

## Programme Specification: Undergraduate

### For students starting in Academic Year 2017/2018

#### 1. Course Summary

<b>Names of programme(s) and award title(s)</b>	BSc (Hons) Psychology BSc (Hons) Psychology with International Year (see Annex A for details) BSc (Hons) Psychology with Placement Year (see Annex B for details)
<b>Award type</b>	Single Honours
<b>Mode of study</b>	Full time
<b>Framework of Higher Education Qualification (FHEQ) level of final award</b>	Level 6
<b>Duration</b>	3 years 4 years with International Year or Placement Year
<b>Location of study</b>	Keele University – main campus
<b>Accreditation (if applicable)</b>	This programme is accredited by the British Psychological Society (BPS) as providing the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership [GBC]. This is the first step towards becoming a Chartered Psychologist. For further details see section 12.
<b>Regulator</b>	Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE)
<b>Tuition Fees</b>	<b>UK/EU students:</b> Fee for 2017/18 is £9,250*  <b>International students:</b> Fee for 2017/18 is £15,250**  The fee for the international year abroad is calculated at 15% of the standard year fee  The fee for the placement year is calculated at 20% of the standard year fee
<b>Additional Costs</b>	Refer to section 18

**How this information might change:** Please read the important information at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>. This explains how and why we may need to make changes to the information provided in this document and to help you understand how we will communicate with you if this happens.

\* These fees are regulated by Government. We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study in response to changes in government policy and/or changes to the law. If permitted by such change in policy or law, we may increase your fees by an inflationary amount or such other measure as required by government policy or the law. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions. Further information on fees can be found at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/>

\*\* We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study by an inflationary amount. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions for full details. Further information on fees can be found at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/>

## **2. What is a Single Honours programme?**

The Single Honours programme described in this document allows you to focus more or less exclusively on Psychology. In keeping with Keele's commitment to breadth in the curriculum, the programme also gives you the opportunity to take some modules outside Psychology, in other disciplines and in modern foreign languages as part of a 360-credit Honours degree. Thus it enables you to gain, and be able to demonstrate, a distinctive range of graduate attributes.

## **3. Overview of the Programme**

Psychology is a large and varied discipline concerned with the systematic study of mind, brain and behaviour. Researchers in Psychology utilise a wide range of techniques in order to understand how people think, feel, communicate, and act. The Psychology Programme at Keele covers topics such as the biological bases of behaviour, cognition, individual differences, human social interaction and lifespan development. It also provides students with training in the skills required to conduct quantitative and qualitative investigation in psychology. The Single Honours Psychology route provides undergraduate psychology training combining breadth and depth. The optional Placement Year further develops students by providing substantial experience of work with a relevant placement provider, including familiarisation with the professional working environment and the opportunity draw upon psychological principles, skills, theories or methods whilst in that role. The optional international year programme of study provides students with experience of a different culture, academically, professionally and socially. Please note that students may not register for both an International Year and a Placement Year.

## **4. Aims of the Programme**

The broad aims of the programme are to:

- develop systematic and scientific understanding of the core areas of psychology and to afford competence in subject-specific and graduate level intellectual skills that will meet the needs of students who wish to achieve accreditation by the British Psychological Society within the context of a Single Honours degree;
- facilitate the progressive development of critical thinking and independent learning in our students and to systematically apply these skills to specialist subject areas within the discipline of psychology and in devising and answering empirical research questions;
- develop a range of graduate attributes that transfer across different disciplines and provide a solid foundation for both further study after graduation and a range of careers.

## **5. What you will learn**

The intended learning outcomes of the programme (what students should know, understand and be able to do at the end of the programme), can be described under the following headings:

- Subject knowledge and understanding
- Subject specific skills
- Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

### **Subject knowledge and understanding**

Successful students will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

- the scientific basis for the discipline of psychology;
- the core areas of biological psychology, cognitive psychology, personality and individual differences, developmental psychology, social psychology and research methods;
- the inherent variability and diversity of psychological functioning;
- a range of influences on psychological functioning and a critical understanding of these influences along with their significance;

- several specialised areas of psychology in detail;
- application of psychological concepts to selected real-life problems;
- a range of research paradigms, methods and analyses;
- the ethical responsibilities of psychologists.

### **Subject specific skills**

Successful students will be able to demonstrate the following subject-specific skills:

- reason scientifically and critically about psychological theories, findings and research hypotheses;
- critically evaluate research literature in psychology and relate research issues to real life problems;
- detect meaningful patterns in behaviour and experience through the use of suitable research methods;
- pose, operationalise and critique psychological research questions;
- reason statistically and demonstrate competence using a range of statistical techniques;
- apply knowledge of ethical requirements to investigations;
- demonstrate an ability to use established techniques of analysis and enquiry accurately within psychology;
- communicate information to a specialist audience;
- produce a final year project that follows the conventions of scientific report writing used by psychologists.

### **Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)**

Successful students will be able to demonstrate the following key/transferable skills:

- abstract information from a variety of primary and secondary sources and synthesise this information into a coherent understanding of the topic and practice within that topic area;
- assess the merit of contrasting theories and opinions making critical interpretations of data and text;
- critique the uncertainty, ambiguity and limits of psychological knowledge;
- develop a sufficient level of conceptual understanding to enable the development of arguments and analysis that comment on advanced scholarship at the forefront of some areas of psychology ;
- apply their knowledge of a topic to identify a research question, initiate and carry out a project;
- effectively communicate ideas and research findings by written, oral and visual means;
- comprehend and use data effectively by interpreting complex sets of numerical, statistical and qualitative data;
- confidently demonstrate computer literacy by being able to word process, use email, the Internet, use databases and statistical software;
- solve problems by clarifying questions, considering alternatives and evaluating outcomes;
- work effectively within a group setting to achieve an end goal through pooled effort which involves recognizing and using appropriate material from others;
- undertake self-directed study and project management;
- take responsibility for their own learning by reflecting on their strengths and weaknesses, and identifying appropriate courses of action, in order to fulfil long-term ambitions.

