

## Course Specification

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## Core Information

<b>Awarding Body / Institution:</b>	University of Wolverhampton		
<b>School / Institute:</b>	Institute of Human Sciences		
<b>Course Code(s):</b>	PS030H01UV	Full-time	3 Years
	PS030H31UV	Part-time	6 Years
<b>Course Title:</b>	BSc (Hons) Psychology and Counselling		
<b>Hierarchy of Awards:</b>	Bachelor of Science with Honours Psychology and Counselling Bachelor of Science Psychology with Counselling Diploma of Higher Education Higher Education Certificate of Higher Education Higher Education University Statement of Credit University statement of credit		
<b>Language of Study:</b>	English		
<b>Date of DAG approval:</b>	25/May/2021		
<b>Last Review:</b>	2020/1		
<b>Course Specification valid from:</b>			
<b>Course Specification valid to:</b>	2026/7		

## Academic Staff

<b>Course Leader:</b>	Dr Danny Hinton
<b>Head of Department:</b>	Rosalyn Collings Mr Garrett Kennedy

# Course Information

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<b>Location of Delivery:</b>	University of Wolverhampton
<b>Category of Partnership:</b>	Not delivered in partnership
<b>Teaching Institution:</b>	University of Wolverhampton
<b>Open / Closed Course:</b>	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

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## Entry Requirements:

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Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS)

## Distinctive Features of the Course:

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Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and how it dictates and influences our behaviour, from communication and memory to thought and emotion. It is about understanding what makes people tick and how this understanding can help us address many of the problems and issues in society." (BPS). It is a thriving academic discipline as well as a professional field, both of which are dedicated to the study of human behaviour, the mind learning, and how people live.

Psychology at the University of Wolverhampton is widely regarded as one of the leading providers of Psychology education in the country. Our innovative Psychology courses focus on applying scientific and theoretical principles of psychology to modern-day real-world issues. We create critical thinkers, leaders, and innovators, who make real contributions to any role in which they work. Our courses are integrative and inclusive, where we focus on teaching and assessment using multiple techniques enabled by up-to-date digital technologies. By using a variety of teaching methods, we develop flexible and self-directed learners, who are adaptable and well-prepared for graduate work in an area of their choosing. Our teaching and assessment strategies are based on modern empirical research in Higher Education, which means you receive nationally and internationally recognised training that will set you up for success in your chosen career.

Core teaching is integrative in nature, bringing biological, developmental, social, and cognitive aspects across the programme. Psychology can be used to address many current issues that individuals and communities face and we focus on how the core domains of psychology enable us to understand the world around us. Our primary objective is to develop creative solution-focused problem solvers with the ability to consider a diversity of perspectives in their work. Our philosophy of integration means the latest research in individual differences, culture, research in human learning, professional values, and ethics are interwoven throughout the structure of the course. Research methods and skills in critical analysis are taught in parallel, ensuring you learn how methods are translated into real-world application. This teaching strategy enables students to see the bigger picture, as well as important details.

Our assessment philosophy incorporates psychological literacy skills with career focused transferable skills. Our assessment practices are diverse, problem focused and applied in nature. They will provide you with the techniques to enable you in any postgraduate career.

The degree is intellectually stimulating, and you will develop high level skills in the critical analysis of research data, learn practical skills in how to solve problems, and contribute to the professional community. Active engagement in all teaching is encouraged and provides a natural source of feedback from peers and academic staff on a regular basis. Formative feedback opportunities are also provided in the form of academic staff feeding back on draft work and peer feedback within some modules. Understanding and utilising feedback to feed forward is also heavily incorporated into personal tutoring throughout your degree.

**Unique Features of the BSc Psychology & Counselling** This degree offers a unique fusion of academic Psychology and practical training in counselling competencies. Each year you will undertake a counselling-

