PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Course record information

Name and level of final award:	MSc Cognitive Rehabilitation
	The MSc Cognitive Rehabilitation is a Bologna FQ-EHEA second cycle degree or diploma compatible.
Name and level of intermediate awards:	Postgraduate Diploma in Cognitive Rehabilitation
	Postgraduate Certificate in Cognitive Rehabilitation
Awarding body/institution:	University of Westminster
Status of awarding body/institution:	Recognised Body
Location of delivery:	Cavendish
Language of delivery and assessment:	English
Course/programme leader:	Trudi Edginton
Course URL:	http://www.westminster.ac.uk/courses/subjects/psychology/postgraduate-courses/full-time/p09fpcgr-msc-cognitive-rehabilitation
Mode and length of study:	FT/PT
University of Westminster course code:	W50
JACS code:	
UCAS code:	
QAA subject benchmarking group:	
Professional body accreditation:	
Date of course validation/review:	March 2011
Date of programme specification:	2012-13

Admissions Requirements

The course is open to graduates with a good first degree in cognitive science, cognitive neuroscience, psychology or other life science, or in any other degree that includes a background in basic neuroscience or psychobiology. Applications from students with other good degrees will be considered if necessary experience or knowledge in essential neuroscience can be demonstrated. In addition to a fundamental understanding of basic neuroscience, the MSc Cognitive Rehabilitation will also require some research skills, including some experience of experimental design, statistical analysis and report writing. There is no specific requirement for a qualification in computer science or an IT related discipline but a familiarity and confidence with computers is needed. This includes experience with the Windows operating system, word processors, installing and using software, using the Internet and WWW to obtain information and using email. It will also be useful for candidates to have access to a computer connected to the Internet either at work or home.

In exceptional cases, for those applicants with extensive experience working in a related environment, business or industry, the formal educational requirements may be relaxed.

Where an applicant does not have sufficient prior experience of any of the areas listed above, an offer of a place on the course may be made on condition that the applicant:

- Attend one or more workshops provided by the course team
- Take a short course at an appropriate institution prior to the start of the course,
- Attend a recommended module at the University of Westminster,

Candidates are required to show competence in both written and spoken English to the University standard. International students will be required to have obtained one of the following (other equivalent English language qualifications may be accepted):

- GCSE or GCE O Level at grade C.
- British Council/Cambridge International English Language Testing Service (IELTS) minimum score of 6.5 in each tested component.
- American Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score of 600 and Test of Written English (TWE) score of 600. The minimum overall score for the computer-based test is 250.
- Cambridge Proficiency Test in English grade C.

In addition to the above, the applicant's competence will be determined at the interview. One of the main considerations in admitting students to the course is evidence that the student will benefit from the course and is likely to complete it satisfactorily.

Admission Procedure
Application forms are initially assessed on the basis of the minimum requirements above. Normally all those who meet these criteria will be invited for interview where they will be assessed on perceived ability to deal with the academic demand of the course and level of motivation.

Aims of the Course
The MSc Cognitive Rehabilitation programme aims to offer a high quality postgraduate qualification which:

- provides a theoretical and practical background in cognitive rehabilitation principles, approaches and interventions, with a fundamental grounding in cognitive neuropsychology and clinical neuroscience
- provides a range of practical and technical skills that will prepare students for a research career in academic or clinical rehabilitation
- encourages students to recognise the value of an multidisciplinary holistic approach to research in cognitive rehabilitation
- fosters an ability to integrate the different methodologies of cognitive rehabilitation into a coherent approach to original independent research in the field of cognitive rehabilitation
- develops advanced skills in critical analysis, creative thinking and communication
- provides a forum for self-reflection and development of personal skills

Employment and Further Study Opportunities
Today's organisations need graduates with both good degrees and skills relevant to the workplace, i.e., employability skills. The University of Westminster is committed to developing employable graduates by ensuring that:

- Career development skills are embedded in all courses
- Opportunities for part-time work, placements and work-related learning activities are widely available to students

- Staff continue to widen and strengthen the University's links with employers in all sectors, involving them in curriculum design and encouraging their participation in other aspects of the University's career education and guidance provision
- Staff are provided with up-to-date data on labour market trends and employers' requirements which will inform the service delivered to students. Students on the course are expected to have a range of backgrounds, including occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, nursing, biology and psychology. The course will attract both new graduates looking to complement their education before either joining the labour market or going onto further studies and older students who already have experience of working either in a related area or are looking to retrain to change career paths. After completing the course, alumni would be able to consider studying for PhDs, working as assistant psychologists in a range of clinical areas and further training in the psychology professions.

