

Programme Specification: MSc Psychology in Practice

1	Name of course and highest award	MSc Psychology in Practice
2	Level of highest award (according to FHEQ)	7
3	Possible interim awards	PGCert, PGDip
4	Awarding/validating institution	University of Gloucestershire
5	Teaching institution	University of Gloucestershire
6	Faculty responsible	Applied Sciences
7	Mode of study (full-time, part-time, etc)	Full time, part time
8	QAA subject benchmark statement(s) where relevant	Not applicable
9	Recognition by Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB), to include definition of the recognition	None
10	Other external points of reference	QAA (2008) The framework for higher education qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.
11	Date of initial validation	June 2012
12	Date(s) of revision	N/A
13	Course aims	<p>The course aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a critical and integrative understanding of the relationship between theory, research and practice in psychology. 2. Develop practitioner skills, aptitudes and abilities suitable for real world application in a range of professional domains in psychology. 3. Provide training in project, consultancy and communication skills needed for professional practice. 4. Provide opportunities for building on work experience or volunteer activity in the context of continuing professional development and life long learning. 5. Allow students to specialise in psychological themes and practice areas relevant to their career paths. 6. Develop students as reflective and ethical practitioners in psychology.

14 Learning outcomes of the course

On successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Have a broad knowledge and deep understanding of theories and principles of psychology, and their application to real-world settings.
2. Have advanced knowledge and skills in selected practice areas of psychology.
3. Demonstrate a critical and integrative understanding of the relationship between theory, research and practice.
4. Possess a range of practitioner, business and consultancy skills.
5. Appreciate key ethical, legal and business issues in professional practice.
6. Be equipped with advanced research skills in designing, conducting and executing research projects.
7. Be able to use knowledge and evidence from research projects to inform application to real world problems.
8. Communicate effectively in registers suitable for academic, professional and commercial audiences.
9. Operate confidently in complex and unfamiliar contexts, applying knowledge flexibly and creatively, and generating transformative solutions.
10. Be self-sustaining, critically reflective practitioners.

15 Learning and teaching strategy

Student achievement and demonstration of Programme Outcomes are directed by Module Learning Outcomes, illustrated by the grid below. The student's choice of module options will determine the specific manner in which they will be able to demonstrate the Outcomes.

		Programme Outcomes									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Modules	NS7001				X	X			X	X	X
	NS7002				X	X			X	X	X
	NS7003			X			X	X	X	X	X
	NS7004			X			X	X	X	X	X
	NS7005	X							X	X	
	NS7101	X	X	X					X	X	
	NS7102	X	X	X					X	X	
	NS7103	X	X	X					X	X	
	NS7104	X	X	X					X	X	
	NS7201	X	X	X					X	X	
	NS7202	X	X	X					X	X	
	NS7203	X	X	X					X	X	
	NS7301	X	X	X					X	X	
NS7302	X	X	X					X	X		

		NS7111	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
		SEP407	X	X	X					X	X		
16	Learning and teaching methods												
	<p>Core knowledge, understanding and skills are acquired through the scheduled learning and teaching activities of lectures, seminars, research projects, case studies, workshops and tutorials. These activities are delivered using participatory learning approaches and a problem-based learning method. As befits a programme focused on professional development, where appropriate students' own experiences will be drawn upon in exploring the challenges facing practitioners. Scheduled learning activities are also delivered via synchronous on-line "webinars".</p> <p>Students' independent learning is supported by effective use of the University's Virtual Learning Environment (Moodle).</p>												
	Level 7	Scheduled learning and teaching activities							15%				
		Guided independent learning							85%				
		Placement and study abroad							0%				
17	Assessment strategy												
	<p>The modes of assessment employed in this course are designed to provide students with opportunities to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. expand their specialist knowledge and develop their preferred areas of specialist expertise; 2. develop a capacity for critical evaluation of theories, data, policies and plans, and an appreciation of alternative approaches to solving real-world problems; 3. practice the subject-specialist and practitioner skills relevant to their chosen careers; 4. develop the general skills and aptitudes required to operate effectively at professional level, including primary research skills and the ability to present materials in modes and registers suitable for different audiences. 												
18	Assessment methods												
	Level 7	Written exams							0%				
		Practical exams							0%				
		Coursework							100%				
19	Location(s) of the course's delivery		Standard										
20	Admissions requirements		The minimum entry qualification for study towards an award is a 2:2 Honours Degree, or equivalent international qualification, or equivalent experience and learning.										
21	Career and employability opportunities		The course combines an emphasis on the latest relevant scholarship with an exploration of how this informs practice in the range of professions utilising psychological knowledge and										

