSY4006 Digital Minds: Exploring Personality and Cyberpsychology (20 credits) **Option modules:** No option modules are available at this level.	**Certificate of Higher Education**, awarded on achievement of 120 credits at Level 4
Level 5	**Core modules:** PSY5001 Personality and Development (20 credits) PSY5005 Sensation, Perception, and Beyond (20 credits)	**Diploma of Higher Education**, awarded on achievement of 240

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[5] Modules on the Foundation Year only apply to learners who are enrolled on the "with Foundation Year" programme.

	PSY5003 Quantitative Methods in Psychology (20 credits) PSY5004 Qualitative Approaches in Psychology (20 credits) SOC5010 Introduction to Forensic Science (20 credits) SOC5002 Employability and Professional Development (20 credits) **Option modules:** No option modules are available at this level.	credits, including a minimum of 120 credits at Level 5
Level 6	**Core modules:** PSY6002 Conceptual and Critical Social Psychology (20 credits) PSY6001 Psychology Undergraduate Dissertation (40 credits) **Option modules:** Choose modules to the total of 40 credits: PSY6009 Police Psychology and the legal framework (20-credits) PSY6022 States, Beliefs, Values: Psychology in Practice (20-credit) SOC6003 Cybercrime (20 credits) SOC6006 Radicalisation (20 credits) SOC6004 Disability, Mental Health and the Criminal Justice System (20 credits) SOC6001 Comparative Criminal Justice Policy SOC6005 Environment and Social Justice PSY6020 The Therapeutic Process (20 credits) PSY6025 The Human Brain: Evolution, Cognition and Behaviour (20 credits) SES6016 Psychology of Physical and Youth Sport (20 credits) PSY6026 Applied Psychology Pathways to Practice (20 credits) PSY6015 Forensic Professional Practice Issues (20 credits)	**Ordinary Degree**, awarded on achievement of 300 credits, including 60 credits at Level 6 and 120 credits at each of Levels 4 and 5 **Honours Degree**, awarded on achievement of 360 credits, including 120 credits at each of Levels, 4, 5 and 6

Please note: Not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year. Other option modules may also be introduced at a later stage enabling the programme to respond to changes in the subject area.

BSc Psychological Studies

Level	Modules (Code, Title and Credits)	Exit Awards
Foundation Year[6]	**Core modules:** SOC003 Human Behaviour SOC004 Research Matters SOC005 Human Science – Dissecting the details SOC006 Human Communication SOC007 Exploring Intersections SOC008 Knowledge Unleashed **Option modules:** No option modules are available at this level.	**N/A.** No credit is awarded at this Level.
Level 4	**Core modules:** PSY4001 Frameworks of Living Psychology (20 credits) PSY4002 Applying Psychology (20 credits) PSY4003 Researching Psychology (20 credits) PSY4004 Nature and Nurture in Psychology (20 credits) PSY4007 The Mind in Context: Cognitive and Social Psychology (20 credits) PSY4006 Digital Minds: Exploring Personality and Cyberpsychology (20 credits) **Option modules:** No option modules are available at this level.	**Certificate of Higher Education**, awarded on achievement of 120 credits at Level 4
Level 5	**Core modules:** PSY5001 Personality and Development (20 credits) PSY5004 Qualitative Approaches in Psychology (20 credits) **Option modules:** Choose modules to the total of 80 credits: PSY5005 Sensation, Perception, and Beyond (20 credits) PSY5002 Approaches to Positive Human Development (20 credits)	**Diploma of Higher Education**, awarded on achievement of 240 credits, including a minimum of 120 credits at Level 5

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[6] Modules on the Foundation Year only apply to learners who are enrolled on the "with Foundation Year" programme.