Course Learning Outcomes

In accordance with the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) and in line with the guidelines provided by the South East England Consortium (SEEC) and the HECIW, the MSc Cognitive Rehabilitation course has a list of learning outcomes. A learning outcome is 'a statement of what a learner is expected to know, understand and/or be able to do at the end of a period of learning'. In addition to each module having its own learning outcomes (listed in individual syllabuses), there are also learning outcomes for successful completion of the course as a whole. These are described below and **Section 2.1** shows specifically where each of these is taught, practised and assessed.

Knowledge and understanding: Cross reference of learning outcomes by module in which taught, practised or assessed

Learning Outcome	Core module(s) in which:		
	Taught	**Practised**	**Assessed**
A working knowledge of how cognitive neuropsychology can be used in the diagnosis of cognitive impairment and to inform cognitive rehabilitation	2ACN7H3 SACN704 SACN705	2ACN7H3 SACN704 SACN705	2ACN7H3 SACN704 SACN705
A knowledge and critical appreciation of how clinical neuropharmacology informs our understanding of the biological basis of cognition	2ACN7H5 SACN704 SACN705	2ACN7H5 SACN704 SACN705	2ACN7H5 SACN704 SACN705
The ability to utilise and integrate theoretical knowledge from cognitive psychology, neuropsychology and neuropharmacology to design an effective cognitive rehabilitation programme based on clinical presentation and cognitive profile	SACN704 SACN705	SACN704 SACN705	SACN704 SACN705
A critical and up-to-date knowledge of how key methodologies can be used together to develop, evaluate and contribute to theoretical models of cognitive	1MPH7A3 SACN704 SACN705	1MPH7A3 SACN704 SACN705	1MPH7A3 SACN704 SACN705

rehabilitation

The ability to apply a holistic and comprehensive biopsychosocial approach to cognitive rehabilitation, which responds to individual needs across a range of factors (e.g. personality, co-morbid clinical features, social environment)	SACN704 SACN705	SACN704 SACN705	SACN704 SACN705
The ability to recognise the importance of realistic goal setting and to identify appropriate outcome measures when evaluating cognitive rehabilitation interventions	SACN704 SACN705	SACN704 SACN705	SACN704 SACN705
A critical awareness of the current theories and new advances within the field of cognitive rehabilitation	SACN704 SACN705 1MPH7A4	SACN704 SACN705 1MPH7A4	SACN704 SACN705 1MPH7A4

Specific skills: Cross reference of learning outcomes by modules in which they are taught, practised and assessed

Learning Outcome	Core module(s) in which:		
	Taught	Practised	Assessed
effective use of IT in the management, processing and communication of scientific information	Orientation 1MPH7A3 1MPH7A4	Orientation 1MPH7A3 1MPH7A4	1MPH7A3 + All core
the ability to critically review literature within the full field of cognitive rehabilitation and other cognate subject areas	2ACN7H5 1MPH7A4 SACN704 SACN705	2ACN7H5 1MPH7A4 SACN704 SACN705	2ACN7H5 1MPH7A4 SACN704 SACN705
the ability to develop and analyse a substantial piece of independent research that is well grounded in previous work and that incorporates or draws on the key methodologies and theoretical approaches relevant to cognitive rehabilitation	1MPH7A3 1MPH7A4 SACN702 SACN704 SACN705	1MPH7A3 1MPH7A4 SACN702 SACN704 SACN705	1MPH7A3 1MPH7A4 SACN702 SACN704 SACN705
the ability to analyse and present findings from an independent piece of work within the field of cognitive rehabilitation	+ All core	+ All core	+ All core

Key transferable skills: Cross reference of learning outcomes by modules in which taught, practised or assessed