		interventions. Students are set tasks which replicate real-world scenarios, and assessment develops and tests skills essential to practice and consultancy roles. Modules can be taken individually as continuing professional development, and learning and assessment activities will be tailored to allow students who are already practitioners to address current challenges in their work.
22	Management of Quality and Standards	– the means by which the quality and standards of the course are assured at course, Faculty and University level. The text below is offered as an aid may be adapted as necessary.
		<p>Guidance on the University's approach to the management of quality and standards is contained in the Quality Assurance Handbook, Academic Regulations for Taught Provision, Assessment Principles and Procedures, and associated sources of advice. All regulations, policies and procedures are aligned with QAA reference points and, where relevant, those of Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies.</p> <p>Quality assurance is undertaken as close as possible to the point of delivery. There is a route from the module level to courses and through to faculty and University levels so that issues can be addressed and delivery enhanced in the appropriate arena.</p> <p>Externality is guaranteed via external examiner reports which allow the University to make judgements on the quality and standards of its provision. The University also benefits from the input of externals in its approval and review procedures.</p> <p>Students are able to comment on their modules and courses in various ways including module evaluations, course boards and the NSS.</p>
23	Support for Students and for Student Learning	– means by which support for students is provided at course, Faculty and University level. The suggested text below is offered as an aid may be adapted as necessary.
		<p>Students are supported by a MSc course leader, an Academic Review Tutor and a Dissertation Advisor.</p> <p>Direct contact with module tutors is complemented by a Virtual Learning Environment through the Moodle platform.</p> <p>At University level, students are able to access information, advice and guidance on a range of issues as well as contacting most Student Services teams through the campus based Helpzones, either in person, accessing materials and advice via the website or by telephone/e-mail contact see www.glos.ac.uk/helpzones. Available support specific to their studies includes Student Employability (Careers advice and guidance and placement related activity), Disability, Dyslexia and Learning Support team and the Student Achievement team (including study skills tutors for academic and numeracy skills). Full details of all Student Services is available at - www.glos.ac.uk/student-services.</p> <p>Further general and programme specific support is available through the Libraries, ICT and LTS. Library and Information Services support student learning by delivering effective, efficient and learner-focused services via the three campus libraries. These include traditional academic library resources, electronic information resources, open access IT and media facilities, integrated learner support, enquiry services, a choice of study spaces and access to the Archives and special collections. Students have access</p>

to expert help and advice in using the full range of resources to support their studies, whether they are working on or off campus. Full details of all LIS services are available at <http://insight.glos.ac.uk/departments/lis/Pages/default.aspx>.

24 Current Course Map

MSc Psychology in Practice

Course Leader: Dai Jones

Senior Tutor: Jon Hobson

Notes: Overall, cannot count more than 30 CATS from NS7201 to NS7104; cannot count more than 45 CATS from NS7201 to NS7203. Students without a qualification in Psychology are strongly advised to take NS7005 at Postgraduate Certificate stage.

To achieve your intended award you must meet the overall award requirements and the Course requirements.

Award Requirements

For Postgraduate Certificate

- Pass 60 CATS from the Course map below
- Pass compulsory modules from the Course map below

For Postgraduate Diploma

- Meet the requirements for the Postgraduate Certificate
- Pass 120 CATS in total from the Course map below
- Pass compulsory modules from the Course map below and meet Core requirements

For MSc

- Meet the requirements for the Postgraduate Diploma
- Pass 180 CATS in total from the Course map below
- Pass compulsory modules from the Course map below

Course Requirements:

To complete your Postgraduate Certificate you must pass the following compulsory modules:		
NS7001 Professional Skills	15 CATS	SEM1
NS7002 The Practitioner Consultant	15 CATS	SEM2
Plus 15 CATs from core modules:		
NS7003 Research for Professional Practice	15 CATS	SEM1
NS7004 Advanced Research Methods	15 CATS	YEAR
Plus 15 CATs from option modules below.		
To complete your Postgraduate Diploma you must pass an additional 60 CATs from the following, within the limits shown in 'Notes' above:		
NS7005 Psychology of the Individual	15 CATS	SEM1
NS7101 Human Factors and Work Environments	15 CATS	SEM1
NS7102 Personnel Selection, Development and Appraisal	30 CATS	YEAR
NS7103 Managing Organisational Change and Relations	15 CATS	SEM2
NS7104 Counselling and Development in the Workplace	15 CATS	SEM2
NS7201 Psychology, Investigation and the Legal Process	30 CATS	SEM2
NS7202 Offenders: Causes, Assessment and Treatment	30 CATS	SEM1
NS7203 Issues in Sexual Offending	15 CATS	SEM1
NS7301 Psychological Well-being	15 CATS	SEM1
NS7302 Understanding Mental Health and Illness	15 CATS	SEM2
SEP407 Performance Psychology	30 CATS	SEM2

To complete your MSc you must pass the following compulsory modules:

NS7111 Dissertation

60 CATS

YEAR