The link to the module catalogue entry for psychology which gives a description of each module is <http://www.keele.ac.uk/psychology/forcurrentstudents/>

### **Keele Graduate attributes**

Engagement with this programme will enable you to develop your intellectual, personal and professional capabilities. At Keele, we call these our ten Graduate Attributes and they include independent thinking, synthesizing information, creative problem solving, communicating clearly, and appreciating the social, environmental and global implications of your studies and activities. Our educational programme and learning environment is designed to help you to become a well-rounded graduate who is capable of making a positive

and valued contribution in a complex and rapidly changing world, whichever spheres of life you engage in after your studies are completed.

Further information about the Keele Graduate Attributes can be found here: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/journey/>

## **6. How is the Programme taught?**

Learning and teaching methods used on the programme vary according to the subject matter and level of the module. They include the following:

- Traditional lectures where the lecturer provides students with a framework for reading and independent study. Some lecture classes may include video or audio presentations.
- Tutorials and seminars in small groups of around 15 students where key skills can be developed and issues central to the programme can be discussed in more depth. Students are expected to play a full part, and occasionally to lead, these discussions. Some seminars consist largely of student presentations.
- Laboratory classes and workshops involving larger classes in which students develop the basic practical skills necessary to conduct psychological research and explore ideas presented in lectures. In these sessions students will have the opportunity to work together in smaller groups, interact with the lecturer and reflect on their own learning.
- Independent study based on directed reading from textbooks, academic journals, and coursework materials.
- Web-based learning using the University's virtual learning environment (KLE). The KLE is used to give students easy access to a wide range of resources and research tools, and as a platform for online discussions, quizzes and blogs.
- For those on the Placement Year Programme, a placement opportunity between levels 5 and 6, enabling reflection on the applications of psychology in an employment context.
- In the final year students will have the opportunity to undertake a piece of independent research supervised and supported by a member of staff.

Apart from these formal activities, students are also provided with regular opportunities to talk through particular areas of difficulty, and any special learning needs they may have, with their module, seminar and tutorial group leaders on a one-to-one basis.

These learning and teaching methods enable students to achieve the learning outcomes of the programme in a variety of ways. For example:

- Lectures and independent study allows students to gain a systematic understanding of psychological ideas and how they may be used in the course of seminars and tutorials to analyse a variety of contemporary psychological issues.
- Tutorials and seminars provide opportunities for students to ask questions about and discuss issues in psychology and to present their own ideas to members of staff and other students using an appropriate medium of communication.
- Laboratory classes and workshops allow students to develop their knowledge of how ideas in psychology can be researched and to apply the skills they have learned in order investigate psychological questions in a systematic and rigorous manner.
- Independent study and web-based activities encourage students to reflect on their own learning and take responsibility for its development by addressing areas of difficulty, perhaps by discussing them with their fellow students or by getting additional help from a member of staff.
- Undertaking a research project with the support of an experienced and active researcher allows students to formulate relevant research questions and devise a feasible and ethically sound strategy for answering them.

## **7. Teaching Staff**

Our current core teaching staff comprises highly qualified staff with specialist qualifications in Psychology, plus Teaching Fellows. Most academic staff have doctorates (PhDs or the equivalent) in psychology and most hold (or are completing) qualifications in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. Several members of current staff are Fellows of the Higher Education Academy, three are Senior Fellows and one is a Principal Fellow. All academic staff are active researchers and many have had work widely published. More information about Psychology Staff Members is available on the School website [<http://www.keele.ac.uk/psychology/people/>].

The University will attempt to minimise changes to our core teaching teams, however, delivery of the programme depends on having a sufficient number of staff with the relevant expertise to ensure that the programme is taught to the appropriate academic standard.

Staff turnover, for example where key members of staff leave, fall ill or go on research leave, may result in changes to the programme’s content. The University will endeavour to ensure that any impact on students is limited if such changes occur.

## 8. What is the Structure of the Programme?

The academic year runs from September to June and is divided into two semesters. The number of weeks of teaching will vary from course to course, but you can generally expect to attend scheduled teaching sessions between the end of September and mid-December, and from mid-January to the end of April.

Our degree courses are organised into modules. Each module is usually a self-contained unit of study and each is usually assessed separately with the award of credits on the basis of 1 credit = 10 hours of student effort. An outline of the structure of the programme is provided in the tables below.

There are two types of module delivered as part of this programme. They are:

- Compulsory core module – a module that you are required to study on this course;
- Programme approved elective module – subject-related modules that count towards the number of subject credits required by your degree.

All standard taught modules are worth 15 credits except for the double Research Project module in Year 3, which is worth 30 credits.

**Single Honours Psychology students must take the compulsory modules shown in the table** (240 credits). Students also have the option of choosing to take further (15 credit) Programme Approved Elective modules offered by the School of Psychology *shown in italics* or choosing from a range of elective modules offered by other schools.

Note 1: Students must accumulate 120 credits in each year of study. Where the full 120 credits cannot be accrued from Psychology modules, students must ‘top-up’ their credits by selecting an elective from a different programme.

Level 4 [Year 1]			
Semester	COMPULSORY MODULES		Credits
1	PSY-10033	Introduction to Developmental and Social Psychology	15
1	PSY-10036	Introduction to Research Design	15
1	PSY-10020	Natural, unnatural, supernatural: the psychology of unusual phenomena	15
2	PSY-10034	Introduction to Biological & Cognitive Psychology	15
2	PSY-10031	Introduction to Statistics for Psychology	15
2	PSY-10019	Introduction to Applied Psychology	15

