



PSYCHOLOGY

gold.ac.uk/psychology

Undergraduate

Goldsmiths
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

We ask a whole range of questions – from what makes someone believe in the paranormal to how music affects our mood.

Our psychology programmes offer a scientific approach to the study of the human mind and behaviour. You'll develop your understanding of the processes influencing how people think, feel, behave and react.

We're interested in cross-disciplinary research that applies psychological theory to real world situations. You'll get to grips with the investigative side of the subject and be able to apply your ideas to a range of settings, from clinical practice to schools, and from advertising to public policy.

Why study Psychology at Goldsmiths?

We're eclectic.

We offer British Psychological Society accredited courses – so you'll have a professional qualification when you graduate – but you'll also choose from diverse options, such as cognitive neuroscience, anomalistic psychology, behavioural genetics, psychology and law, addictive behaviours, and psychological approaches to music.

We're hands-on, and on hand.

You'll train in psychology's core research methods, design your own path through your studies, carry out statistical analyses and learn how to promote your knowledge in public. You'll also get support through one-to-one mentoring, and small group and lab sessions.

We're out in the world.

From using virtual reality to understanding brain injury to how city living affects our mental health, we conduct research in a range of sectors and industries. You'll see how psychological research influences the world outside – whether it's in the NHS, advertising agency, an airport or the BBC. And you'll study in a department that's been ranked joint third in the UK* for the quality of our research in this subject area.



The British
Psychological Society
Accredited

* Research Excellence Framework 2014, Times Higher Education research intensity subject rankings

OUR DEGREES

Psychology at Goldsmiths: the structure of your degree

Your psychology degree is accredited by the British Psychological Society, which confers eligibility for Graduate Membership and the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership. This is the first step towards becoming a Chartered Psychologist, maximising your future career options.

In your first and second years across all psychology degrees, you'll look at the broad themes of cognition, individual differences, biological and evolutionary issues, social functioning, and development across the lifespan. You'll develop your understanding of psychology's everyday applications, such as studies of people at work and behaviour at schools, and the rationale for and use of psychological tests. You'll also train in statistics, the design of experiments, and the use of psychology software.

In your third year, you'll choose modules from a wide variety of options.

Facilities

Our two teaching laboratories have a total of 75 networked computers that are used for training and experiment design. You'll also have access to fully equipped research labs.

Our on-site facilities include a visual perception and attention laboratory equipped with state-of-the-art eye tracking systems, and neuroscience labs that include electroencephalography (EEG) and brain stimulation.

Dedicated research units in the Department of Psychology include the Infant Lab, the Unit for School and Family Studies, InLab (for the study of individual differences in learning), and the Sensorimotor Development Lab, which offer the latest facilities for research and lab work.

You'll gain support from our in-house technical support staff to use a whole range of specialist equipment and software, including an extensive psychological test library.

Typical modules

YEAR
01

Compulsory modules:

The Psychology of the Person
Biological and Comparative Approaches to Psychology
Information Processing and Cognition
Design and Analysis of Psychological Investigations

Practical Issues in Psychological Research
Extended Essay in Psychology
Skills and Employability in Psychology

YEAR
02

Compulsory modules:

Biological Substrates of Behaviour
Personality and Individual Differences
Social Psychology

Developmental Psychology
Design and Analysis of Psychological Studies
Cognitive Psychology
Research Methods in Psychology

YEAR
03

BSc (Hons) Psychology:

Research project
Plus six free-choice options

BSc (Hons) Psychology with Forensic Psychology

Research project with a forensic psychology focus
Psychology and Law
Addictive Behaviours
Plus four free-choice options

BSc (Hons) Psychology with Clinical Psychology

Research project with a clinical focus
Psychopathology
Neurodevelopmental Disorders
Plus two clinically relevant options
Plus two free-choice options

BSc (Hons) Psychology with Management

Research project with a management focus
Organisational Behaviour and Health
Global Leadership and Talent Management
Workplace Counselling and Coaching
Plus three free-choice options

BSc (Hons) Psychology with Cognitive Neuroscience

Research project
Cognitive Neuroscience
Plus two neuroscience-related, and three free-choice, options

For the list of Year 3, free-choice modules, see page 10

BSc (Hons) Psychology

3 years full-time
gold.ac.uk/ug/bsc-psychology

Following on from your wide-ranging compulsory modules in the first and second year, your third year is a chance to develop your own interests by choosing from a range of specialist psychology options (see page 10).

