

Undergraduate
study at the University of East London

UEL
University of
East London

Psychosocial Studies



BA (Hons) Psychosocial Studies

UCAS Code: C881

3 years full-time

BA (Hons) Psychosocial Studies with Professional Studies

UCAS Code C882

4 years full-time

PSYCHOSOCIAL STUDIES WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

The Psychosocial Studies field of study offers new ways of exploring the relationships between individuals and their society. It encompasses both the individual focus of psychology and the broader concerns of the social sciences with society, history and culture.

PSYCHOSOCIAL STUDIES AT UEL

Psychosocial Studies has existed as an area of teaching within the university since 1983. It emerged in response to the growing student demand for programmes addressing the realities both of individual experience and of large scale social processes. Psychosocial Studies subsequently became established as a degree in its own right, and has been growing steadily in popularity over the last few years.

Students applying to Psychosocial Studies can choose between a three year or four year version of the degree. The first two years of study are the same for both, but those taking the four year route spend part of their third and fourth years in a placement with a relevant organisation (mostly in the welfare sector - though some students have also done research-based placements in local government departments or within commercial companies).



For many, the placement offers a valuable opportunity to gain 'hands-on' experience in a practical setting, usefully complementing what they have learned in lectures. All single subject Psychosocial Studies students start by taking compulsory modules, but thereafter have the opportunity to follow their own choice of more specialised topics within the subject area and from other programmes.



TEACHING METHODS

The University divides the academic year into two semesters (September - January and February - July) and students take three modules in each semester. Most modules in the Psychosocial Studies area are taught by a combination of lectures and seminars. Typically for any one module, students attend two hours of lectures and one accompanying seminar each week.

There are some exceptions to the general pattern of lecture plus small groups. For example, in those modules where practical skills form a large part of the syllabus, as in Research Methods or Counselling, 'hands on' workshops are likely to be given proportionately more time. Other modules may incorporate substantial elements of project work with workshop sessions devoted to this.

In addition to these traditional class-based teaching methods, we are also making increasing use of specially prepared resources and programme materials both to complement class-based work and to guide private study. These include module handbooks, computerised materials, and library resource banks of books and articles for short term loan.

WHY STUDY PSYCHOSOCIAL STUDIES?

A degree in Psychosocial Studies offers a solid foundation for careers in a wide range of areas. A majority of Psychosocial Studies graduates have tended to go on to work in the welfare sector (especially with agencies in areas such as mental illness and learning difficulties, drug use and homelessness). Other graduates have entered teaching or local government. More recently a number of graduates have entered the research, communications and marketing spheres.

For those interested in the possibility of further study at postgraduate level within the university, there is a strong programme of research in the Psychosocial Studies area, and study programmes including this and other subjects (such as Sociology and Women's Studies) are offered within the School of Social Sciences, Media and Cultural Studies.

PSYCHOSOCIAL STUDIES GRADUATES

"Psychosocial Studies has given me a foundation to build on. As a family therapist trainee it is useful to know the theories; for instance, child development and the impact of the social world."

"I did my degree to prove to myself that I was capable of doing one... I really enjoyed my time at UEL and it was the best thing for me to do."

"The PS degree has helped me with my career. It has led me to doing a Graduate Diploma in Psychology and successfully gaining membership of the British Psychology Society. I am in the process of applying for a doctorate in Clinical Psychology."

"My PS degree has given me a completely new outlook on life and my career path. It gave me a much better understanding of people in general, minority and ethnic groups, people with disabilities and mental health problems."

"As a mature student in my 40s I would never have had this opportunity. I recommend this course to younger as well as older students. I am currently working in a new project with autistic children in education. The PS degree has given me the opportunity and ability to do this."

STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME

Qualifying modules

Four of these modules (PS1201, 1205, 2201 and 2203) are compulsory for all students doing either a single subject or combined degree in Psychosocial Studies. PS1204 is also compulsory for single subject students only. Otherwise, students may choose which particular modules they take. Our aim is to maximise student choice within a clear overall framework.

Level One

	Semester
PS1201 Psychology in Context	A
PS1202 Psychology in Practice	B
PS1203 Constructions of Identity	B
PS1204 Knowledge Skills and Experience	A
PS1205 Key Concepts and Debates in PSS	B

Level Two

PS2201 Individual Development	A
PS2202 Individual and Society	B
PS2203 Qualitative Research Methods in PSS	B
PS2205 Introduction to Counselling 1	A
PS2206 Mental Health and Mental Disorder	B
PS2207 Consumption and Consumer Behaviour	B
PS2208 Sociology of Culture	A
PS2209 'Race' Ethnicity: Psychology and Culture	B

Level Three

PS3000 Single Dissertation	A or B
PS3001 Double Dissertation	A & B
PS3201 Family Studies	B
PS3203 Psychoanalysis and Culture	A
PS3205 Introduction to Counselling II	B
PS3207 Experiences of Childhood	B
PS3209 Psychosocial Perspectives in the Workplace	B
PS3214 Just Looking: Psychoanalysis, Cinema & Spectatorship	B
PS3216 Subjects in Culture	A
PS3219 Psychoanalysis and Film Cultures	B
PS3221 Psychosocial Perspectives on Criminal Behaviour	A

ASSESSMENT

Most Psychosocial Studies modules are assessed by a combination of coursework and examination. Different modules may involve different kinds of coursework, such as essays, projects, case studies, reports or book reviews.