	PSY5014 The Therapeutic Process (20 credits) PSY5006 Client Diversity and Therapeutic Spaces (20 credits) PSY5007 Psychological Perspectives in Classifying Criminality (20 credits) SOC5002 Employability and Professional Development (20 credits) SES5012 Inclusive Practice in Sport and Physical Activity (20 credits) SES6007 Approaches to Applied Sport and Performance Psychology (20 credits) SOC5010 Introduction to Forensic Science (20 credits) SOC5006 Contemporary Criminology (20 credits) SOC5004 Ethics in Social Science (20 credits).	
Level 6	**Core modules:** PSY6002 Conceptual and Critical Social Psychology (20 credits) PSY6001 Psychology Undergraduate Dissertation (40 credits) **Option modules:** Choose modules to the total of 60 credits: PSY6009 Police Psychology and the Legal Framework (20 credits) PSY6010 Investigative and Forensic Psychology (20 credits) PSY6012 Professional Practice Issues in Counselling Psychology (20 credits) PSY6014 Interpersonal Violence (20 credits) PSY6015 Forensic Professional Practice Issues (20 credits) SOC6006 Radicalisation (20 credits) SOC6003 Cybercrime (20 credits) SOC6004 Disability, Mental Health and the Criminal Justice System (20 credits) SOC6005 Environmental and Social Justice (20 credits) SES6010 Sport Science in Practice (20 credits) SES6016 Psychology of Physical Education and Youth Sport (20 credits) PSY6017 Employability and Professional Development (20 credits) SES6014 Coaching Leadership (20 credits) PSY6020 The Therapeutic Process PSY6022 States, Beliefs, Values: Psychology in Practice (20 credits) PSY6024 Victimology (20 credits) PSY6025 The Human Brain: Evolution, Cognition and Behaviour (20 credits)	**Ordinary Degree**, awarded on achievement of 300 credits, including 60 credits at Level 6 and 120 credits at each of Levels 4 and 5 **Honours Degree**, awarded on achievement of 360 credits, including 120 credits at each of Levels, 4, 5 and 6

	PSY6026 Applied Psychology Pathways to Practice (20 credits)	

Please note: Not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year. Other option modules may also be introduced at a later stage enabling the programme to respond to changes in the subject area.

6. Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Learning and teaching

The learning and teaching strategy across the programme draws upon a range of approaches to learning including lectures, seminars, workshops, practical classes, role-play, and problem-based learning. These are adopted in different ways across levels of study and across modules as appropriate to module content. For example, at Level 4, a mixture of lectures, seminars, debates, and problem-based learning allows new concepts to be introduced and then explored in relation to real-world applications. As learners progress through Levels 5 and 6, an increasing use of workshop teaching supports more discursive approaches to learning.

Similarly, specific topics such as psychological research methods, which learners often find challenging, benefit from a cumulative teaching approach, introducing, and reinforcing concepts across the module with an emphasis placed on embedding principles in relatable contexts.

Learners are supported by use of a university VLE that allows communication outside of scheduled sessions (e.g., via discussion boards) and sharing of resources.

Assessment

The assessment strategy across the programme means that learners experience a breadth of assessment techniques, ranging between written assignments (such as traditional academic essays and research reports), exams, oral presentations, poster presentations, and portfolios. Assessments are designed to develop key academic skills, develop ways of communicating in a professional manner, and evidence learning in different ways.

Portfolio assessments are included at all levels of the programme to offer flexible and inclusive forms of assessment. Such assessments allow learners to evidence their learning over the duration of the module.

Contact Hours

For any 20-credit module on this programme, there are 200 notional learning hours that include approximately 60 hours of scheduled learning activities. These may include 'synchronous' activities such as lectures, seminars, workshops, practical classes, tutorials or asynchronous activities such as guided learning activities. A full breakdown of contact hours can be found in individual module descriptors.

7. Programme Regulations

This programme will be subject to the following assessment regulations:

- *Regulations for Taught Degree Programmes (2023)*

- PSY5003 Quantitative Methods in Psychology cannot be condoned. The British Psychological Society places an obligation on universities and students to conduct research ethically. A primary measure of the ability to conduct ethical research is passing the research methods training at level 5.
- PSY6001 Psychology Undergraduate Dissertation cannot be condoned. The British Psychological Society places an obligation on universities and students to conduct research ethically. A primary measure of the ability to conduct ethical research is passing the empirical dissertation.