You'll also carry out a research project on a subject of your choice with guidance and support from your supervisor.

BSc (Hons) Psychology with Clinical Psychology

3 years full-time
gold.ac.uk/ug/bsc-clinical-psychology

At each level of this specialist programme, you'll have the opportunity to learn about the clinical applications of psychological research. You'll develop your own particular interests by choosing from a wide range of specialist modules, and will carry out a research project on a clinically relevant topic of your choice with guidance and support from a supervisor.

In your third year you'll specialise, taking two compulsory clinical modules. In your Psychopathology module you'll examine major forms of psychopathology including depression, anxiety disorders, schizophrenia, personality disorder and eating disorders, addressing diagnostic issues and the development of current theoretical explanations. In your Neurodevelopmental Disorders module you'll explore issues relating to the diagnosis, ethics and research methods that relate to autism, dyslexia, specific language impairment, ADHD and Williams syndrome, for example.

You'll also choose two clinically relevant option modules, and two module options from the range of psychology options available (see page 10). Your individual research project will have a clinical focus.

You'll explore the possibilities and limitations of brain measurements and related experimental designs. You'll also have hands-on lab sessions in the electroencephalography (EEG) lab and brain stimulation lab. Also in your third year, you'll complete your individual project, and choose five free-choice options (see page 10).

BSc (Hons) Psychology with Forensic Psychology

3 years full-time
gold.ac.uk/ug/bsc-psychology-forensic-psychology

In your third year, you'll complete your research project under the guidance of a member of staff in the Department of Psychology whose research interests and expertise are in forensic psychology. You'll learn about all aspects of research in this area. The department's current research strengths include eyewitness identification, investigative interviewing, CCTV face recognition, and assessment and treatment of offenders.

You'll also take two compulsory forensic psychology modules in your third year. In Psychology and Law you consider current issues such as interviewing suspects, false confessions, detection of deception, interviewing witnesses, eyewitness identification, false memories, interviewing children, offender profiling, CCTV, and jury decision-making.

In Addictive Behaviours, you'll explore the psychological and neurobiological theories of addiction. You'll consider and

BSc (Hons) Psychology with Cognitive Neuroscience

3 years full-time
gold.ac.uk/ug/bsc-psychology-cognitive-neuroscience

Throughout this programme you will explore the neuroscientific aspects of behaviour by working with the neuroscience experts in the department. You will have the opportunity to get involved in research in the neuroscience labs, and learn about how studying the brain can help answer questions about cognitive functions, including attention, cognitive control, action and social perception.



evaluate the extent to which behaviours commonly described as ‘addictive’ (for example dependence on drugs and alcohol, or gambling and shopping) are motivated by similar outcomes and reflect similar processes. You’ll also look at the efficacy of different treatment approaches.

You’ll also choose a further four options.

BSc (Hons) Psychology with Management

3 years full-time

gold.ac.uk/ug/bsc-psychology-management

In this degree, you’ll deal with the broad themes of cognition, individual differences, biological and evolutionary issues, social functioning, and development across the lifespan.

You’ll develop your understanding of psychology’s everyday applications, such as studies of people at work and the rationale for and use of psychological tests.

You’ll have the opportunity to develop your own particular interests by choosing from a wide range of specialist modules, and will carry out a research project on a management-related topic of your choice with guidance and support from a supervisor. This allows you to apply the many skills you have learned throughout the programme to define and address new questions.



Integrated Degree in Psychology (including Foundation Year)

1 year (Foundation) + 3 years
(undergraduate degree)

gold.ac.uk/ug/integrated-degree-psychology

This degree is ideal if you are thinking of re-entering education after some time away from formal study.

You’ll combine your lively interest in the world of psychology with the skills

and confidence to progress to the BSc Psychology degree following successful completion of the foundation year.

In this foundation year you’ll take four modules that introduce you to psychology and set you up with the study skills you’ll need to succeed:

- Social and Developmental Psychology
- Psychology and Life
- Psychobiology and Cognitive Psychology
- Research Methods and Experimental Design

You’ll have a dedicated personal mentor to whom you can turn to for academic, administrative and personal advice.