Learning Outcome	Core module(s) in which:		
	Taught	Practised	Assessed
the ability to reflect on their own performance, knowledge base and skills level and use this reflection to plan personal development and success	Orientation & ongoing PDP	2ACN7H3 2ACN702 SACN704 SACN705	2ACN7H3 2ACN702 SACN704 SACN705
a level of communication skills, both oral and written, that reflects a postgraduate level of education	Orientation	All core	All core
the ability to recognise and effectively utilise the appropriate level of supervision and guidance to manage an independent piece of work	Orientation & ongoing PDP	+ All core	2ACN702 SACN704 SACN705
the ability to plan the time allocated to a number of concurrent goals such that all are managed effectively	Orientation & ongoing PDP	All core	All core
experience of how group work can be used to reflectively integrate different areas of expertise and knowledge	SACN704 SACN705	SACN704 SACN705	SACN704
the ability to develop original, independent and critical thinking and to develop theoretical concepts and construct coherent arguments	All core	All core	All core

Knowledge and understanding
On successful completion of the MSc programme, students will be able to demonstrate:

- a working knowledge of how cognitive neuropsychology can be used in the diagnosis of cognitive impairment and to inform cognitive rehabilitation
- a knowledge and critical appreciation of how clinical neuropharmacology informs our understanding of the biological basis of cognition
- the ability to utilise and integrate theoretical knowledge from cognitive psychology, neuropsychology and neuropharmacology to design an effective cognitive rehabilitation programme based on clinical presentation and cognitive profile
- a critical and up-to-date knowledge of how key methodologies can be used together to develop, evaluate and contribute to theoretical models of cognitive rehabilitation
- the ability to apply a holistic and comprehensive biopsychosocial approach to cognitive rehabilitation, which responds to individual needs across a range of factors (e.g. personality, co-morbid clinical features, social environment)

- the ability to recognise the importance of realistic goal setting and to identify appropriate outcome measures when evaluating cognitive rehabilitation interventions
- a critical awareness of the current theories and new advances within the field of cognitive rehabilitation

Specific skills
On successful completion of the MSc programme, students will be able to demonstrate:

- effective use of IT in the management, processing and communication of scientific information
- the ability to critically review literature within the full field of cognitive rehabilitation and other cognate subject areas
- the ability to develop and analyse a substantial piece of independent research that is well grounded in previous work and that incorporates or draws on the key methodologies and theoretical approaches relevant to cognitive rehabilitation
- the ability to analyse and present findings from an independent piece of work within the field of cognitive rehabilitation.

Key Transferable Skills / Other Attributes
On successful completion of the MSc programme, students will be able to demonstrate:

- the ability to reflect on their own performance, knowledge base and skills level and use this reflection to plan personal development and success
- a level of communication skills, both oral and written, that reflects a postgraduate level of education
- the ability to recognise and effectively utilise the appropriate level of supervision and guidance to manage an independent piece of work
- the ability to plan the time allocated to a number of concurrent goals such that all are managed effectively
- experience of how group work can be used to reflectively integrate different areas of expertise and knowledge
- the ability to develop original, independent and critical thinking and to develop theoretical concepts and construct coherent arguments

Course Structure

Orientation Week
Before the course begins there will be an intensive Orientation Week. This will be the week immediately before formal teaching begins. All full-time students are expected to attend every session offered; part-time students are also asked to make every effort to attend full-time for this week but where they are unable to do so, alternative arrangements for self-study may be made.

During this week, in addition to enrolment and other administrative procedures, students will attend a series of workshops aimed at providing the essential basis for their subsequent studies. This will normally include the following:

- Introductions and social event with the course team and fellow students
- Explanation of procedures and regulations
- Introduction to facilities, including library tour
- Introduction to UoW electronic communication facilities including email and Blackboard
- Introduction to and explanation of the Personal Development Planning (PDP) programme and first session with personal tutor

- Postgraduate study skills, including referencing, plagiarism, literature searching (InfoLinx), report writing

The orientation session will include a number of formative assessments. These will primarily be carried out on Blackboard, thus serving a number of purposes: consolidation of orientation material; evaluation by the course team of the effectiveness of the orientation process; use of feedback by students for reflective practice; an opportunity to gain some familiarity with Blackboard.

Basic Modular Structure of the Course
The course comprises seven core taught modules and a project double module. Core modules are ones that must be undertaken by all students enrolled on the course and provides the foundational skills and knowledge required for the discipline as a whole.

Each of the taught modules is worth 20 Level 7 credits. Each module comprises 36 hours of scheduled teaching and contact time (inclusive of tutorials and workshops but exclusive of assessment).

