

Psychology Extended Degree: Level Three Programme

Final award	BSc (Hons) Extended Psychology degree
Intermediate awards available	
UCAS code	C801
Details of professional body accreditation	N/A
Relevant QAA Benchmark statements	Psychology
Date specification last up-dated	July 2014

Profile

The summary - UCAS programme profile

BANNER BOX:

- This programme prepares students for successful transition to a Psychology Degree

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

80 UCAS points from a recognised Level 3 qualification:

A/AS levels

BTEC

CACHE Diploma

Or Access to HE Diploma (Pass or higher)

For the full list of qualifications covered by the UCAS tariff and the associated points please check the UCAS website.

Please note we would normally expect you will have at least a Grade C in English and Maths GCSE. (Most programmes accept Key Skills Level 2 Application of Number and Communication as equivalent to GCSE Maths and English).

Successful applicants to the Extended Psychology programme will be expected within the period of their studies to demonstrate the capacity and commitment to develop a level of academic performance corresponding with the threshold standard required for progression to level 4.

Students who have been out of education for a while or those with disabilities and relevant aptitude or experience at an appropriate level are encouraged.

The Extended Psychology degree programme has been devised for post-FE students and school leavers who:

- Would benefit from membership of a Higher Education learning community as they acclimatise to a higher level of study.
- Have previously studied in a purely vocational context and require fuller academic development before progressing onto an undergraduate programme.
- Would prefer to study for four years in order to start their degree at a suitable entry point for their current level of education.

This programme also accepts the UEL pre-entry short programme New Beginnings. As an inclusive university we recognise that applicants who have been out of education for some time may not have the formal qualifications usually required for entry to a programme. We welcome applications from those who can demonstrate their enthusiasm and commitment to study and have relevant life/work experience that equips them to succeed on the programme. We will assess this from the information provided in your application (particularly your personal statement). You will also be asked to attend an interview to help us decide on your eligibility for the programme. In the event you do not possess a GCSE C grade (or equivalent) in English and Maths, you will be asked to sit the applicable in house test. Our pre-entry Information Advice and Guidance Team is able to provide further advice on entry requirements and suitability for study.

Students may be admitted through Accreditation of Experiential Learning (AEL) or Accreditation of Certificated Learning (ACL) processes.

In the case of applicants whose first language is not English, the University's English Language requirements as detailed on the website at time of application must be met – see <http://www.uel.ac.uk/international/application/english-language-requirements/>

At UEL we are committed to working together to build a learning community founded on equality of opportunity - a learning community which celebrates the rich diversity of our student and staff populations. Discriminatory behaviour has no place in our community and will not be tolerated. Within a spirit of respecting difference, our equality and diversity policies promise fair treatment and equality of opportunity for all. In pursuing this aim, we want people applying for a place at UEL to feel valued and know that the process and experience will be transparent and fair and no one will be refused access on the grounds of any protected characteristic stated in the Equality Act 2010

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

What is Bsc (Hons) Extended Psychology?

The Extended Psychology degree programme provides a broad background to psychological study skills and the application of research for progression onto the 3 year single honours BSc Psychology degree at UEL. By joining the Extended Psychology programme full-time students are embarking on an extended 4-year programme of studies in Psychology and enjoying all the benefits of membership of the UEL psychology student body from the beginning of this programme.

Bsc (Hons) Extended Psychology at UEL

- Provides instruction and guidance in study skills essential for degree-level study
- Provides a transition route onto a 3 year psychology degree
- Offers scope in programme content
- Offers access to the psychological community and academic experience at UEL
- Offers extensive study skills and personal development support

Programme Structure

1 year full time for progression onto 3 year FT or 4.5 year PT degree in Psychology

Learning environment

Lectures, seminars, practicals, workshops, personal tutorials, laboratory space, web-based learning

Assessment

Undertaken individually and in groups, assessment will comprise essays, coursework, reports, debates and computer based assessments.