Psychopathology
Multivariate Statistical
Methods in Psychology
Applications of
Attention Research
Topics in Neuropsychology
Psychology and Law
Psychology of the Arts,
Aesthetics and Attraction
Neurodevelopmental
Disorders
Behavioural Genetics
Addictive Behaviours
Magic and the Mind
Psychological Approaches
to Music
Psychology and Education
Social-Moral Development
Cognitive Neuroscience
Social Psychology
of Social Problems
The Interpersonal Self
Anomalistic Psychology

Psychology of the Arts, Aesthetics and Attraction

In this module you'll explore the psychology of art appreciation, beauty and human preference, both from a basic science and an applied psychology perspective. You'll cover a wide range of topics including aesthetic perception across the senses, such as visual and auditory aesthetics, as well as attractiveness of human faces and bodies.

Magic and the Mind

Magicians have developed powerful methods of manipulating our conscious experience. You'll examine a range of these techniques and relate them to psychological phenomena, such as misdirection of attention and awareness, illusions, hypnosis, magical thinking, memory illusions and other confabulations.

Anomalistic Psychology

You'll consider the relationship between psychology and parapsychology, and the distinction between science and pseudoscience. You'll critically evaluate the various claims that would, if valid, have profound implications for mainstream psychology. These include claims derived from astrology, psychoanalysis, and alternative therapies. You'll question the various psychological processes that underlie belief in such claims and evaluate non-paranormal accounts of ostensibly paranormal experiences, for example precognitive dreams, UFO sightings, and out-of-body experiences.

YOUR FUTURE



You'll graduate with more than a British Psychological Society accredited degree. You'll come away with skills you can apply across all sectors, such as public speaking, developing and presenting an argument, report writing, analytical thinking, communication, and thinking outside the box.

Our dedicated Skills and Employability Programme, starting in the first term, will show you what kind of skills you will develop during your degree, and your personal mentor will help you to think about getting the best start to your career.

We'll also support you to seek relevant work experience, through our strong links with employers.

Goldsmiths psychology graduates can choose from a wide range of career options, including:

Clinical psychologist

You'll help to reduce psychological distress and to enhance and promote psychological wellbeing.

Educational psychologist

You'll work with young people who are having problems in an educational setting.

Forensic psychologist

You'll often work in prisons with offenders.

Occupational psychologist

You'll work with organisations to improve employee performance.

Advertising and marketing

Your understanding of human behaviour will be fundamental in these sectors. You might work in a research role or in jobs such as account planner.

Counselling and advice

Many psychology students wish to help people - this could be through counselling and advice work, careers guidance, or social work.

Human resources

Your skills as a psychologist can be used in recruitment, psychometric assessment and staff development.



Career journey

Stephanie (BSc Psychology, 2011), research worker

"I'm a research worker at the Institute of Psychiatry. I work on the TEDS twin study in London that has followed a cohort of about 1,200 sets of twins since birth. The twins have turned 18 now, and the study is looking at how stress can lead to poor physical and mental outcomes in later life.

I travel around the UK and collect data from the twins. This includes full blood samples, blood spots, DNA, anthropometric measures, interviews and cognitive tests to measure things like memory. I'm also studying part-time for an MSc.

My time at Goldsmiths helped shape me as a person, decide which career I wanted, and which steps I would need to get there. The lecturers had a wide range of experience and it was great to hear about current research.

Goldsmiths allowed me to explore a range of topics within psychology, and for the first time I knew what I wanted to do in the future."

Watch Goldsmiths graduates talk about how their experiences at university have given them a real advantage in their career: vimeo.com/channels/career



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FIND OUT MORE

Find out more about the department and degrees at: gold.ac.uk/psychology

Watch our departmental film at: vimeo.com/goldsmiths/psychology

Get in touch with our Enquiries team:
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The information in this booklet reflects the 2017-18 programme specifications and was correct at the time of print in June 2017. It is intended as a guide only and the information here is not intended to be binding. You can download the most up-to-date programme specifications from our degree pages by visiting gold.ac.uk/course-finder

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