The project is offered in two options, a 60 credit project and a 40 + 20 credit option whereby a 40 credit project is taken in combination with the work experience module. This choice has been designed to address the different needs of students: some students come from a practising background and need to develop research skills; in contrast others are recent graduates whose employability will be enhanced by work experience. The two module share overall learning outcomes, assessment and management but the requirements are different:

1. The scope, breadth and depth of the 60 credit project will be greater than that expected on the 40 credit project. This is reflected in the length and detail of the journal article to be submitted for assessment. Staff will ensure that journal and article type are appropriate to the project weighting.

2. The 60 credit project requires students to attend a minimum of 4 non-timetables activities, for instance external speaker presentations, public talks at another institution or venue, attendance at a conference (e.g. BPS annual conference), etc. Students will submit a portfolio style log, reflecting the format of professional bodies' CPD portfolios, providing a log and reflection on these external activities.

A brief description of each of the core modules is shown in **Table 4.1** below.

Table 4 1:   Brief description of core modules

Module Code	Module Title	Brief Description
1MPH7A4	Specialist Topics for Applied Psychology	This module offers an overview of the processes and analyses involved in developing research in applied psychology through in depth reading and evaluation of the literature in each student's chosen topic.
2ACN7H3	Cognitive Neuropsychology	This module examines the theory and practice of developing a deeper understanding of cognitive neuroscience through the observation and assessment of cognitive functioning in patients with various forms of brain pathology.

2ACN7H5	Clinical Cognitive Neuroscience	This module provides an opportunity to investigate in some depth the neuroscience of a range of clinical disorders and to think critically about how this contributes to our overall understanding of cognition. Students are encouraged to think critically about research in this field, with emphasis on treatment strategies.
SACN704	Principles Of Cognitive Rehabilitation	This module explores the contribution of a range of disciplines and theoretical approaches in cognitive rehabilitation within a historical context. Students are encouraged to integrate material from each field and adopt a holistic approach to cognitive rehabilitation. The module will also focus on the ethical, legal and professional issues that need to be considered.
SACN705	Cognitive Rehabilitation Interventions	This module aims to provide students with a detailed overview of the range of interventions that have been designed to support and augment cognitive impairments. Students will be encouraged to develop the skills to select appropriate techniques, set realistic goals and critically evaluate and interpret selected outcome measures.
SACN703	Data Handling For Applied Psychology	This module provides students with the essential analytical and practical skills required to plan, perform and report their individual research projects.This is carried out within a forum, which develops a deep understanding of how the individual topics taught across the course can be effectively integrated in research.
SACN702	60 Credit Independent Research Project	The 60 credit project in Cognitive Rehabilitation is an extended piece of work on a relevant topic selected by the student with the approval of the Course Leader. It differs from the 40 credit project in the breadth and depth of the research and skills developed; it requires engagement in external research activities and the submission of a portfolio.
SACN701	40 Credit Independent Research Project	The Project in Cognitive Rehabilitation is an extended piece of work on a relevant topic selected by the student with the approval of the Course Leader. The topic will draw on knowledge, skills and methodological techniques covered by the course. This may involve an in-depth exploration of one aspect of the taught course or a related aspect not

		formally covered in depth. This module is taken with SPRM7A3 Work experience in a psychological setting for MSc Students.		
SPRM7A3	Work Experience in a Psychological Setting for MSc Students	Students work in voluntary or paid positions in settings related to psychology. They are enabled to gain valuable work experience, develop skills which will help to prepare them for the workplace, and consider their future career development plans.		

Core and elective modules to the value of 180 credits must be passed as follows:

Module requirements

Code	Module Title	Core/ Option	Credit value	Co- requisites*	
Core modules to the value of 180 credits:					
1MPH7A4	Specialist Topics for Applied Psychology	Core	20	None	***Co-requisites** Co-requisites are modules that must be taken before or alongside the module in question. Of particular note are the Independent Research Projects (SACN702 and SACN70
2ACN7H3	Cognitive Neuropsychology	Core	20	None	
2ACN7H5	Clinical Neuroscience	Core	20	None	
SACN704	Principles of Cognitive Rehabilitation	Core	20	None	
SACN705	Cognitive Rehabilitation Interventions	Core	20	None	
SACN702	Extended project	Optional core	60	1MPH7A3	
SACN701	Project	Optional core	40	1MPH7A3	
SPRM7A3	Work experience module	Optional core	20	SACN701	
SACN703	Data Handling for Applied Psychology	Core	20	None	

1) which has the co-requisite of Data Handling (1MPH7A3).

