

# PSYCHOLOGY

Based in the very centre of London, we are proud of our diverse student body, non-hierarchical scholarly culture, and our commitment to challenging, innovative research. We are committed to enhancing our students' learning experience through both classroom teaching and broader intellectual activities.

The University of Westminster offers exciting and distinctive postgraduate courses in some of the most interesting areas of psychology. Each of our courses has been developed and is delivered by a team of enthusiastic and supportive psychologists who are all specialists in their fields.

Our Health Psychology MSc has led the way in its emphasis on developing an evidence-based approach to the discipline, its stimulating practice-related assessments and for providing the opportunity to gain work experience in a health psychology setting.

The Psychology MSc provides the opportunity for you to pursue a career in psychology even if you do not have a first degree in a psychological discipline. This degree allows you to acquire the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (GBC) of the British Psychological Society (BPS).

We also welcome MPhil and PhD students, and provide expert supervision towards doctoral qualification.

The University of Westminster has a strong reputation for postgraduate teaching in Psychology. We aim to provide you with a supportive and interactive learning environment that equips you not only with theory and insights, but also with skills that can be applied in a professional setting. Many of our staff have been recognised for the quality of their teaching, with several of them winning prestigious national awards. Most of our staff are Fellows or Senior Fellows of the Higher Education Authority.

We believe strongly in maintaining close links between our teaching and research activities. You will be taught on all our courses by active researchers who are passionate about sharing their enthusiasm for their subject area. Our vibrant research culture is distinctive for its openness, collaboration and interdisciplinary approach. We value and promote the interrelationship of research, enterprise, knowledge transfer and teaching activity.



The Health Psychology MSc and the Psychology MSc are accredited by the **British Psychological Society**





## HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY MSc

**Length of course:** one year full-time or two years part-time, starting in September

**Location:** Central London (see map p196)

**Fees and funding:** see course web page and [westminster.ac.uk/fees](http://westminster.ac.uk/fees)

**Entry requirements:** see page p192

For full and most up-to-date information, see course web page: [westminster.ac.uk/health-psychology-msc](http://westminster.ac.uk/health-psychology-msc)

Health Psychology plays a key role in improving the health and wellbeing of the population.

This course, based in the heart of London, was one of the first Masters in Health Psychology and has been accredited by the British Psychological Society (BPS) since 1999. It includes an innovative portfolio of assessments geared to developing transferable skills, and relating directly to the world of work.

The course also provides the opportunity to gain work experience and apply your knowledge in a health psychology setting, through taking the optional work experience module. The course is taught by a core team of enthusiastic and supportive research-active staff, with collaborative links to external institutions in London and beyond. Successful completion of the course (Stage 1) is a prerequisite for the further training (Stage 2) to become a health psychologist registered with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC).

In addition to the core taught programme, we work with a range of practitioners to provide additional professional training in areas such as resilience and applied practice.

### Course content

The course will give you an in-depth understanding of the theoretical and applied bases of health, illness and disease. The main aim is to help you to develop the theoretical and methodological skills essential for conducting independent research and applying health psychology in practice.

We provide a coherent programme of study covering the content, methods and application of health psychology. In particular, the course emphasises the importance of an evidence-based approach to health psychology, and develops the core skills needed for Stage 2 training. Within the core modules, there is considerable flexibility for you to choose particular areas of study of interest.

### Core modules

- Data Handling and Research Methods for Applied Psychology
- Health Psychology: A Lifespan Development Perspective
- Health Psychology in Practice
- Individual Differences, Health, Stress and Illness
- Research Based Project: Health Psychology
- Specialist Topics for Applied Psychology
- Theories and Perspectives in Health Psychology

### Option modules

- Work Experience in a Psychological Setting

### Professional recognition

This course is accredited by the British Psychological Society (BPS).

### Associated careers

The course is a prerequisite for those wishing to pursue Stage 2 training leading to Registration with the HPC as a Health Psychologist (in conjunction with a degree that confers GBC - Graduate Basis for Chartered membership with the British Psychological Society). However, it also serves as a precursor to those wishing to pursue a PhD in psychology, and other areas of applied psychology such as clinical or counselling. The majority of our graduates work in health-related professions.





**Length of course:** one year full-time or two years part-time, starting in September  
**Location:** Central London (see map p196)  
**Fees and funding:** see course web page and [westminster.ac.uk/fees](http://westminster.ac.uk/fees)  
**Entry requirements:** see page p192

For full and most up-to-date information, see course web page: [westminster.ac.uk/psychology-msc](http://westminster.ac.uk/psychology-msc)

This BPS-accredited conversion course is designed for graduates who wish to pursue a career in psychology but need to acquire the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (GBC) of the British Psychological Society (BPS).

You do not need to have studied psychology to be eligible for this programme. However, you should note that it is an intensive course and requires hard work and independent study outside the contact hours.

We welcome applications from graduates with Upper Second Class degrees who have either completed a degree in another subject or who have insufficient psychology in their degree to be eligible for GBC.

### Course content

You will take modules at Masters level in core areas of psychology, as specified by the BPS. You will also take one option module in psychology from a selection available.

We offer a work experience in psychology module as an option for those who would like to gain valuable experience in the work place.

The content of the curriculum of the MSc covers the core areas of psychology stipulated by the BPS for GBC. This consists of cognitive psychology, developmental psychology, history and philosophy of psychology, individual differences, empirical project, biological psychology, qualitative and quantitative research methods, and social psychology. In all of the modules there is a strong emphasis on critical evaluation of theory and practice.

### Core modules

- Biological and Cognitive Psychology
- Developmental and Differential Psychology
- Fundamental Conceptual Issues in Psychology
- Psychology in Practice: Qualitative Research Methods
- Psychology in Practice: Quantitative Research Methods
- Social Psychology and Applied Psychology
- Project for MSc Psychology

### Option modules

You will choose one from two options:

- Psychology Literature Review
- Work Experience in a Psychological Setting for MSc Students

Or another that may be available within Psychology (subject to availability and timetable constraints).

### Professional recognition

This course is accredited by the British Psychological Society (BPS).

### Associated careers

Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (GBC) is the first step towards becoming a Chartered Psychologist.

It is the prerequisite for progression to postgraduate professional training in psychology and subsequent registration as a Chartered Psychologist working in any of the fields of professional psychology – including clinical, counselling, educational, occupational, and health psychology. It is a requirement for Masters and Doctorate courses in psychology that lead to professional qualifications such as Doctorates in counselling, clinical and educational psychology, and Masters courses in organisational/occupational psychology.