	<b>PROGRAMME APPROVED ELECTIVES: students select a maximum of two modules from currently available psychology modules (below) and / or the University list of modules offered by other schools: See: <a href="http://www.keele.ac.uk/electives/">http://www.keele.ac.uk/electives/</a></b>		
1	PSY-10021	<i>Understanding self and others better: an introduction to counselling theories</i>	15
2	PSY-10026	<i>Distress and Mental Health</i>	15
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>120</b>
<b>Level 5 [Year 2]</b>			
<b>Semester</b>	<b>COMPULSORY MODULES</b>		<b>Credits</b>
1	PSY-20012	Developmental & Social Psychology	15
1	PSY-20043	Qualitative and Survey Research Design	15
2	PSY-20045	Biological and Cognitive Psychology	15
2	PSY-20044	Statistics for Psychology	15
2	PSY-20023	Cognitive Neuroscience	15
2	PSY-20034	Social Psychology in the Modern World	15
	<b>PROGRAMME APPROVED MODULES: in semester 1 students may select a maximum of two modules from currently available psychology modules (below) and / or the University list of modules offered by other schools: See: <a href="http://www.keele.ac.uk/electives/">http://www.keele.ac.uk/electives/</a></b>		
1	PSY-20038	<i>Cognitive Development</i>	15
1	PSY-20033	<i>Psychopathology</i>	15
1	PSY-20027	<i>The Psychology of Advertising</i>	15
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>120</b>
<b>Level 5 [International Year – Psychology with International Year Only]</b>			
<b>Semester</b>	<b>Compulsory modules</b>		<b>Credits</b>
1+2	PSY-20039	<i>International Year</i>	120
<b>Level 6 [Placement Year – Psychology with Placement Year Only]</b>			
<b>Semester</b>	<b>COMPULSORY MODULES</b>		<b>Credits</b>
1+2	PSY-30131	<i>Psychology with Placement Year</i>	0
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Level 6 [Year 3]</b>			
<b>Semester</b>	<b>COMPULSORY MODULES</b>		<b>Credits</b>
1+2	PSY-30061	Psychology Project	30
1	PSY-30099	Key Readings in Cognitive Psychology	15
2	PSY-30067	Individual Differences and Conceptual and Historical Issues in Psychology	15
2	PSY-30125	Culture and Psychology	15
	<b>PROGRAMME APPROVED ELECTIVES (below) – students select a maximum of two modules in semester 1 and one module in semester 2</b>		
1	PSY-30127	<i>Psychology in Education</i>	15
1	PSY-30134	<i>Making a Difference with Psychology</i>	15

1	PSY-30126	<i>The Psychology of Deviance</i>	15
1	PSY-30124	<i>Groups, Crowds and Conflict</i>	15
1	PSY-30123	<i>Faces, Forgetting and Forensic Psychology</i>	15
1	PSY-30077	<i>Health Psychology</i>	15
2	PSY-30104	<i>Current Perspectives on Autism</i>	15
2	PSY-30114	<i>Everyday Memory &amp; Amnesia</i>	15
2	PSY-30096	<i>Happiness and Wellbeing</i>	15
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>120</b>

Note 1. At Level 6 the choice of Semester 1 elective modules may be limited by timetabling as certain modules will run at the same time.

Note 2. Students who take semester-long Study Abroad in Year 2 can take PSY-30122 ‘*Research Methods in Social and Developmental Psychology for Third Year Study Abroad Students*’ in Year 3 as a Psychology Elective module if required in order to fulfil BPS accreditation requirements.

For further information on the content of modules currently offered please visit:

[www.keele.ac.uk/recordsandexams/az](http://www.keele.ac.uk/recordsandexams/az)

## Learning Outcomes

### Psychology Learning Outcomes

The table below sets out what students learn in each year of the Psychology Programme, the modules in which that learning takes place, and the main ways in which students are assessed in their learning.

<b>Subject Knowledge and Understanding</b>		
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Module in which this is delivered</b>	<b>Principal forms of assessment (of the Level Outcome) used</b>
<i>Successful students will be able to demonstrate knowledge &amp; understanding of:</i>		
the scientific basis for the discipline of psychology;	All modules	All assessments
the core areas of biological psychology, cognitive psychology, personality and individual differences, developmental psychology, social psychology and research methods;	All compulsory modules offered at levels 4, 5 and 6	All assessments
the inherent variability and diversity of psychological functioning;	All compulsory modules, particularly Individuals in Society, Individual Differences and Conceptual Issues, research methods modules, individual research projects at level 6	Multiple choice class test, Seen and unseen examinations, Open book exam, Group online Blog, On-line presentations, Essay, Fortnightly tests, Individual and Group laboratory reports, Poster presentation, Final year project report, Research paper in style of

		journal article
a range of influences on psychological functioning and a critical understanding of these influences along with their significance;	All modules, particularly Cognitive Neuroscience, Psychopathology, Health Psychology, Culture and Psychology and individual research projects at level 6	Multiple choice class test, Seen and unseen examinations, Open book exam, Essay, Individual and group laboratory reports, Poster presentation, , Research paper in style of journal article, Seminar presentation, Research project
several specialised areas of psychology in detail;	Elective topics taught at levels 5 & 6, individual research projects at level 6	Seminar presentation, Essay, Critique commentary, Poster presentation, Research project
application of psychological concepts to selected real-life problems;	Individual Differences and Conceptual Issues. Elective modules, particularly, <i>Happiness and Wellbeing</i> , <i>Health Psychology</i> , <i>Current Perspectives on Autism</i> , <i>Everyday Memory and Amnesia</i> , individual research projects at level 6	Reflective blog, Seminar presentation, Essay, Unseen exam, Critique commentary, Poster presentation, Research project
a range of research paradigms, methods and analyses;	Research methods modules at levels 4 and 5, level 6 project, Individual Differences and Conceptual Issues, and particular elective topics such as <i>Current Perspectives on ASD</i>	Individual and Group laboratory reports, Seen, unseen and open book examination, Research participation, Fortnightly tests, Multiple choice examination, Group and Individual research report, Poster presentation, Final year project report, literature review
the ethical responsibilities of psychologists.	Research methods modules at levels 4 and 5, level 6 research project	Individual and group lab reports, Fortnightly tests, Research ethics checklist, Poster presentation, final year project report