To pass the Extended Psychology modules and proceed to level 4 of the BSc, students are required to obtain pass-level (40%) or better in all 4 modules.

Students with disabilities and/or particular learning needs should discuss assessments with the Programme Leader to ensure they are able to fully engage with all assessment within the programme. Formative assessment will allow students to monitor their own understanding and teaching staff to monitor understanding and engagement.

Added value

The Extended Psychology programme is a 1 year full time preparation for transition onto a degree in Psychology. The programme is designed to accommodate a range of needs for students of all backgrounds. Whilst the aim of the programme is to provide students with an appropriate background for progression onto levels 4-6, level 3 study also fosters the transferable skills desirable to employers, e.g. time management, written and spoken communication and teamwork. Students studying at UEL also have free access to the services of the employability and enterprise team:

<http://www.uel.ac.uk/eet/>

IS THIS THE PROGRAMME FOR ME?

If you are interested in...

- Personality
- Eating Disorders
- Schizophrenia
- Depression and Anxiety
- Cultural Differences
- Leadership, Conformity and Minority Influences
- Propaganda and Psychological Operations
- Espionage and Counter-terrorism
- Psychological Theories of Dreaming
- Psychology and Road Safety
- Parapsychology
- Psychokinesis
- Psychology and holistic healing

If you enjoy...

- Conducting research
- Working as part of a group and individually
- Finding out more about the way people behave
- Acquiring and developing new study skills
- Thinking and working creatively
- Debating psychological theories
- Want to be part of a thriving university community

If you want...

- To build confidence in your academic abilities, if you have been out of education for a while.
- To acquire or enhance skills in psychological research
- To develop study and research skills essential for degree-level study (analytical reading and note-taking, essay planning and writing, reports, independent thinking, problem solving, coherent reasoning, academic writing).
- To have the opportunity to move onto study at degree level in psychology
- To spend more time thinking about and preparing for the particular specialism of your degree, while developing skills essential for degree-level study.
- To look at areas of psychology not necessarily covered in conventional psychological programmes

Your future career

The critical and creative skills gained from this programme will give you the foundation to go on to study psychology at degree level. This will then allow you to go on to seek employment or further training in Educational psychology, Occupational psychology, Forensic psychology, Research, Teaching, Human Resources, Market Research, Retail etc.

How we support you

Each student will have a tutor responsible for providing regular guidance and support in relevant areas of personal and academic life. They will have access to the on-line support from their tutor and their peers through UELPlus. They will be able to use the IT programmes available to all psychology students at UEL such as the Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS). Training in the use of SPSS, Excel, and Word will be given and they will have the support of the Psychology help-desk which provides help and advice to all psychology students. We have an excellent library with access to hundreds of academic journals and other literary resources. The university provides a counselling and advisory service that any student can use and we also provide a good careers advice service.

Outcomes

Programme aims and learning outcomes

What is this programme designed to achieve?

This programme is designed to give you the opportunity to:

- Enjoy a stimulating and engaging introduction to a broad perspective on psychology
- Become a part of the wider Higher Education community whilst you study for access to a degree programme
- To develop transferable skills to enable successful completion of a degree programme in psychology

What will you learn?

Knowledge

- A broad-based introduction to some of the key concepts and theories relevant to understanding the character and functions of psychology
- Descriptive knowledge of the technologies needed to conduct psychological research

Thinking skills

- developing psychological arguments for debate
- how to identify different points of view in psychological texts
- how to create research questions

Subject-Based Practical skills

- competence in using SPSS for statistical analysis
- technologies for writing essays and empirical reports

Skills for life and work (general skills)

- how to organise and manage a workload effectively
- how to locate and select sources of information for written work/research
- how to work collaboratively
- how to debate

Structure

The programme structure

Introduction

All programmes are credit-rated to help you to understand the amount and level of study that is needed.

One credit is equal to 10 hours of directed study time (this includes everything you do e.g. lecture, seminar and private study).