Modes of Study
The course will be offered in full-time or part time day mode. The course leader of the course will advise all students on the timetable constraints as soon as is practically possible.

Full-time Mode.
For full-time mode, the modules of the course will, where possible, run on two days though students will be expected to undertake independent study outside of this time and may sometimes be required to attend at other times for seminars or workshops. In this mode students would normally be expected to complete the course in one year.
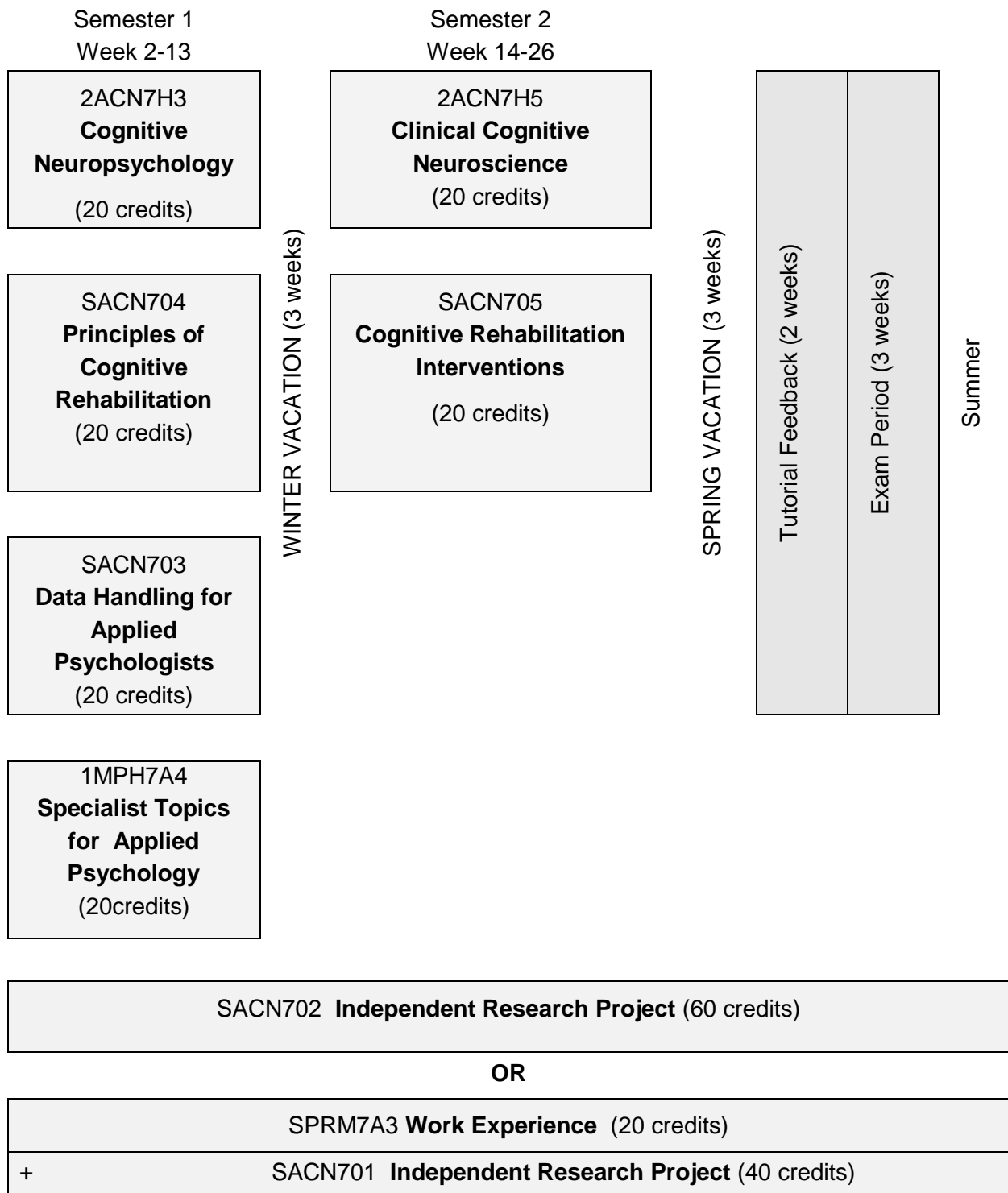
Part-time mode
For part-time mode, for each term the modules of the course will, where possible, run on the same day allowing students