specific module, where you will learn from qualified experts in the field, who will teach you how to engage with clients and make a positive contribution to their welfare. You will engage in an experiential learning throughout the entirety of the programme, and develop a robust skill set that can be applied in any work-situation as well as prepare you to enter further study in the field of Counselling, Counselling Psychology, Clinical Psychology, and other mental-health career routes. The degree includes a placement, where you will learn how counselling skills are applied in live clinical settings, have the opportunity to showcase your skills, engage in critical reflective work, and make a novel contribution to the service in which you work. This degree is an ideal preparation for further study leading toward professional recognition as a therapist, such as an MSc Integrative Counselling & Psychotherapy, or a Professional Doctorate in Counselling Psychology. Career training and transferable skills are embedded in the course from the moment you arrive. In your second year you will complete a short placement and develop an intervention for the organisation where you have worked, enabling you to develop your confidence in applying knowledge in the real-world. We provide multiple opportunities to enhance your career and create networks inside and outside of the department: including volunteering networks, peer mentoring, and the opportunity to become a research assistant for our academic staff using the Research Opportunities Network. On graduation our department clinical team also provide the opportunity for a psychology assistant role for those interested in furthering a career in Counselling or Clinical Psychology.

### Educational Aims of the Course:

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You will gain knowledge and job-relevant skills as you explore areas such as social psychology, cognitive psychology, personality and individual differences, and developmental and biological psychology. The programme of study will help you to take your first steps along the road to becoming a Counsellor, Counselling Psychologist, or any other career focused on human behaviour, whether this is as a psychologist, a mental health practitioner within the healthcare sector, or within a related field such as teaching or business. Psychology graduates are also equipped to perform well in other career paths, such as journalism, business management, research, policing, the media and politics.

### Intakes:

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September

### Major Source of Funding:

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Office for Students (OFS)

### Tuition Fees:

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Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2020/1	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9250.00
2020/1	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£12250.00
2020/1	H	Part Time	£3050.00
2020/1	Overseas	Part Time	£6125.00
2021/2	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9250.00
2021/2	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£12950.00
2021/2	H	Part Time	£3100.00
2022/3	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9250.00
2022/3	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£13450.00
2022/3	H	Part Time	£3120.00
2023/4	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9250.00
2023/4	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£14450.00

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

## September (Full-time)

Full time and Sandwich Undergraduate Honours students normally study 120 credits per academic year; 60 credits semester 1 and 60 credits semester 2.

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
4PS001	Bad Science	20	SEM1	Core
4PS008	Core Debates and Key Competencies in Psychology	20	SEM1	Core
4PS003	Research Methods In Psychology - Basic	20	SEM1	Core
4PS009	Theoretical Principles in Counselling	20	SEM2	Core
4PS010	Current Issues in Psychology	20	SEM2	Core
4PS005	Research Methods in Psychology - Intermediate	20	SEM2	Core

## September (Full-time)

Full time and Sandwich Undergraduate Honours students normally study 120 credits per academic year; 60 credits semester 1 and 60 credits semester 2.

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
5PS010	Working in Psychology	20	SEM1	Core
5PS005	Research Methods in Psychology - Advanced	20	SEM1	Core
5PS013	Preparing for your Research Project	20	SEM2	Core
5PS012	Counselling Skills	20	SEM2	Core
5PS008	Psychology in Context	40	YEAR	Core

## September (Full-time)

Full time and Sandwich Undergraduate Honours students normally study 120 credits per academic year; 60 credits semester 1 and 60 credits semester 2.

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
<b>Group 02   Min Value: 20   Max Value: 20</b>				
6PS012	Cyberpsychology	20	SEM1	
6PS015	Applications of Health Psychology	20	SEM1	
6PS009	Cognition and Individual Differences	20	SEM1	
6PS014	Psychology Research Project	40	IN YR	Core

### Group 02 | Min Value: 40 | Max Value: 40

6PS003	Clinical Psychology	20	SEM2	
6PS025	Cognitive Neuroscience	20	SEM2	
6PS023	Developmental and Educational Psychology	20	SEM2	
6PS024	Occupational Psychology	20	SEM2	
6PS022	Evolutionary Psychology	20	SEM2	
			SEM1	Core

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning experience.

## Learning, Teaching and Assessment

## Academic Regulations Exemption:

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Section 4.2.5e - Module compensation will be assumed unless otherwise stated at validation (see 4.4). This excludes research methods modules (4PS003, 4PS005, 5PS005 and 5PS013) for which no compensation is available.