8. Support for learners

The following systems are in place to support you to be successful with your studies:

- The appointment of a personal tutor to support you through your programme
- A programme handbook and induction at the beginning of your studies
- Library resources, include access to books, journals and databases - many of which are available in electronic format – and support from trained library staff
- Access to Blackboard, our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), which is accessible via PC, laptop, tablet or mobile device
- Access to the MyBNU portal where you can access all University systems, information and news, record your attendance at sessions, and access your personalised timetable
- Academic Registry staff providing general guidance on University regulations, exams, and other aspects of students and course administration
- Central student services, including teams supporting academic skills development, career success, student finance, accommodation, chaplaincy, disability and counselling
- Support from the Bucks Students' Union, including the Students' Union Advice Centre which offers free and confidential advice on University processes.

9. Programme monitoring and review

BNU has a number of ways for monitoring and reviewing the quality of learning and teaching on your programme. You will be able to comment on the content of their programme via the following feedback mechanisms:

- Formal feedback questionnaires and anonymous module 'check-ins'
- Participation in external surveys
- Programme Committees, via appointed student representatives
- Informal feedback to your programme leader

Quality and standards on each programme are assured via the following mechanisms:

- An initial event to approve the programme for delivery
- An annual report submitted by the External Examiner following a process of external moderation of work submitted for assessment
- The Annual Monitoring process, which is overseen by the University's Education Committee
- Review by the relevant PSRB(s)
- Periodic Subject Review events held every five years
- Other sector compliance and review mechanisms

10. Internal and external reference points

Design and development of this programme has been informed by the following internal and external reference points:

- The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
- The QAA Subject Benchmark Statement – see detailed mapping below
- The BNU Qualifications and Credit Framework
- The BNU Grading Descriptors
- The University Strategy

Mapping of Subject Benchmark Statement and any relevant Apprenticeship Standard to Programme Learning Outcomes

Subject Benchmark Statement / Apprenticeship Standard: Psychology	Knowledge and understanding (K)					Analysis and Criticality (C)					Application and Practice (P)					Transferable skills and other attributes (T)				
Benchmark / Standard requirement	**K1**	**K2**	**K3**	**K4**	**K5**	**C1**	**C2**	**C3**	**C4**	**C5**	**P1**	**P2**	**P3**	**P4**	**P5**	**T1**	**T2**	**T3**	**T4**	**T5**
understand the scientific underpinnings of psychology as a discipline, its historical origins, development and limitations	x																			
recognise the inherent variability and diversity of psychological functioning and its significance		x																		
demonstrate systematic knowledge and critical understanding of a range of influences on psychological functioning, how they are conceptualised across the			x																	

Subject Benchmark Statement / Apprenticeship Standard: Psychology	Knowledge and understanding (K)					Analysis and Criticality (C)					Application and Practice (P)					Transferable skills and other attributes (T)				
Benchmark / Standard requirement	**K1**	**K2**	**K3**	**K4**	**K5**	**C1**	**C2**	**C3**	**C4**	**C5**	**P1**	**P2**	**P3**	**P4**	**P5**	**T1**	**T2**	**T3**	**T4**	**T5**
core areas and how they interrelate																				
demonstrate detailed knowledge of several specialised areas and/or applications, some of which are at the cutting edge of research in the discipline				x																
demonstrate a systematic knowledge of a range of research paradigms, research methods and measurement techniques, including statistics and probability, and be aware of their limitations					x															
reason scientifically, understand the role of evidence and make						x														

Subject Benchmark Statement / Apprenticeship Standard: Psychology	Knowledge and understanding (K)					Analysis and Criticality (C)					Application and Practice (P)					Transferable skills and other attributes (T)				
Benchmark / Standard requirement	K1	K2	K3	K4	K5	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5
critical judgements about arguments in psychology																				
adopt multiple perspectives and systematically analyse the relationships between them							x													
detect meaningful patterns in behaviour and evaluate their significance							x													
recognise the subjective and variable nature of individual experience		x																		
pose, operationalise and critique research questions																		x		
demonstrate substantial competence in research skills through practical activities								x					x		x		x			