to do their studies in 'day-release' mode. Students will be expected to undertake independent study outside of this time and may occasionally, with notice, be required to attend at other times for seminars or workshops. Students will normally be able to complete the taught part of the course in two years by attending one day per week.
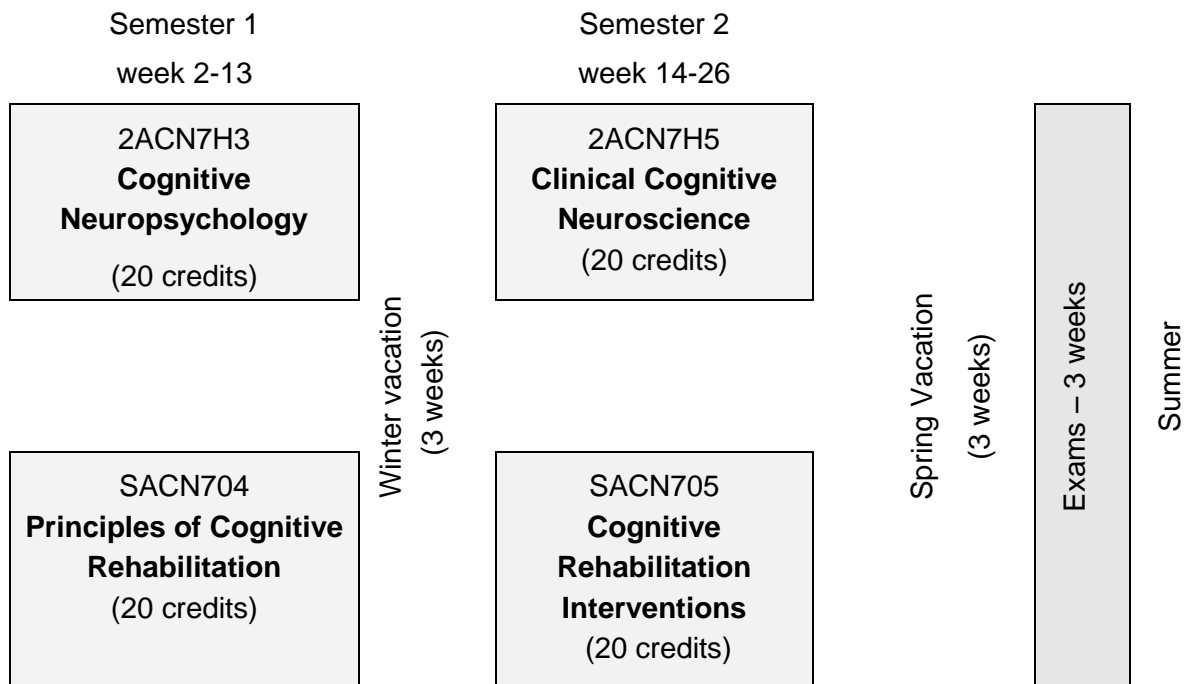
Course Diagram
Core and option modules to the value of 180 credits must be passed. The course diagram below shows how these modules are arranged across the academic year and the syllabuses **(Section 9 of full handbook)** give full details of each module.
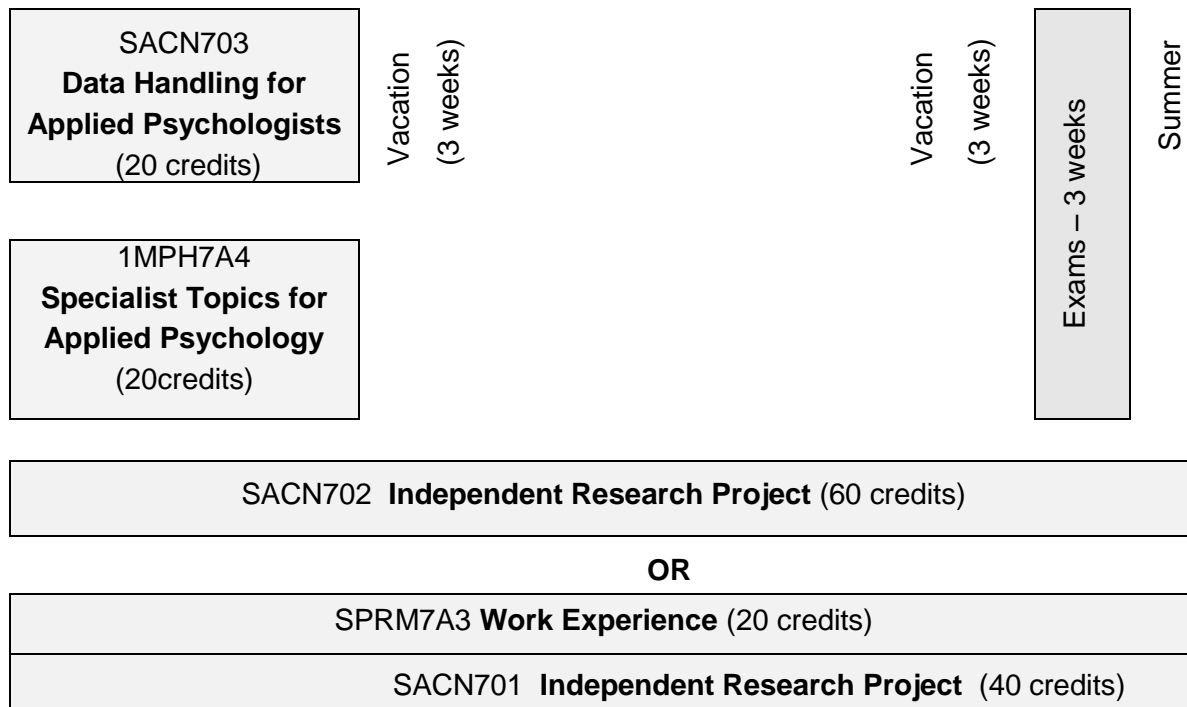
MSc Cognitive Rehabilitation course map (F/T)