Teaching staff may pay considerable attention to providing students with guidance on improving their written work. The university also has well-developed resources for helping any students who find they have particular problems with this or any other kind of study skills.

COMBINED HONOURS PROGRAMMES

You can also study Psychosocial Studies choosing a Major, Joint or Minor as part of a Combined Honours Degree.

Popular choices include combining Psychosocial Studies with Law, Criminology, Education & Community Studies, Sociology and History.

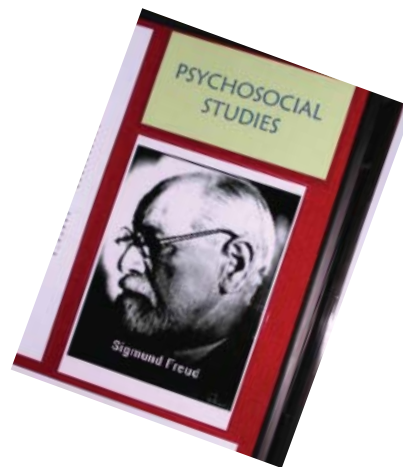
For further information contact us on [020 8223 2565/2518](tel:02082232565).

E-mail: combined.honours@uel.ac.uk.

You will find a list of available combinations of subjects on the Combined Honours website www.uel.ac.uk/combined and in the UCAS Handbook.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Research
PR Marketing
Psychotherapist
Social Worker
Welfare Primary Teacher
Postgraduate Study MA/PhD
University Administration
IT
Educational Psychologist
Family Therapist



RESEARCH IN PSYCHOSOCIAL STUDIES

Psychosocial Studies has a lively and flourishing research culture. Psychosocial research is innovative and interdisciplinary.

There are two main research groups: the Centre for Narrative Research (CNR) (see www.uel.ac.uk/cnr/home) and the Psychoanalytic Studies Group. Staff members are currently engaged in research into a wide range of topics including education, 'race' and identity, cinema, art and popular culture, psychotherapeutic processes, gender, crime, mental illness, emotion, embodiment, and HIV/AIDs.

We run regular training workshops, short programmes and research and graduate seminar programmes (the latter jointly with the Open University and LSE)

We run postgraduate programmes, including professional doctorates, jointly with the Tavistock Clinic.

For information on research and postgraduate opportunities in Psychosocial Studies contact Corinne Squire, Reader, Psychosocial Studies

E-mail: c.squire@uel.ac.uk

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Our students tend to come from a wide range of backgrounds - some with A levels, some with BTEC or GNVQ qualifications, and others re-entering formal education via Access courses.

However, we recognise that prior academic experience is not the only predictor of success on our degree programme. For this reason, we encourage applications from students who may not have many formal educational qualifications, but are nevertheless able to display their aptitude for degree-level work in other ways (for example, through experience in a relevant field of employment). Entry through this route is by individual assessment. Please contact us to find out more.

Typical offer: 160 UCAS Tariff points
For Students with formal qualifications the typical entry requirement is 160 UCAS points, including 2 A-levels and excluding General Studies. Students also need GCSE English Grade C and two other GCSE passes at Grade C or above.

We also recognise the Access to Higher Education and Access to Education qualifications and UEL Year Zero Foundation course.

Other/overseas qualifications individually assessed.

As part of the Psychosocial Studies admission policy, we aim to invite all short-listed applicants for an informal interview and Open Day at the university. This is your chance to meet an academic member of staff and ask them about your choice of degree.

TO APPLY NOW

Applications for all full-time undergraduate programmes starting in September are made online through UCAS.

For all applicants, there are full instructions at www.ucas.com to make it as easy as possible for you to fill in your online application.

Applications for February start are made directly to UEL. Go to www.uel.ac.uk/admiss or contact our Applicant Enquiry Line on +44 (0)20 223 3333



IF YOU NEED MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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or visit our website:

www.uel.ac.uk/ssmcs

WHERE WILL I STUDY?

The Psychosocial Studies programme is offered at our Docklands Campus, located on the waterfront of the Royal Albert Dock. Recent developments at Docklands include: a stunning new multimedia library with 24/7 access and a 600-station, fully networked computing hall.

Our new Student Village, with waterfront location offers stunning views and comprises purpose-built accommodation around gardens and courtyards. The choice of accommodation varies from self-contained studios to four-seven person shared flats with communal kitchens and dining areas. All rooms have IT points and en-suite shower facilities.



HOW DO I GET THERE?

The Docklands Light Railway's Cyprus station is immediately beside the UEL Docklands Campus, and frequent trains run from Bank, in the City, and Lewisham, south of the river, as well as Stratford and Canary Wharf, linking you to all parts of London and the rest of the UK.

Buses 101, 366, 376 and 474 stop just outside our Campus. London City Airport is just opposite the campus, ten minutes away by taxi.

Or go to: www.uel.ac.uk/about_uel/why_uel/docklands_map

www.uel.ac.uk

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