<b>Subject Specific Skills</b>		
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Module in which this is delivered</b>	<b>Principal forms of assessment (of the Level Outcome) used</b>
<i>Successful students will be able to:</i>		
reason scientifically and critically about psychological theories, findings and research hypotheses;	All modules	All assessments
critically evaluate research literature in psychology and relate research issues to real life problems;	All compulsory modules offered at levels 5 and 6. Elective modules at level 6.	Individual and Group laboratory reports, seen and unseen examinations, Essays, Research proposal, Critique commentary, Research paper in style of journal article, Project.
detect meaningful patterns in behaviour and experience through the use of suitable research	Research methods modules at levels 4 and 5, level 6 project, and particular elective topics such as <i>Current Perspectives on ASD</i> and	Individual and Group laboratory reports, Seen, unseen and open book examination, Research participation, Fortnightly tests,

methods;	<i>Health Psychology</i>	Multiple choice examination, Group and Individual research report, Poster presentation, Final year project report, literature review
pose, operationalise and critique psychological research questions;	Research methods modules at levels 4 and 5, level 6 project, and particular elective topics such as <i>Current Perspectives on ASD</i> and <i>Health Psychology</i>	Individual and Group laboratory reports, Seen, unseen and open book examination, Fortnightly tests, Research participation, Multiple choice examination, Group and Individual research report, Poster presentation, Final year project report, Journal article critique
reason statistically and demonstrate competence using a range of statistical techniques;	Research methods modules at levels 4 and 5, level 6 project	Individual and Group laboratory reports, Open book examination, Research participation, Fortnightly tests, Multiple choice examination, Group and Individual research report, Poster presentation, final year project report
apply knowledge of ethical requirements to investigations;	Research methods modules at levels 4 and 5, level 6 research project	Individual and group lab reports, Fortnightly tests, Research ethics checklist, Poster presentation, final year project report
demonstrate an ability to use established techniques of analysis and enquiry accurately within psychology;	Research methods modules at levels 4 and 5, level 6 research project	Individual and group lab reports, Fortnightly tests, Research ethics checklist, Poster presentation, final year project report
communicate information to a specialist audience;	All modules	All assessments
produce a final year project that follows the conventions of scientific report writing used by psychologists.	Project module	Project

<b>Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)</b>		
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Module in which this is delivered</b>	<b>Principal forms of assessment (of the Level Outcome) used</b>
<i>Successful students will have the opportunity to develop:</i>		
abstract information from a variety of primary and secondary sources and synthesise this information into a coherent understanding of the topic and practice within that topic area;	All modules	All assessments
assess the merit of contrasting theories and opinions making critical interpretations of data and	All modules, particularly level 5 & 6 modules	All assessments

text;		
critique the uncertainty, ambiguity and limits of psychological knowledge;	All modules, particularly level 5 & 6 modules	All assessments
develop a sufficient level of conceptual understanding to enable the development of arguments and analysis that comment on advanced scholarship at the forefront of some areas of psychology ;	All modules, particularly level 6 modules	All assessments
apply their knowledge of a topic to identify a research question, initiate and carry out a project;	Research methods modules at levels 4 and 5, level 6 project	Individual and Group laboratory reports, Open book examination, Research participation, Multiple choice examination, Group and Individual research report, Presentation, Research proposal,
effectively communicate ideas and research findings by written, oral and visual means;	All modules	All assessments
comprehend and use data effectively by interpreting complex sets of numerical, statistical and qualitative data;	Research methods modules at levels 4 and 5, level 6 project	Individual and Group laboratory reports, Open book examination, Research participation, Fortnightly tests, Multiple choice examination, Group and Individual research report, Poster presentation, final year project report
confidently demonstrate computer literacy by being able to word process, use email, the internet, use databases and statistical software;	All modules	All assessments
solve problems by clarifying questions, considering alternatives and evaluating outcomes;	Research methods modules at levels 4 and 5, level 6 project. Individual Differences and Conceptual Issues	Individual and Group laboratory reports, Open book examination, Research participation, Fortnightly tests, Multiple choice examination, Group and Individual research report, Seen examination, Poster presentation, final year project report
work effectively within a group setting to achieve an end goal through pooled effort which involves recognizing and using appropriate material from others;	Level 4 modules Introduction to Developmental and Social Psychology, Introduction to Biological and Cognitive Psychology. Research methods modules at levels 4 and 5	Seminar Presentations. Group laboratory reports, Group research report,
undertake self-directed study and project management;	All modules, particularly research methods modules at levels 4 and 5, level 6 project, research apprenticeships	Individual and Group laboratory reports, Open book examination, Research participation, Fortnightly tests, Multiple choice examination,

		Group and Individual research report, Poster presentation, final year project report
take responsibility for their own learning by reflecting on their strengths and weaknesses, and identifying appropriate courses of action, in order to fulfil long-term ambitions.	All modules	All assessments
apply psychology in an employment setting, and demonstrate a range of employability skills	Psychology Placement	Reflective writing, presentation and supervisor report

## 9. Final and intermediate awards

Credits required for each level of academic award are as follows:

<b>Honours Degree</b>	360 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at levels 4, 5 and 6  You must accumulate at least 255 credits in Psychology (out of 360 credits overall), with at least 60 credits in each of the three years of study, to graduate with a named single honours degree in Psychology.
<b>Diploma in Higher Education</b>	240 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher and at least 120 credits at level 5 or higher
<b>Certificate in Higher Education</b>	120 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher

**Psychology with International Year:** in addition to the above students must pass a module covering the international year in order to graduate with a named degree in Psychology with International Year. Students who do not complete, or fail the international year, will be transferred to the three-year Psychology programme.

**Psychology with Placement Year:** in addition to the above students must pass a non-credit bearing module covering the placement year in order to graduate with a named degree in Psychology with placement year. Students who do not complete, or fail the international year, will be transferred to the three-year Psychology programme.

Note 1: Psychology students who study abroad for one semester cannot be guaranteed accreditation for GBC. Study Abroad students who are interested in maximising the likelihood of receiving GBC status must discuss the implications of studying abroad in advance with the School of Psychology 'Study Abroad tutor'. The British Psychological Society (BPS) makes accreditation decisions on such students on a case-by-case basis after students have graduated.

