

Programme Specification

BA Psychology and Philosophy

For students entering Part 1 in September 2021

UCAS Code: CV85

UFPYXPP

This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

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| Awarding Institution | University of Reading |
| Teaching Institution | University of Reading |
| Length of Programme | 3 years |
| Accreditation | British Psychological Society Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership |

Programme information and content

The programme aims to provide you with a broad introduction to the wide range of approaches that constitute modern Psychology as a social and biological science, and to concepts and evidence within the domains of the subject required for British Psychological Society accreditation. Students have the opportunity to apply their knowledge to chosen areas of interest, increasing their degree of choice and independence as they move through the programme. They are made aware of current research - its methods, applications and unresolved issues - and learn how to evaluate research and carry it out themselves, with staff research expertise providing stimulation, guidance and high-quality laboratory facilities. Throughout the programme students will build their knowledge of current and historical issues and approaches in psychology and develop a critical understanding of ethical issues in research and in professional practice.

In Philosophy, the programme aims to provide you with a comprehensive degree-level education, to encourage you to confront your deepest beliefs and assumptions in a characteristically philosophical way, to enhance your global engagement and multi-cultural awareness, to teach you the basic rudiments of philosophical argument, to inform you about current debates in philosophy, to develop a sense of the significance of philosophical thinking in dealing with modern problems, to help you appreciate multiple perspectives and the values of diversity, to cultivate your skills in oral and written argument, and to encourage you to compare and contrast very different ways of doing philosophy.

During the course of their studies at University of Reading, all students will be expected to enhance their academic, personal and professional skills. In following this programme, students will have had the opportunity to develop such skills, in particular relating to written and oral communication, interpersonal skills, learning skills, numeracy, self-management, self-awareness, personal effectiveness, use of IT, critical thinking and problem-solving, project management and reporting and will have been encouraged to further develop and enhance the full set of skills through a variety of opportunities available outside their curriculum.

| | |
|---------|--|
| Part 1: | Introduces you to the British Psychological Society core areas, including Research Methods, as well as a choice of additional psychology modules, or modules from across the University. |
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|---------|---|
| Part 2: | Provides you with an in-depth knowledge of the BPS core areas, and focused training in conducting experiments, as well as developing your knowledge of philosophy. |
| Part 3: | Gives you the opportunity to apply your knowledge to more specialist areas, offering you a choice of Part 3 optional modules led by experts in those fields. You also have the opportunity to design and implement your own research project. |

Module information

Each part comprises 120 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules as shown below. Compulsory modules are listed.

Part 1 Modules:

| Module | Name | Credits | Level |
|--------|--|---------|-------|
| PP1RA | Reason and Argument | 20 | 4 |
| PY1DMH | DEBATES IN MENTAL HEALTH | 20 | 4 |
| PY1IPR | INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH | 20 | 4 |
| PY1LAL | LEARNING ABOUT LEARNING | 20 | 4 |
| PY1PAB | THE PERSON AND THE BRAIN | 20 | 4 |

PY1IPR, PY1DMH, PY1PAB & PY1LAL are required for British Psychological Society Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (BPS GBC).

Students must select a further 20 credits in Philosophy.

Part 2 Modules:

| Module | Name | Credits | Level |
|--------|--|---------|-------|
| PY2CBP | COGNITIVE AND BIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY | 20 | 5 |
| PY2DAL | DEVELOPMENT ACROSS THE LIFESPAN | 20 | 5 |
| PY2RMP | RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY | 20 | 5 |
| PY2SID | SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY AND INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES | 20 | 5 |

PY2RMP, PY2CBP, PY2DAL & PY2SID are required for British Psychological Society Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (BPS GBC).

Students must select a further 40 credits in Philosophy.

Modules during a placement year or study year (if applicable):

Students may have the opportunity to study abroad during Part 2 of the programme. In order to qualify for BPS GBC, students on Study Abroad are required to meet the criteria listed in the section on Accreditation below, except point 1 where they must pass PY2RMP+PY2DAL+PY2SID with at least 40% per module, plus take and pass the equivalent of 20 credits of modules covering Cognitive and Biological Psychology at their

host institution, with the agreement of the Study Abroad advisor. Students must also take the equivalent of 40 credits of modules covering philosophy at their host institution.

Note that students studying abroad will be required to complete the spring term of PY2RMP via distance learning whilst at their host institution.

If you take a year-long placement or study abroad, Part 3 as described below may be subject to variation.

Part 3 Modules:

| Module | Name | Credits | Level |
|--------|---------|---------|-------|
| PY3P | Project | 40 | 6 |

Students must select a further 80 credits of modules from the list available from the School of Psychology and Clinical Language Science, 20 credits in Psychology and 60 credits in Philosophy. Students may not select PP3DIS Dissertation in Philosophy.