Semester 1
Week 2-13

Semester 2
Week 14-26

2ACN7H3 **Cognitive Neuropsychology** (20 credits)	**2ACN7H5** **Clinical Cognitive Neuroscience** (20 credits)	

WINTER VACATION (3 weeks)

SACN704 **Principles of Cognitive Rehabilitation** (20 credits)

SACN705 **Cognitive Rehabilitation Interventions** (20 credits)

SPRING VACATION (3 weeks)

Tutorial Feedback (2 weeks)

Exam Period (3 weeks)

Summer

SACN703 **Data Handling for Applied Psychologists** (20 credits)

1MPH7A4 **Specialist Topics for Applied Psychology** (20credits)

SACN702 **Independent Research Project** (60 credits)

OR

SPRM7A3 **Work Experience** (20 credits)

+ SACN701 **Independent Research Project** (40 credits)

Part-time module map

YEAR ONE

Semester 1
week 2-13

Semester 2
week 14-26

| 2ACN7H3 **Cognitive Neuropsychology** (20 credits) | 2ACN7H5 **Clinical Cognitive Neuroscience** (20 credits) | Winter vacation (3 weeks) | Spring Vacation (3 weeks) | Exams – 3 weeks | Summer |

2ACN7H3
Cognitive Neuropsychology
(20 credits)

2ACN7H5
Clinical Cognitive Neuroscience
(20 credits)

Winter vacation (3 weeks)

SACN704
Principles of Cognitive Rehabilitation
(20 credits)

SACN705
Cognitive Rehabilitation Interventions
(20 credits)

Spring Vacation (3 weeks)

Exams – 3 weeks

Summer

YEAR TWO

SACN703
Data Handling for Applied Psychologists
(20 credits)

Vacation (3 weeks)

Vacation (3 weeks)

Exams – 3 weeks

Summer

1MPH7A4
Specialist Topics for Applied Psychology
(20credits)

SACN702 **Independent Research Project** (60 credits)

OR

SPRM7A3 **Work Experience** (20 credits)

SACN701 **Independent Research Project** (40 credits)

Award

To qualify for the award of MSc Cognitive Rehabilitation, a student must have:

- obtained a minimum of 180 credits at Level 7 (this may include a maximum of 30 credits at Level 6 where validated as part of the award);
- attempted modules worth no more than 240 credits; and

  Note: A first attempt of any module will count as an attempt, and a re-attempt of any module that a student has failed will count as a further, separate attempt. Re-assessment following referral at the first sit will not count as a further separate attempt.