Note 2: The BPS requires that students undertake (and pass) an empirical study in order to qualify for GBC. This requirement is fulfilled by successfully achieving a 2:2 or better and passing the PSY-30061 Research Project module.

## 10. How is the Programme assessed?

The wide variety of assessment methods used within Psychology at Keele reflects the broad range of knowledge and skills that are developed as you progress through the degree programme. Teaching staff pay particular attention to specifying clear assessment criteria and providing timely, regular and constructive feedback that

helps to clarify things you did not understand and helps you to improve your performance. The following list is representative of the variety of assessment methods used within Psychology:

- **Unseen, seen and open book examinations** in different formats test students' knowledge of psychological theories and research, research methods and statistics. Examinations may consist of essay-based or multiple choice questions.
- **Essays and Lab Reports** test the quality and application of subject knowledge. In addition they allow students to demonstrate their ability to carry out basic independent research and to communicate their ideas effectively in writing in an appropriate scholarly style using the APA system of referencing.
- **Class tests** taken either conventionally or online via the Keele Learning Environment (KLE) assess students' subject knowledge and their ability to apply it in a more structured and focused way.
- **Research projects and reports** test student's knowledge of different research methodologies and the limits and provisional nature of psychological knowledge. They also enable students to demonstrate their ability to formulate research questions and to answer them using appropriate methods.
- **Oral and poster presentations and reports** assess individual students' subject knowledge and understanding. They also test their ability to work effectively as members of a team, to communicate what they know orally and visually, and to reflect on these processes as part of their own personal development.
- **Critiques and Reviews** of other scholars' work test students' ability to identify and summarise the key points of a text and to evaluate the quality of arguments and the evidence used to support them. In the case of work based on empirical research, reviews also assess students' knowledge of research methodologies and their ability to make critical judgements about the appropriateness of different strategies for collecting and analysing data.

Marks are awarded for summative assessments designed to assess students' achievement of learning outcomes. Students are also assessed formatively to enable them to monitor their own progress and to assist staff in identifying and addressing any specific learning needs. Feedback, including guidance on how students can improve the quality of their work, is also provided on all summative assessments within three working weeks of submission, unless there are compelling circumstances that make this impossible, and more informally in the course of tutorial and seminar discussions.

## 11. Contact Time and Expected Workload

This contact time measure is intended to provide you with an indication of the type of activity you are likely to undertake during this programme. The data is compiled based on module choices and learning patterns of students on similar programmes in previous years. Every effort is made to ensure this data is a realistic representation of what you are likely to experience, but changes to programmes, teaching methods and assessment methods mean this data is representative and not specific.

Undergraduate courses at Keele contain an element of module choice; therefore, individual students will experience a different mix of contact time and assessment types dependent upon their own individual choice of modules. The figures below are an example of activities that a student may expect on your chosen course by year/stage of study. Contact time includes scheduled activities such as: lecture, seminar, tutorial, project supervision, demonstration, practical classes and labs, supervised time in labs/workshop, fieldwork and external visits. The figures are based on 1,200 hours of student effort each year for full-time students.

Activity	Year 1 (Level 4)	Year 2 (Level 5)	Placement Year (Psychology with Placement Year only)	Year 3 (Level 6)
Scheduled learning and teaching activities	21%	20%	0%	13%
Guided independent	79%	80%	0%	87%

Study				
Placements	0%	0%	100%	0%

## 12. Accreditation

This programme is accredited by the British Psychological Society (BPS) as providing the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership [GBC]. This is the first step towards becoming a Chartered Psychologist.

Please note the following:

- **Module Selection:** It is a requirement of the BPS that the Final Year compulsory module PSY-30061 (Psychology Project) is passed and that students achieve a minimum standard of Second Class Honours for GBC.
- **Semester-long study abroad:** Because studying abroad has potential implications for BPS accreditation students wishing to Study Abroad must discuss this in advance with the School of Psychology 'Study Abroad tutor' to identify that the modules studied at the partner institution cover material equivalent to that which would have been studied at Keele during their period of Study Abroad. Semester-long Study Abroad can only take place in semester one.

Psychology students who study abroad for one semester cannot be guaranteed accreditation for GBC, as the BPS make accreditation decisions for such students on a case-by-case basis after students have graduated.

## 13. Regulations

The University Regulations form the framework for learning, teaching and assessment and other aspects of the student experience. Further information about the University Regulations can be found at: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>

A student who has completed a semester abroad will not normally be eligible to transfer onto the International Year option.

Please note that students can complete either the International Year or the Placement Year but not both.

## 14. What are the typical admission requirements for the programme?

Subject	A-level	Subjects not included	International Baccalaureate	BTEC	Access to Higher Education Diploma	GCSE requirements
Psychology (Single Honours)	ABC / BBB	General Studies and Critical Thinking	32 points	DDM	Obtain Access to Higher Education Diploma with 30 Level 3 credits at Distinction	Maths @ C (or 4) English Language @ C (or 4)

Applicants who are not currently undertaking any formal study or who have been out of formal education for more than 3 years and are not qualified to A-level or BTEC standard may be offered entry to the University's Foundation Year Programme.

Applicants for whom English is not a first language must provide evidence of a recognised qualification in English language. The minimum score for entry to the Programme is Academic IELTS 6.0 or equivalent.

Please note: All non-native English speaking students are required to undertake a diagnostic English language assessment on arrival at Keele, to determine whether English language support may help them succeed with their studies. An English language module may be compulsory for some students during their first year at Keele.

Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL) is considered on a case-by-case basis and those interested should contact the Programme Director. The University's guidelines on this can be found here:

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/accreditationofpriorlearning/>

## **15. How are students supported on the programme?**

Support for student learning on the programme is provided in the following ways:

- Module and seminar group leaders are responsible for providing support for learning on the modules and in the seminar groups for which they are responsible. They also give individual and general feedback on in-course assessments.
- Every student is allocated to a personal tutor who usually retains this role throughout their tutees' time at university. The tutor is responsible for reviewing and advising on students' academic progress. Students have regular meetings with their personal tutor during their first year and are invited for individual progression reviews in their second and third years of study.
- Personal tutors also act as a first point of contact for students on non-academic issues which may affect their learning and can refer students on to a range of specialist health, welfare and financial services co-ordinated by the University's Student Services Centre.