Subject Benchmark Statement / Apprenticeship Standard: Psychology	Knowledge and understanding (K)					Analysis and Criticality (C)					Application and Practice (P)					Transferable skills and other attributes (T)				
Benchmark / Standard requirement	K1	K2	K3	K4	K5	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5
reason analytically and demonstrate competence in a range of quantitative and qualitative methods								x					x		x		x			
competently initiate, design, conduct and report on an empirically-based research project under appropriate supervision, and recognise its theoretical, practical and methodological implications and limitations													x		x					
be aware of ethical principles and approval procedures and demonstrate these in relation to personal study, particularly with regard to the research project, and													x		x					

Subject Benchmark Statement / Apprenticeship Standard: Psychology	Knowledge and understanding (K)					Analysis and Criticality (C)					Application and Practice (P)					Transferable skills and other attributes (T)				
Benchmark / Standard requirement	K1	K2	K3	K4	K5	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5
be aware of the ethical context of psychology as a discipline																				
communicate ideas and research findings by written, oral and visual means												x				x				
interpret and use numerical, textual and other forms of data											x						x			
be computer literate, for the purposes of furthering their own learning and in the analysis and presentation of ideas and research findings											x									
solve problems by clarifying questions, considering alternative														x				x		

Subject Benchmark Statement / Apprenticeship Standard: Psychology	Knowledge and understanding (K)					Analysis and Criticality (C)					Application and Practice (P)					Transferable skills and other attributes (T)				
Benchmark / Standard requirement	K1	K2	K3	K4	K5	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5
solutions and evaluating outcomes																				
be sensitive to, and take account of, contextual and interpersonal factors in groups and teams														x						
undertake self-directed study and project management, in order to meet desired objectives													x							x
take charge of their own learning, and reflect and evaluate personal strengths and weaknesses for the purposes of future learning									x										x	

Mapping of Programme Learning Outcomes to Modules

Programme Learning Outcome	Knowledge and understanding (K)					Analysis and Criticality (C)				Application and Practice (P)					Transferable skills and other attributes (T)				
Module Code (Core)	K1	K2	K3	K4	K5	C1	C2	C3	C4	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5
Level 4																			
Frameworks of Living Psychology	x	x		x		x	x	x			x		x		x		x	x	
Applying Psychology		x		x		x					x		x		x		x	x	x
Researching Psychology		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	
Nature and Nurture in Psychology	x	x	x	x		x	x	x			x		x		x		x	x	
The Mind in Context: Cognitive and Social Psychology	x	x	x	x		x	x				x		x		x		x	x	
Digital Minds: Exploring Personality and Cyberpsychology	x	x	x	x		x	x				x		x		x		x		x
Level 5																			
Personality and Development	x	x	x	x		x	x	x			x		x		x		x	x	
Quantitative Methods in Psychology				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Qualitative Approaches in Psychology				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Programme Learning Outcome	Knowledge and understanding (K)					Analysis and Criticality (C)				Application and Practice (P)					Transferable skills and other attributes (T)				
Module Code (Core)	K1	K2	K3	K4	K5	C1	C2	C3	C4	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5
Sensation, Perception, and Beyond	x	x	x	x		x	x	x			x		x		x		x	x	
Approaches to Positive Human Development	x	x	x	x		x	x	x			x		x		x		x	x	x
The Therapeutic Process											x		x					x	x	
Client Diversity and Therapeutic Spaces		x						x			x		x						x	
Psychological Perspectives in Classifying Criminality	x		x	x		x	x	x			x		x		x			x	x	
Forensic Psychology Placements		x				x	x				x		x		x				x	
Level 6																			
Conceptual and Critical Social Psychology	x	x	x	x		x	x	x			x		x		x		x	x	
Dissertation			x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x
Professional Practice Placements in Counselling Psychotherapy		x				x	x				x				x			x	
Interpersonal Violence			x	x		x	x	x			x				x	x			
Police Psychology and the Legal Framework			x	x		x	x	x								x	x		

Programme Learning Outcome	Knowledge and understanding (K)					Analysis and Criticality (C)				Application and Practice (P)					Transferable skills and other attributes (T)				
Module Code (Core)	K1	K2	K3	K4	K5	C1	C2	C3	C4	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5
Sport Science in Practice											x				x	x	x	x	
Psychology of Physical Education and Youth Sport			x								x		x		x	x			x