Optional modules:

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your Programme is set out in the Further Programme Information. Details of optional modules for each part, including any Additional Costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the Part in which they are to be taken and you will be given an opportunity to express interest in the optional modules that you would like to take. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability and may be subject to pre-requisites, such as completion of another module. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

Additional costs of the programme

During your programme of study you will incur some additional costs.

For textbooks and similar learning resources, we recommend that you budget between £100 to £200 a year. Some books may be available second-hand, which will reduce costs. A range of resources to support your curriculum, including textbooks and electronic resources, are available through the library. Reading lists and module specific costs are listed on the individual module descriptions. Printing and photocopying facilities are available on campus at a cost of £0.05 per page.

Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations.

The estimates were calculated in 2020.

Placement opportunities

There are opportunities to gain non-credit bearing placement and work experience throughout the programme.

Teaching and learning delivery:

You will be taught using a range of approaches to teaching which are tailored to the learning outcomes of the different subjects you will study and the overall objective of the programme. In Part 1 and Part 2 modules are taught in a variety of ways, including lectures, seminars, tutorials, workshops and lab classes. There are also a range of resources available online via our virtual learning environment, Blackboard, including online discussion boards. At part 3 there continue to be lectures, but the majority of Psychology part 3 options are taught via seminars. Research Methods teaching is supported by interactive workshops and specialist drop-in sessions. Throughout the programme you will complete practical work, either in large groups (Part 1) or in small groups or individually (Part 2 and Part 3 project). Modules are typically assessed by a mixture of coursework and formal examination. Coursework includes essays, project reports, reflective writing, oral and poster presentations, portfolios and weekly continuous assessment questions.

Over an academic year, you will spend approximately 300 hours in lectures, seminars, online discussions or practical classes. The remaining time is for your independent study, completing coursework and preparing for assessments. Most direct teaching occurs in the Autumn and Spring terms and so you will find that you spend more time than average in class in these terms. Contact hours vary in each year of the degree. In Part 1 and 2 contact hours are between 300-350 hours per year; in Part 3 contact hours are between 250-300 hours per year. Hours depend upon your module combination; information about module contact hours can be located in the relevant module description.

Accreditation details

British Psychological Society Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (BPS GBC):

To qualify for BPS GBC, students must meet the following requirements:

1. Pass PY1IPR + PY1DMH + PY1LAL + PY1PAB with a minimum of 40% (see progression rules for further details).
2. Pass PY2RMP + PY2CBP + PY2SID + PY2DAL with a minimum of 40% (see progression rules for further details); except when they have taken Study Abroad (see Study Abroad section for details)
3. Pass PY3P with a minimum of 40%
4. Gain at least a Lower Second Class Honours degree
- 5.

Assessment

Throughout the programme you will complete practical work, either in large groups (Part 1) or in small groups or individually (Part 2 and Part 3 project). Modules are typically assessed by a mixture of coursework and formal examination. Coursework includes essays, project

reports, oral and poster presentations, portfolios and weekly continuous assessment questions.

Progression requirements

The University-wide rules relating to 'threshold performance' as follows:

Part 1

(i) obtain an overall average of 40% in 120 credits (ii) obtain a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 100 credits taken in Part 1.

In order to progress from Part 1 to Part 2 in Psychology and Philosophy, a student shall normally be required to achieve a threshold performance at Part 1 and

(iii) to have obtained at least 40% in all modules required for British Psychological Society Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (PY1IPR, PY1DMH, PY1LAL, PY1PAB); and

(iv) obtain a mark of at least 40% in the compulsory module in Philosophy at Part 1 (PP1RA) and in 20 additional credits from Philosophy modules taken in Part 1.

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 1 qualifies a student for a Certificate of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

Part 2

To gain a threshold performance at Part 2, a student shall normally be required to achieve:

(i) a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken at Part 2;

(ii) marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to not less than 80 credits; and

(iii) marks of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 120 credits, except that a mark below 30% may be condoned in no more than 20 credits of modules owned by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3, a student should normally be required to achieve a threshold performance at Part 2 and

(iv) obtain marks of at least 40% in all modules required for British Psychological Society Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (PY2RMP, PY2CBP, PY2DAL, PY2SID).

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 2 qualifies a student for a Diploma of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

To be eligible for Honours students must pass PY3P Project module.

Classification

The University's honours classification scheme is based on the following:

| Mark | Interpretation |
|------------|------------------------|
| 70% - 100% | First class |
| 60% - 69% | Upper Second class |
| 50% - 59% | Lower Second class |
| 40% - 49% | Third class |
| 35% - 39% | Below Honours Standard |
| 0% - 34% | Fail |

The weighting of the Parts/Years in the calculation of the degree classification is:

Three-year programmes

Part 2 one-third

Part 3 two-thirds

Four year programmes, including professional/work placement or study abroad:

Part 2: one-third Placement/Study Abroad Year abroad not included in the classification

Part 3: two-thirds

(Where a student fails a placement year or study abroad year, which does not contribute to classification they transfer to the three-year version of the programme)

For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

BA Psychology and Philosophy for students entering Part 1 in session 2021/22
25 August 2021

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