All members of teaching staff on the Psychology Programme are available to see students during advertised weekly office hours and at other times by appointment.

## **16. Learning Resources**

Almost all of the teaching in Psychology is carried out in the same building, which contains three lecture rooms, two teaching laboratories and a number of seminar rooms. These rooms may be arranged either in traditional lecture format or more informally to allow students to work together in small groups. All of the rooms are equipped with computers, internet access and electronic whiteboards or projection equipment. There is a psychology 'Learning Resources' room with computers and internet access which is available to undergraduate and postgraduate students for independent study and also a number of student project rooms that are available to be used by undergraduate students to carry out project work.

Other learning resources available to students on the programme include:

- Teaching Fellows who run learning support workshops (e.g. essay-writing, statistics support, revision sessions) outside of the planned curriculum. The Teaching Fellows are also available by appointment to provide students with one-to-one support.
- Year-tutors who are assigned to each year-group to provide support and advice on general issues relevant to that year of study. These tutors are available for consultation should difficulties arise with attendance or late submission of work.

## **17. Other learning opportunities**

### **Study abroad (semester)**

Students on the Psychology Programme have the potential opportunity to spend a semester abroad in their second year studying at one of Keele's international partner universities. This option is only possible in semester one.

Exactly which countries are available depends on the student's choice of degree subjects. An indicative list of countries is on the website (<http://www.keele.ac.uk/studyabroad/partneruniversities/>); however this does not guarantee the availability of study in a specific country as this is subject to the University's application process for studying abroad.

Because studying abroad has potential implications for BPS accreditation of the Psychology degree students wishing to Study Abroad must discuss this in advance with the School of Psychology 'Study Abroad tutor'.

No additional tuition fees are payable for semester-long study abroad but students do have to bear the costs of travelling to and from their destination university, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the destination they are studying at additional costs may include visas, study permits, residence permits, and compulsory health checks. Students should expect the total costs of studying abroad to be greater than if they study in the UK, information is made available from the Global Education Team throughout the process, as costs will vary depending on destination

Whilst students are studying abroad any Student Finance eligibility will continue, where applicable students may be eligible for specific travel or disability grants. Students studying in Erasmus+ destinations may be eligible for grants as part of this programme. Students studying outside of this programme may be eligible for income dependent bursaries at Keele.

Students travel on a comprehensive Keele University insurance plan, for which there are currently no additional charges. Some governments and/or universities require additional compulsory health coverage plans; costs for this will be advised during the application process.

### **Study Abroad (International Year)**

A summary of the International Year, which is a potential option for students after completion of year 2 (Level 5), is provided at Annex A.

### **Placement**

A summary of the Placement Year, which is a potential option for students after completion of year 2 (Level 5), is provided at Annex B.

### **Other opportunities**

During their time at Keele, students also have the opportunity to hear from, and talk to, a range of guest speakers who are invited by the School to present the findings from up-to-date research they are currently carrying out in their own area of psychology.

## **18. Additional costs**

Additional costs may be incurred where a student elects to take a module requiring off-campus travel. An example includes Psychology and Community Action (PSY-20022). It may also be possible for a student to design a final year project (PSY-30061) that requires off-campus travel, and occasionally final year projects incur additional expenses for students in other forms.

As to be expected there will be additional costs for inter-library loans and potential overdue library fines, print and graduation.

These costs have been forecast by the University as accurately as possible but may be subject to change as a result of factors outside of our control (for example, increase in costs for external services). Forecast costs are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure they remain representative. Where additional costs are in direct control of the University we will ensure increases do not exceed 5%.

We do not anticipate any further costs for this undergraduate programme.

## **19. Quality management and enhancement**

The Undergraduate Psychology Programme Director is responsible for the overall direction of learning and teaching on Single, Dual, Major, and Minor Honours awards in Psychology, with the programmes supported by the BSc Psychology Course Committee. The Course Committee consists of student representatives plus all members of staff teaching on undergraduate programmes in psychology.

The quality and standards of learning in Psychology are subject to a continuous process of monitoring, review and enhancement.

- The Learning and Teaching Committee of the School of Psychology is responsible for reviewing and monitoring quality management and enhancement procedures and activities across the School.
- Individual modules and the Psychology Programme as a whole are reviewed and enhanced every year in the annual programme review which takes place at the end of the academic year and as part of the University's Curriculum Annual Review and Development (CARD) process.
- The programme is run in accordance with the University's Quality Assurance procedures and is subject to periodic reviews under the Internal Quality Audit (IQA) process.

The programme is also subject to regular review by the British Psychological Society.

Student evaluation of, and feedback on, the quality of learning on every Psychology module takes place every year using a variety of different methods:

- The results of student evaluations of all modules are reported to module leaders and reviewed by the Programme Committee as part of the Curriculum Annual Review and Development (CARD) process referred to earlier.
- Findings related to the Psychology Programmes from the annual National Student Survey (NSS), and from regular surveys of the student experience conducted by the University, are subjected to careful analysis and a planned response at programme and School level.
- Feedback received from representatives of students in all three years of the Psychology Programme is considered and acted on at regular meetings of the Programmes Staff/Student Liaison Committee.