Section 4.4.1 - There is no compensation for the following; a. modules taken at level 7 b. sandwich placement modules, work-based or work-related modules c. Independent Study module (in courses where independent study is assigned to a specific module). There is no compensation for the following; a. modules taken at level 7 b. sandwich placement modules, work-based or work-related modules c. Independent Study module (in courses where independent study is assigned to a specific module) d. undergraduate research methods modules (4PS003, 4PS005, 5PS005 and 5PS013)

Approved by Academic Frameworks and Regulations Sub Committee on 9 March 2023

## Reference Points:

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[UK Quality Code for Higher Education](#)

[Qualifications and Credit Frameworks](#)

[Subject Benchmark Statements – Subject Benchmark Statement: Psychology \(qaa.ac.uk\)](#)

BPS Psychology – [Accreditation | BPS](#)

[University Policies and Regulations](#)

Equality Act (2010)

## Overview of Assessment:

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Learning Outcomes	Modules
CERTHE01 Demonstrate knowledge of the underlying concepts and principles associated with your area(s) of study, and an ability to evaluate and interpret these within the context of that area of study	
CERTHE02 Demonstrate an ability to present, evaluate and interpret qualitative and quantitative data, in order to develop lines of argument and make sound judgements in accordance with basic theories and concepts of your subject(s) of study.	
CERTHE03 Evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems related to your area(s) of study and/or work	
CERTHE04 Communicate the results of your study/work accurately and reliably, and with structured and coherent arguments	
CERTHE05 Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of some personal responsibility	
DIPHE01 Demonstrate knowledge and critical understanding of the well-established principles of your area(s) of study, and of the way in which those principles have developed with an understanding of the limits of your knowledge, and how this influences analyses and interpretations based on that knowledge.	

**DIPHE02** Demonstrate the ability to apply underlying concepts and principles outside the context in which they were first studied, including, where appropriate, the application of those principles in an employment context

**Modules**

**DIPHE03** Demonstrate knowledge of the main methods of enquiry in the subject(s) relevant to the named award, and ability to evaluate critically the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems in the field of study

**DIPHE04** Use a range of established techniques to initiate and undertake critical analysis of information, and to propose solutions to problems arising from that analysis

**DIPHE05** Effectively communicate information, arguments and analysis in a variety of forms to specialist and non-specialist audiences, and deploy key techniques of the discipline effectively

**DIPHE06** Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment, requiring the exercise of personal responsibility and decision-making and undertake further training, developing existing skills and acquire new competences that will enable them to assume significant responsibility within organisations.

**BHONSN01** Demonstrate conceptual knowledge of key themes, theories and constructs within all the psychology core domains, psychological perspectives and investigative methods.

**BHONSN02** Understand and coherently communicate about historical development, current debates and future directions of psychology and counselling recognising relationships with allied subjects.

**BHONSN03** Competently and ethically apply theory, models and principles of psychology and counselling to real world personal, social and organisation issues within a variety of settings

**BHONSN04** Recognise variability and diversity within society and individual; work compassionately and respectfully with others; and critically discuss research within psychology and allied subjects, in relation to individual and cultural differences.

**BHONSN05** Source and critically evaluate innovative and current research in specialist areas of counselling in terms of quality and impact.

**BHONS01** Demonstrate conceptual knowledge of key themes, theories and constructs within all the psychology core domains, psychological perspectives and investigative methods

**BHONS02** Understand and coherently communicate about historical development, current debates and future directions of psychology and counselling recognising relationships with allied subjects.

**BHONS03** Competently and ethically apply theory, models and principles of psychology and counselling to real world personal, social and organisation issues within a variety of settings.

**BHONS04** Recognise variability and diversity within society and individual; work compassionately and respectfully with others; and critically discuss research within psychology and

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**BHONS05** Competently apply relevant knowledge, psychological literacy skills and ethical understanding to the design, conduct, analysis and reporting of independent psychosocial and counselling research that adds to psychological theory and/or practice.

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**BHONS06** Source and critically evaluate innovative and current research in specialist areas of counselling in terms of quality and impact.

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### Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

