

ORIENTATION WEEK
MSc Psychology
SEPTEMBER 2018
FULL TIME / PART TIME

Orientation and Welcome Programme
September 2018

University of Westminster, 115 New Cavendish Street, London W1W 6UW

Dear Student,

Congratulations on being accepted onto MSc Psychology, and welcome to the University of Westminster. We look forward to meeting you in September at the Orientation programme, which takes place before the start of formal teaching. The details and dates of the Orientation programme for your MSc are shown in this booklet. There you will meet your Course Leader, the rest of your Course Team and the other students on your course. Also, we have some combined orientation sessions for your course with other Psychology MSc students. As well as the administrative formalities necessary to enrolling you on the course, you will receive an orientation to the course, our online learning tools, the library, and some activities focusing on the requirements of studying at post-graduate level.

The course is intensive, and I recommend that you carefully read the **INFORMATION ABOUT REQUIRED STUDY TIME** on a page below.

If for some reason, you cannot attend one or more of the Orientation sessions, it is very important that you contact your course leader by email (details below).

Teaching starts in the week beginning Monday 24th September. From that week onwards, you can see us during our office hours, which will be displayed on office doors, or by making an appointment.

We all look forward to meeting you at Orientation.

With best wishes,

Dr Mark Gardner
Course Leader, MSc Psychology

M.Gardner@westminster.ac.uk

MSc Psychology

ORIENTATION SCHEDULE

MONDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2018

| | | |
|---------------|---|--|
| 13.00 -14.15 | Course Specific Information with Dr Mark Gardner, Course Leader for MSc Psychology | Room: CLG.09 Building: 115 New Cavendish Street |
| 14.30 – 15.00 | Enrolment | Room: C1.15 Building: 115 New Cavendish Street |

Make sure you have completed pre-enrolment and bring with you:

- 1) Printout of the completed enrolment form
- 2) Proof of identity, only a valid passport or EU Identity Card will be accepted.
- 3) Certificates of courses/ examinations, which do not have VERIFIED on the enrolment form
- 4) If you have not paid your fees online, bring payment or proof of payment (sponsorship/ SLC letter) with you
- 5) If an international student, original Passport and BRP card

Want more information? visit www.westminster.ac.uk/newstudents

WEDNESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2018

Combined Induction for MSc Psychology, MSc Health Psychology, MSc Business Psychology

Room: LG.14 Portland Hall
Building: Little Titchfield Street

Details below:-

- 11.15 – 11.25 **Welcome from Alan Porter, Associate Head of School (Psychology)**
- 11.25 – 11.40 **Introduction to life as a Psychology Postgraduate Student, Dr Kathryn Waddington**
- 11.40 – 12.00 **Students' Union**
- 12.00 – 14:30 **Tour of Facilities with the Technicians, followed by lunch break**

Combined Induction for MSc Psychology, MSc Health Psychology, MSc Business Psychology

Room: G.03
Building: Little Titchfield Street

- 14.30 – 15.00 **Research in the Department, Dr Catherine Loveday**
- 15.00 – 15.30 **Postgraduate study: A rough guide, Dr Laura Boubert**
- 15.30 – 16.00 **Work Experience Information Session with Dr Tom Nadarzynski, Module Leader of the Work Experience module, and Hanna Gnanaseharam, Work Placement Officer**
- 16.00 – 17.00 **Refreshments with Course Teams**

Psychology area, 6th Floor
Building: 115 New Cavendish Street, Clipstone Building

NB: Elements of the programme may be subject to minor modification

KEY CONTACTS FOR ORIENTATION WEEK

| CONTACTS | TEL | EMAIL |
|--|------------------------------|--|
| Course Leader – Mark Gardner | 020 7911 5000 ext 69020 | M.Gardner@westminster.ac.uk |
| Campus Registry | 020 7911 5884 | fstregistry@westminster.ac.uk |
| Student health services | 020 7911 5000 ext. 4107/5186 | |
| University of Westminster Students' Union (UWSU) | 0)20 7911 5000 ext. 67057 | advice.cavendish@su.westminster.ac.uk |
| Disability learning support | 020 7911 5000 ext. 66113 | dls@westminster.ac.uk |

Campus Registry Office

E-mail: fstregistry@westminster.ac.uk

Telephone: 020 7911 5884 or 5866

Essential Westminster

Essential Westminster is the University's student handbook and all new students will receive copies at their enrolment sessions. You can also download a PDF version of the guide at

www.westminster.ac.uk/study/current-students/resources/essential-westminster. The guide provides an introduction to the University, its services and resources, with links to more detailed online information.