The University appoints senior members of academic staff from other universities to act as external examiners on all programmes. They are responsible for:

- Approving examination questions
- Confirming all marks which contribute to a student's degree
- Reviewing and giving advice on the structure and content of the Programme and assessment procedures

Information about current external examiner(s) can be found here:

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/externalexaminers/currentexternalexaminers/>

## 20. The principles of programme design

The Psychology Programmes described in this document have been drawn up with reference to, and in accordance with the guidance set out in, the following documents:

- a. UK Quality Code for Higher Education, Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education:  
<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/assuring-standards-and-quality/the-quality-code>
- b. BPS 2016: Standards for the accreditation of undergraduate, conversion and integrated Masters programmes in psychology October 2016:  
[http://www.bps.org.uk/system/files/Public%20files/PaCT/Undergraduate%20Accreditation%202016\\_WEB.pdf](http://www.bps.org.uk/system/files/Public%20files/PaCT/Undergraduate%20Accreditation%202016_WEB.pdf)
- c. QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: Psychology, QAA, 2010:  
<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/Pages/Subject-benchmark-statement-Psychology.aspx>
- d. Keele University Regulations and Guidance for Students and Staff: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations>
- e. Keele University Placement Learning Code of Practice:  
<https://www.keele.ac.uk/policyzone/viewbyowner/planningandacademicadministration/name,117421,en.php>

## 21. Document Version History

Version history	Date	Notes
Date first created	October 2016	
Revision history	V2.0: 05/2017  V3.0: 11/2017	<p>Updates to Level 4 (Year 1) core modules including new module titles and changes to content to ensure breadth of progression, in line with BPS criteria.</p> <p>Also, Placement Year option added. [Major change: reissued]</p> <p>Updates to Level 5 (Year 2) core modules following a curriculum review, which has necessitated a change to some of the module titles. [Major change: students consulted]</p>
Date approved	3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2017	

## Annex A

### BSc (Hons) Psychology with International Year

#### International Year Programme

Students registered for Single Honours Psychology may either be admitted for or apply to transfer during their period of study at Level 5 to the Single Honours 'Psychology with International Year'. Students accepted onto this programme will have an extra year of study (the International Year) at an international partner institution after they have completed Year 2 (Level 5) at Keele.

Students who successfully complete both the second year (Level 5) and the International Year will be permitted to progress to Level 6. Students who fail to satisfy the examiners in respect of the International Year will normally revert to the BSc (Hons) Psychology and progress to Level 6 on that basis. The failure will be recorded on the student's final transcript.

Study at Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6 will be as per the main body of this programme specification. The additional detail contained in this annex will pertain solely to students registered for BSc (Hons) Psychology with International Year'.

#### International Year Programme Aims

In addition to the programme aims specified in the main body of the programme specification, the international year programme of study aims to provide students with:

1. Personal development as a student and a researcher with an appreciation of the international dimension of their subject
2. Experience of a different culture, academically, professionally and socially

#### Entry Requirements for the International Year

Students may apply to the 4-year programme during Level 5. Admission to the International Year is subject to successful application, interview and references from appropriate staff.

The criteria to be applied are:

- Academic Performance (an average of 60% across all modules at Level 5 is normally required)
- General Aptitude (to be demonstrated by application for study abroad, interview during the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of year 2 (Level 5), and by recommendation of the student's personal tutor, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year tutors and programme director)

Students may not register for both an International Year and a Placement Year (see Annex B); students registered for BSc (Hons) Psychology with an International Year are exempt from studying a Placement Year.

#### Student Support

Students will be supported whilst on the International Year via the following methods:

- Phone or Skype conversations with Study Abroad tutor, in line with recommended Personal Tutoring meeting points.
- Support from the University's Global Education Team

#### Learning Outcomes

In addition to the learning outcomes specified in the main text of the Programme Specification, students who complete a Keele undergraduate programme with International Year will be able to:

- i) Describe, discuss and reflect upon the cultural and international differences and similarities of

- different learning environments
- ii) Discuss the benefits and challenges of global citizenship and internationalisation
  - iii) Explain how their perspective on their academic discipline has been influenced by locating it within an international setting.

In addition, students who complete BSc (Hons) Psychology with International Year' will be able to:

- iv) be able to communicate effectively in an international setting;
- v) be able to reflect on previous learning within an international context.

These learning outcomes will all be assessed by the submission of a satisfactory individual learning agreement, the successful completion of assessments at the partner institution and the submission of the reflective portfolio element of the international year module.

### **Course Regulations**

Students registered for the 'BSc (Hons) Psychology with International Year' are subject to the course specific regulations (if any) and the University regulations. In addition, during the International Year, the following regulations will apply:

Students undertaking the International Year must complete 120 credits, which must comprise *at least 40%* in the student's discipline area.

This may impact on your choice of modules to study, for example you will have to choose certain modules to ensure you have the discipline specific credits required.

Students are barred from studying any Psychology module with significant overlap to Level 6 modules to be studied on their return. Significant overlap with Level 5 modules previously studied should also be avoided.

### **Additional costs for the International Year**

Tuition fees for students on the International Year will be charged at 15% of the annual tuition fees for that year of study, as set out in Section 1. The International Year can be included in your Student Finance allocation, to find out more about your personal eligibility see: [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

Students will have to bear the costs of travelling to and from their destination university, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the destination they are studying at additional costs may include visas, study permits, residence permits, and compulsory health checks. Students should expect the total costs of studying abroad be greater than if they study in the UK, information is made available from the Global Education Team throughout the process, as costs will vary depending on destination.

Students studying in Erasmus+ destinations may be eligible for grants as part of this programme. Students studying outside of this programme may be eligible income dependent bursaries at Keele.

Students travel on a comprehensive Keele University insurance plan, for which there are currently no additional charges. Some Governments and/or universities require additional compulsory health coverage plans; costs for this will be advised during the application process.

## Annex B

### BSc (Hons) Psychology with Placement Year

#### Placement Year Programme

Students registered for Single Honours Psychology may be admitted to the Single Honours 'Psychology with Placement Year'. Students accepted onto this programme will have an extra year (the Placement Year) with a relevant placement provider after they have completed Year 2 (Level 5) at Keele.

In order to proceed to the Placement Year, students must normally achieve an average of 60% across all Level 4 and 5 modules and undergo an interview with the Programme Lead or another member of staff. If students do not meet these requirements then they will revert back to the Single Honours Psychology Programme.

Students who successfully complete both the second year (Level 5) and the Placement Year will be permitted to progress to Level 6. Students who fail to satisfactorily complete the Placement Year will normally revert to the BSc (Hons) Psychology and progress to Level 6 on that basis. The failure will be recorded on the student's final transcript.