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Course content is delivered using multiple teaching techniques. Most of the course is taught using a blended strategy, meaning that teaching will be in a variety of formats including pre-recorded bite size pieces of information, live interactive lectures, small group sessions for in-depth discussion, online discussions and debates, and one-to-one tutorials. You will also engage in active roleplay, to enable you to develop your counselling skills. You will also be taught using problem-based learning, where you will work as a team to solve a presented real-world issue using multiple perspectives of Psychology. Furthermore, we adopt case-based learning (focusing on psychological cases) and experiential learning (learning through doing). Teaching is designed to be engaging, making extensive use of technology to enhance student participation in the learning experience. Over the course of the degree, you will develop both subject-specific knowledge and transferable skills to make you a highly employable graduate. We use a wide variety of assessment strategies and have been commended for our creativity and diversity. You will be assessed using traditional coursework, essays, exams and psychology practical reports, and skills-based role-play. However, you will also be assessed using portfolios/ patchwork, presentations (visual and oral), case reports and intervention development. This will equip you for a variety of jobs post-graduation. We focus on both formative and summative assessment, particularly within the first year, alongside developing skills in providing peer feedback and support. You will also receive specific support in utilising feedback to feedforward in future assignments within personal tutoring sessions. Portfolios and patchwork assignments allow for you to be continually assessed throughout the year developing confidence and allowing early identification for additional support. We build a community of support amongst the students and between staff and students which is enhanced through our personal tutoring and peer mentoring schemes.

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### Assessment Methods:

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At the University of Wolverhampton, a variety of modes of assessment will be used to support and test your learning and progress and to help you develop capabilities that are valued beyond your University studies and into your working life. Your course may include a variety of assessment activities:

Written examinations (including online examinations, open and closed book examinations and quizzes)  
Coursework (for example, essays, reports, portfolios, project proposals and briefs, CVs, poster presentation)  
Practical (for example, oral and video presentations, laboratory work, performances, practical skills assessment)

In the final year of your undergraduate degree, and at the end of your postgraduate degree, you are likely to be expected to write an extended piece of work or research, such as a dissertation or a practice-based piece of research.

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### Student Support:

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General University support:

[University Learning Centres](#) are the key source of academic information for students. Learning Centres provide physical library resources (books, journal, DVDs etc.) and offer a range of study areas to allow students to study in the environment that suit them best: Social areas, quiet and silent areas. Learning Centres



also provide access to wide range of online information sources, including eBooks, e-Journals and subject databases.

Learning Centres also provide students with academic skills support via the [Skills for Learning programme](#). Students on campus can attend workshops or ask for one-to-one help on a range of skills such as academic writing and referencing. Students can access a range of online skills material at: [www.wlv.ac.uk/lib/skills](http://www.wlv.ac.uk/lib/skills)

The [University Student Support website](#) offers advice on a variety of matters (careers, counselling, student union advice, etc.) Students can also access these services by booking appointment with the SU, careers, counselling services, etc.

### Course Specific Support

Psychology offers a variety of course specific support. The team has three technicians who dedicate their time to helping with our computers and digital resources – such as questionnaire databases, survey development packages and computing software for statistical analysis. We have a wide range of questionnaires that can be utilised within your research work as well as lab spaces that the technicians support.

The team has dedicated administrative staff to help support academic staff so they, in order, can support students.

Psychology runs a bespoke Psychology Community Research Clinic, developed, and managed by our Counselling staff team, offering one-ton-one therapy, group therapy and educational workshops for our students.

To enhance and support belongingness and a sense of community we run a successful Psychology Society and actively engage with our student course and faculty REPS

### Employability in the Curriculum:

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Employability and graduate transferable skills are embedded throughout the curriculum from entrance to the degree through to graduation. To enhance our commitment to graduate employability each module has a specific transferable skill learning outcome. This means that you will be continually assessed on your skills as well as your knowledge. Tracking your own strengths and weaknesses is incorporated within personal tutor sessions.

As well as subject specific knowledge by the end of the course you will be able to:

1. Communicate using a variety of means and to a variety of audiences. You will be able to form cogent arguments as well as be able to adapt and remain mindful of the needs and expectations of the audiences you are addressing.
2. Demonstrate the ability to critically evaluate information in front of you in terms of quality and impact. This will include the interpretation of quantitative and qualitative data, multiple sources of public information and academic writing.
3. Demonstrate digital literacy with the use of multiple systems and analytic software packages
4. Work respectfully and compassionately with a team recognising what makes an effective team, what your personal strengths and weaknesses may be and source effective solutions to address these limitations.
5. Demonstrate the potential for self-development and professional working via reflective practices.

The curriculum highlights which areas you are working on and how these will apply to post graduate employment. You will also engage in a short placement within your second year of study.

We have many partnerships and connections throughout the black country, which opens doors for volunteer and paid work for our students. We teach the areas of applied psychology and the steps required to become chartered very early within the program and enable space to talk openly about students' goals for the future.



THE UNIVERSITY OF OPPORTUNITY