- satisfied the requirements contained within any course specific regulations for the relevant Course Scheme.

 The University may award:

- a Masters Degree with Merit to a student whose marks average at least 60% across modules at Level 7.
- a Masters Degree with Distinction to a student whose marks average at least 70% across the modules at Level 7.

Support for Students

Upon arrival, an induction programme will introduce students to the staff responsible for the course, the campus on which they will be studying, the Library and IT facilities and to the Faculty Registry. Students will be provided with the Course Handbook, which provides detailed information about the course. Students are allocated a personal tutor who can provide advice and guidance on academic matters.

Learning support includes four libraries, each holding a collection of resources related to the subjects taught at their Faculty. Students can search the entire library collection online through the Library Search service to find and reserve printed books, and access electronic resources (databases, e-journals, e-books).

Students can choose to study in the libraries, which have areas for silent and group study, desktop computers, laptops for loan, photocopying and printing services. They can also choose from several computer rooms at each campus where desktop computers are available with the general and specialist software that supports the courses taught at their Faculty. Students can also securely connect their own laptops and mobile devices to the University wireless network.

 The University uses a Virtual Learning Environment called Blackboard where students access their course materials, and can communicate and collaborate with staff and other students.

Student Affairs provide advice and guidance on accommodation, financial and legal matters, personal counselling, health and disability issues, careers and the chaplaincy providing multi-faith guidance. The Student Affairs Hub is located at 101 New Cavendish Street, Cavendish House (1st Floor), with an additional office located at the Harrow Campus.

http://www.westminster.ac.uk/study/new-students/when-you-arrive

The University of Westminster Students' Union also provides a range of facilities to support all students during their time at the University. http://www.uwsu.com/.

Key Reference Points for the course

Internally
UoW Framework for Postgraduate Courses

UoW Quality Assurance Handbook
UoW Teaching, Learning and Assessment Policy
UoW Skills Policy
Psychology Research Committee Annual Reports

Externally
QAA Descriptor for M level qualification

Quality Management and Enhancement

Course Management

The management and quality procedures are in accordance with the approved procedures of the University of Westminster.
The management structure supporting the course is as follows:

- **Dr Trudi Edginton**   Course Leader, responsible for day-to-day running and overall management of the course and development of the curriculum.

- **Dr Kathryn Waddington**   Head of Department, with overall responsibility for the course and for other courses run by the Department of Psychology in the Faculty of Science and Technology.

- **Professor Jane Lewis**   Dean of Faculty, with overall responsibility for the course and for other courses run by the Faculty of Science and Technology.

Course approval, monitoring and review
The course was initially approved by a University Validation Panel in March 2011. The panel included internal peers from the University and external subject specialists from academia and industry to ensure the comparability of the course to those offered in other universities and the relevance to employers. Periodic course review helps to ensure that the curriculum is up-to-date and that the skills gained on the course continue to be relevant to employers.

The course is monitored each year by the Faculty to ensure it is running effectively and that issues which might affect the student experience have been appropriately addressed. Staff will consider evidence about the course, including the outcomes from each Course Committee, evidence of student progression and achievement and the reports from External Examiners, to evaluate the effectiveness of the course. The Annual Monitoring Sub-Committee considers the Faculty action plans resulting from this process and the outcomes are reported to the Academic Council, which has overall responsibility for the maintenance of quality and standards in the University.

Student involvement in Quality Assurance and Enhancement

Student feedback is important to the University and student views are taken seriously. Student feedback is gathered in a variety of ways. The most formal mechanism for feedback on the course is the Course Committee. Student representatives will be elected to sit on the Committee to represent the views of their peer group in various discussions. The University and the Students' Union work together to provide a full orientation to the role of the Course Committee. All students are invited to complete a Module Feedback Questionnaire before the end of each module. The feedback from this will inform the Module Leader on the effectiveness of the module and highlight areas that could be enhanced. The University also

has an annual Student Experience Survey which elicits feedback from students about their course and University experience.

Students meet with review panels when the periodic review of the course is conducted to provide oral feedback on their experience on the course. Student feedback from Course Committees is part of the Faculty's quality assurance evidence base.

For more information about this course, please go to:
http://www.westminster.ac.uk/courses/subjects/psychology/postgraduate-courses/full-time/p09fpcgr-msc-cognitive-rehabilitation.