Study at Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6 will be as per the main body of this programme specification. The additional detail contained in this annex will pertain solely to students registered for BSc (Hons) Psychology with Placement Year'.

#### Placement Year Programme Aims

In addition to the programme aims specified in the main body of the programme specification, the Placement Year programme aims to provide students with:

1. Substantial experience of work with a relevant placement provider, including familiarisation with the professional working environment.
2. The opportunity to reflect upon how work with a relevant place provider draws upon psychological principles, skills, theories or methods.

#### Entry Requirements for the Placement Year

Admission to the Placement Year is subject to successful application, interview and references from appropriate staff. Students have the opportunity to apply directly for the 4-year 'with placement year' degree programme, or to transfer onto the 4-year degree programme at the end of Year-1 and in Year-2 at the end of Semester 1. Students who are initially registered for the 4-year degree programme may transfer onto the 3-year degree programme at any point in time, prior to undertaking the year-long work placement. Students who fail to pass the work placement year, and those who fail to meet the minimum requirements of the work placement year module (minimum 30 weeks full time (1050 hours), or equivalent, work placement), will be automatically transferred onto the 3-year degree programme.

The criteria to be applied are:

- A good University attendance record and be in 'good academic standing'.
- Passed all Year-1 and Year-2 Semester 1 modules with an overall module average of > 60%
- General Aptitude (to be demonstrated by application(s) to relevant placement providers with prior agreement from the Programme Lead, interview during the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of year 2 (Level 5), and by recommendation of the student's personal tutor, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year tutors and Programme Lead)
- Students undertaking work placements will be expected to complete a Health and Safety checklist prior to commencing their work experience and will be required to satisfy the Health and Safety regulations of the company or organisation at which they are based.
- *(International students only) Due to visa requirements, it is not possible for international students who require a Tier 4 Visa to apply for direct entry onto the 4-year with Placement Year degree programme. Students wishing to transfer onto this programme should discuss this with student support, the academic tutor for the work placement year, and the Programme Lead. Students should*

*be aware that there are visa implications for this transfer, and it is the student's responsibility to complete any and all necessary processes to be eligible for this programme. There may be additional costs, including applying for a new Visa from outside of the UK for international students associated with a transfer to the work placement programme.*

Students may not register for both an International Year (see Annex A) and a Placement Year; students registered for BSc (Hons) Psychology with a Placement Year are exempt from studying an International Year.

### **Student Support**

Students will be supported whilst on the Placement Year via the following methods:

- Regular contact between the student and a named member of staff who will be assigned to the student as their University supervisor. The University supervisor will be in regular contact with the student throughout the year, and be on hand to provide advice (pastoral or academic) and liaise with the Placement supervisor on the student's behalf if required.
- Two formal contacts with the student during the placement year: the University supervisor will visit the student in their placement organization at around the 5 weeks after placement has commenced, and then visit again (or conduct a telephone/video call tutorial) at around 15 weeks into the placement.
- Weekly supervision sessions will take place with the placement supervisor (or his/her nominee) throughout the duration of the placement

### **Learning Outcomes**

In addition to the learning outcomes specified in the main text of the Programme Specification, students who complete BSc (Hons) Psychology with Placement Year' will be able to:

- i) communicate effectively and professionally in a work setting;
- ii) reflect on previous learning within a work context
- iii) evaluate their own employability skills and develop these through practice in the work place
- iv) apply psychological theory learnt as part of the taught degree to real situations in the work place
- v) reflect on their work placement activities and experiences and evaluate the impact on their employability skills.
- vi) explain the role of the placement provider from a psychological perspective with reference to their own role, experience and relevant psychological theory.

These learning outcomes will all be assessed through the non-credit bearing Placement Year module (PSY-30131) which involves:

- i. the submission of a monthly reflective diary to the University supervisor
- ii. a presentation about their placement experience to an audience of other students coming off placement and those about to go out on placements. The audience is also likely to contain academic supervisors and other interested staff from the School of Psychology.
- iii. a placement supervisor's report

### **Course Regulations**

Students registered for the 'BSc (Hons) Psychology with Placement Year' are subject to the course specific regulations (if any) and the University regulations. In addition, during the Placement Year, the following regulations will apply:

Students undertaking the Placement Year must successfully complete the 0 credit 'Psychology with Placement Year' module (PSY-30131)

In order to ensure a high quality placement experience, each placement agency will sign up to a placement contract (analogous to a service level agreement).

Once a student has been accepted by a placement organisation, the student will make a pre-placement visit and a member of staff identified within the placement contract will be assigned as the placement supervisor. The placement supervisor will be responsible for ensuring that the placement experience meets the agreed contract agreed with the University.

The placement student will also sign up an agreement outlining his/her responsibilities in relation to the requirements of each organisation.

Students will be expected to behave professionally in terms of:

(i) conforming to the work practices of the organisation; and

(ii) remembering that they are representatives of the University and their actions will reflect on the School of Psychology and have an impact on that organisation's willingness (or otherwise) to remain engaged with the psychology placement.

#### **Additional costs/payments for the Placement Year**

Tuition fees for students on the Placement Year will be charged at 20% of the annual tuition fees for that year of study, as set out in Section 1. The Placement Year can be included in your Student Finance allocation, to find out more about your personal eligibility see: [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

Students will have to bear the costs of travelling to and from their placement provider, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the placement provider additional costs may include parking permits, travel and transport, suitable clothing, DBS checks, and compulsory health checks.

A small stipend may be available to students from the placement provider during the placement but this will need to be explored on a placement-by-placement basis as some organisations, such as charities, may not have any extra money available. Students should budget with the assumption that their placement will be unpaid.

Eligibility for student finance will depend on the type of placement and whether it is paid or not. If it is paid, this is likely to affect student finance eligibility, however if it is voluntary and therefore unpaid, should not affect student finance eligibility. Students are required to confirm eligibility with their student finance provider.

International students who require a Tier 4 visa should check with the Immigration Compliance team prior to commencing any type of paid placement to ensure that they are not contravening their visa requirements.