Current students' webpage

The "current students" webpage is your main gateway to the University's online resources. The latest news and events are also published here, so make sure you visit the page regularly to keep up to date with what's going on at the University. The webpage can be found at www.westminster.ac.uk/students.

Key University Services

Contact details for other key University services and administrative offices can be found at www.westminster.ac.uk/key-contacts.

Academic Staff

Contact details for all academic staff are available at www.westminster.ac.uk/academic-staff

University Location Map

You can also find interactive maps and directions via this link:

www.westminster.ac.uk/about-us/visit-us/directions

INFORMATION ABOUT REQUIRED STUDY TIME

Postgraduate study requires much more time spent on your independent study than may be the case at undergraduate level. Full-time study does mean full-time, and this is an intensive course. Each module has 3 hours a week in taught sessions, but requires much more time for your independent study. **It is expected that students, regardless of their mode of study, will complement the contact hours with further study and research up to 150 hours work for each 20 credits gained. At module level there is no distinction between full-time and part-time students.**

NOTE: If you have been accepted as a full-time student, and you decide that part-time study is more suitable for you, you should contact Admissions before Enrolment to request this change.

Your independent study will vary depending on your MSc, but could include studying recommended textbooks and journal papers; literature searches for additional suitable sources; evaluating or analysing provided examples; designing and conducting suitable research studies; and working towards assessments (essays, critical evaluations, research reports, tests, examinations, et cetera).

We have designed all assessment to enable you to meet the learning outcomes of your MSc, so recommended reading and other recommended independent study is essential for you to build up your knowledge.

The University recommends that Full-Time students do not have paid employment of more than 20 hours a week. Part-Time students could use that as guide. Students studying on a visa must adhere to the conditions of issue and restrictions for working in the UK.

MSc Psychology DRAFT reading list 2018-19

First, if you are unfamiliar with Psychology as an academic discipline, then you could look at Introduction to Psychology text books aimed at first year undergraduates, to get a feel for the broad area. Of course with the MSc we focus in depth, and textbooks we have used in the modules are listed below. Example undergraduate introductory texts are:

Psychology by Schacter, Gilbert & Wegner adapted by Hood and published by Palgrave;
or Psychology by Comer, Gould and Furnham, published by Wiley.

We do not recommend that you buy these as they are not used in the course, though you may buy if you wish.

Below are some of the key texts you will use on the MSc course, you may like to read some of this material in preparation for your modules:

NOTE: THESE ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE; FINAL LISTS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE BEGINNING OF TEACHING

Quantitative Methods:

Brace, N., Kemp, R. & Snelgar, R. (2016). *SPSS for Psychologists (And Everybody Else)*, 6th Edition. Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan.

Clark-Carter, D. (2010) *Quantitative Psychological Research*. Hove, UK: Psychology Press.

Qualitative Methods:

Howitt, D. (2016). *Introduction to Qualitative Methods in Psychology*. (3rd edition). Harlow, England: Pearson. (online library resource, free to access once you start)

Willig, C. & Stainton-Rogers, W. (Eds.) (2017). *The SAGE Handbook of Qualitative Research in Psychology*. (2nd edition). London: SAGE. (online library resource, free to access once you start)

Biological and Cognitive Psychology

Barnes, J. (2013). *Essential Biological Psychology*, London: Sage.

Goldstein, E.B. & Van Hoof, J.C. (2018). *Cognitive Psychology*. Cengage.

Development and Differential Psychology

Haslam, N. (2017). *Introduction to personality, individual differences and intelligence*. London: Sage, 2nd Edition

Slater, A. & Bremner, G. (2017). *An introduction to developmental psychology*, 3rd ed, John Wiley and Sons Limited, UK.

Fundamental Conceptual Issues in Psychology

There is no single recommended text for this module. The recommended reading for the other MSc modules will be relevant.

Social Psychology and Applied Psychology

Hewstone, M., Stroebe, W., & Jonas, K. (2015). *An introduction to social psychology* (Sixth edition. ed.). Chichester, West Sussex: BPS Blackwell.

Davey, G.C. (2011). *Applied Psychology*. GB: Wiley-Blackwell