Credits are assigned to one of 5 levels:

- 3 Equivalent in standard to GCE 'A' level and is intended to prepare students for year one of an undergraduate degree programme
- 4 Equivalent in standard to the first year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme
- 5 Equivalent in standard to the second year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme
- 6 Equivalent in standard to the third year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme
- 7 Equivalent in standard to a Masters degree

Credit rating

The overall credit-rating of this programme is 480 credits.

Typical duration

The expected duration of this programme is 1 year full-time at level 3, followed by 3 years from level 4 to 6

How the teaching year is divided

The teaching year begins in September and ends in June

A typical student, in full-time attendance mode of study, will register for 120 credits in an academic year.

What you will study when

This programme is part of a modular degree scheme. A typical full-time student will take four 30 credit modules per level.

The following are the core requirements for completion of the programme and access to a Psychology Honours degree. A student registered in a full-time attendance mode will take 120 credits per level. Typically this will be comprised of four 30 credit modules. The exact number may differ if the programme is comprised of 15, 45 or 60 credits modules. An honours degree student will complete modules totalling 120 credits at level four, modules totalling 120 credits at level five and modules totalling 120 credits at level six.

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Distance learning Y/N	Credits	Status*
3	PY3051	Skills for Success in Psychology	N	30	Core
3	PY3052	Debates in Psychology	N	30	Core
3	PY3053	Topics in Psychology	N	30	Core
3	PY3054	Psychology in Practice	N	30	Core

**Please Note – A core module for a programme is a module which a student must have passed (i.e. been awarded credit) in order to achieve the relevant named award. An optional module for a programme is a module selected from a range of modules available on the programme.*

Requirements for gaining an award

To progress onto level 4 of the BSc you must obtain:

- A minimum of 120 credits at level three

In order to gain an honours degree you will need to obtain 360 credits including:

- A minimum of 120 credits at level four or higher
- A minimum of 120 credits at level five or higher
- A minimum of 120 credits at level six or higher

In order to gain an ordinary degree you will need to obtain a minimum of 300 credits including:

- A minimum of 120 credits at level four or higher
- A minimum of 120 credits at level five or higher
- A minimum of 60 credits at level six or higher

In order to gain a Diploma of Higher Education you will need to obtain at least 240 credits including a minimum of 120 credits at level four or higher and 120 credits at level five or higher

In order to gain a Certificate of Higher Education you will need to obtain 120 credits at level four or higher.

In order to gain an Undergraduate Associate Certificate you will need to obtain

30 credits at level three.

In order to gain an Undergraduate Certificate you will need to obtain 60 credits at level three.

Degree Classification

Where a student is eligible for an Honours degree by passing a valid combination of module to comprise an award and has gained the minimum of 240 UEL credits at level 5 or level 6 on the current enrolment for the programme, including a minimum of 120 UEL credits at level 6, the award classification is determined by calculating;

The arithmetic mean of the best 90 credits at level 6	x0.8	+	The arithmetic mean of the next best 90 credits at levels 5 and/or 6	x0.2
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and applying the mark obtained as a percentage, with all decimal points rounded up to the nearest whole number, to the following classification

- 70% - 100% First Class Honours
- 60% - 69% Second Class Honours, First Division
- 50% - 59% Second Class Honours, Second Division
- 40% - 49% Third Class Honours
- 0% - 39% Not passed

Further Information

Teaching, learning and assessment

Teaching and learning

Knowledge is developed through

- Presentation of frameworks of information in lectures
- Student centred seminar discussions
- Reading of specified texts on a weekly basis

Thinking skills are developed through

- Close analysis of specified texts
- Individual and small group exercises in seminar sessions

Practical skills are developed through

- Tutored introduction to psychological research
- Practical demonstration workshops
- Tutorial support

- Independent practical studies
- Project work

Skills for life and work (general skills) are developed through

- Understanding of university and the level 0 programme and structure
- Tutorials to discuss individual progress
- Group project work

Assessment

Knowledge is assessed by

- Coursework, Essays, Examinations
- Class tests, online assessments
- Multiple choice questions

Thinking skills are assessed by

- Coursework, Essays, Examinations
- Class tests, online assessments
- Multiple choice questions

Practical skills are assessed by

- Tutor observation
- Evidence of demonstrable understanding in completed project work

Skills for life and work (general skills) are assessed by

- Involvement in and contribution to seminar/workshop sessions
- Ability to understand and meet requirements of module specifications
- Regular contributions to discussions and tutorials
- Involvement in and contribution to group project work

Formative assessment will allow students to monitor their own understanding and teaching staff to monitor understanding and engagement.

Quality

How we assure the quality of this programme

Before this programme started

Before this programme started, the following was checked

- there would be enough qualified staff to teach the programme
- adequate resources would be in place
- the overall aims and objectives were appropriate

- the content of the programme met national benchmark requirements
- the programme met any professional/statutory body requirements
- the proposal met other internal quality criteria covering a range of issues such as admissions policy, teaching, learning and assessment strategy, and student support mechanisms

This is done through a process of programme approval which involves consulting academic experts including some subject specialists from other institutions.

How we monitor the quality of this programme

The quality of this programme is monitored each year through evaluating:

- external examiner reports (considering quality and standards)
- statistical information (considering issues such as the pass rate)
- student feedback

Drawing on this and other information, programme teams undertake the annual Review and Enhancement Process which is co-ordinated at School level and includes student participation. The process is monitored by the Quality and Standards Committee.

Once every six years an in-depth review of the whole subject area is undertaken by a panel that includes at least two external subject specialists. The panel considers documents, looks at student work, speaks to current and former students and speaks to staff before drawing its conclusions. The result is a report highlighting good practice and identifying areas where action is needed.

The role of the programme committee

This programme has a programme committee comprising all relevant teaching staff, student representatives and others who make a contribution towards the effective operation of the programme (e.g. library/technician staff). The committee has responsibilities for the quality of the programme. It provides input into the operation of the Review and Enhancement Process and proposes changes to improve quality. The programme committee plays a critical role in the University's quality assurance procedures.

The role of external examiners

The standard of this programme is monitored by at least one external examiner. External examiners have two primary responsibilities:

- To ensure the standard of the programme
- To ensure that justice is done to individual student

External examiners fulfil these responsibilities in a variety of ways including:

- Approving exam papers/assignments;
- Attending assessment boards;
- Reviewing samples of student work and moderating marks;
- Ensuring that regulations are followed;

- Providing feedback through an annual report that enables us to make improvements for the future.

The external examiner reports for this programme are located on the UEL virtual learning environment (Moodle) on the school notice board under the section entitled 'External Examiner Reports & Responses'. You can also view a list of the external examiners for the UEL School by clicking on the link below.

<http://www.uel.ac.uk/qa/externalexaminersystem/currentexaminers/>

Listening to the views of students

The following methods for gaining student feedback are used on this programme:

- Module evaluations
- Programme evaluations
- Polls and surveys online
- Student representation on programme committees (meeting 2 times a year)

Students are notified of the action taken through:

- Circulating the minutes of the programme committee
- Individual responses to students as required
- Postings on our online discussion forums

Listening to the views of others

The following methods are used for gaining the views of other interested parties:

- Questionnaires to former students
- Graduate employer review

Further Information

Alternative locations for studying this programme

Where you can find further information

Further information about this programme is available from:

- The UEL web site (<http://www.uel.ac.uk>)
- The programme handbook
- Module study guides
- UEL Manual of General Regulations (<http://www.uel.ac.uk/qa/policies/manual/>)
- UEL Quality Manual (<http://www.uel.ac.uk/qa/policies/qualitymanual/>)
- School web pages (www.uel.ac.uk/psychology)
- British Psychological Society web-pages <http://www.bps.org.uk>

