



Module Handbook

[Modules are available to students coming on the following incoming programmes:
non-European exchange; European exchange; full-year fee-paying study abroad]

Incoming Students

Academic Year 2026/2027

Psychology



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A: THE DEPARTMENT

The Department of Psychology at Durham [<http://www.dur.ac.uk/psychology>] provides a vigorous and intellectually exciting environment for learning and research in all areas of the discipline. The Department is located on the science campus. You can find a map of Durham University at: www.dur.ac.uk/map/. Location maps and directions can be found at: www.dur.ac.uk/about/location .

The Department of Psychology admits around 250 – 300 undergraduate students a year. Our students benefit from a research-led curriculum and are taught by international leaders of their fields. Each student has an academic staff member allocated as an Academic Advisor.

Further information for exchange students can be found via the University's International Office link: [Global Opportunities - Durham University](#)

We look forward to welcoming you to the Department.

A1: Exchange Coordinator

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B: DEGREE STRUCTURE

There are a number of options for undergraduates in Psychology. The Department offers one single honours degree programme and contributes to the following joint and combined honours degree programmes:

- BSc Psychology (C800)
- BSc Psychological and Behavioural Science (C807)
- BA Philosophy and Psychology (CV85)
- BA Education Studies – Psychology (X1C8)
- BSc Natural Sciences (CFG0)
- BSc Psychology and Anthropology (CL86)

All degrees at Durham have a modular structure, consisting of the equivalent of six modules 20-credit (in total, 120 Durham credits, amounting to 60 ECTS) each year. 20-credit modules are studied over all three terms of the teaching year (October-June). All modules are examined or assessed in the year in which they are taught. Teaching takes place in terms 1 and 2 (Michaelmas and Epiphany) with assessment / exams in term 3 (Easter).

Our *BSc Psychology (C800)* programme is organized around four broad approaches to the subject: Cognitive, Biological, Social, and Developmental. That is, we study people in terms of their internal mental processes, the biological mechanisms that underlie their behaviour, and the social and developmental context in which they act. In addition, we consider ways of assessing individual differences between people and consider abnormal and clinical aspects of psychology. Students are instructed in the statistical and methodological techniques that form the basis of psychological research.

C: REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS

This section contains important information for setting up your academic programme at Durham University. Please read through this section carefully before considering your modules and filling in the Learning Agreement!

C1: General

Choice of Modules

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR STUDENTS: PLEASE READ BEFORE COMPLETING YOUR LEARNING AGREEMENT

At Durham University Incoming European Exchange Programme agreements are signed by individual university departments and are not university-wide agreements. This means that, in general, you will be attached to one department and will to choose modules (courses) from this Durham University department. Modules offered by other departments are subject to availability and can only be taken with prior consent from the relevant department. Certain restrictions may also apply to courses in some departments and students need to follow the advice below carefully before completing their Learning Agreements.

Please clearly indicate the modules you wish to take on your Learning Agreement (included in your application package) for approval by the respective department(s). Before completing your Learning Agreement, it is very important that you read carefully the relevant departmental section(s) of the Module Handbook to check which modules are available to you and any restrictions which may apply. It is imperative that a properly completed Learning Agreement is submitted as part of the application form. Only complete applications can be processed.

Section *D: Module Details* provides a list of modules available for students majoring in the Psychology department (receiving department) and a separate list of modules available for students coming in through other departments (external departments). Please choose from these modules only!

To find out about the details for each module (teaching methods and contact hours, prerequisite academic background, method of assessment, content, etc) please refer to the Faculty Handbook online under <http://www.dur.ac.uk/faculty.handbook/>

C2: Departmental Requirements and Restrictions

The Department of Psychology offers most of its level 2 and level 3 20-credit (10 ECTS) modules to incoming Exchange students. **We only accept incoming students for a full teaching year** (9 months) as this provides the best possible learning experience. Given that most of our modules run throughout the three terms, student will be able to attend each module from the beginning. We expect incoming students to take between 2 modules (if they are studying at another department) and 6 (maximum if they come for the full 9-month year and are just doing modules in Psychology), with the total number of credits required to be agreed in advance between the institutions as part of each Learning Agreement. To ensure that the modules are appropriate to your current stage of higher education we only offer second and third year modules to students majoring in Psychology. Please note that some modules do get full and so you need to be sure that there are a range of alternative modules that suit your abilities and interests.

Our modules typically have a mixture of assessment by exam and by coursework (e.g., essays, presentations, etc.). Some modules often set some sort of formative work, which is marked and feedback given but whose marks does not count toward the final module mark. This is a 'practice' piece of work, intended to introduce to the particular format of assessment. Summative work, which counts towards a student's final year mark, can be set throughout the year, though the majority will be submitted between December and April. All work is assessed in English.

The Programme is supported by a mixture of lectures, tutorials, and laboratory work. Additionally, some modules include online learning activities that students should engage with. Lectures are used to provide information, challenge students and generate enthusiasm for learning. A central component of your teaching and learning experience will be the independent reading of academic articles and books. Extensive reading lists are provided with each module, so you should be willing and able to undertake independent reading as part of research into your subjects.

Some exchange students need a coherent second programme with research methods and statistics, for these students we offer our second year programme which includes the modules in table D1 plus Contemporary & Conceptual Issues in Psychology (PSYC2121) and Advanced Research Methods and Statistics (PSYC2232) but no space for option modules. The modules PSYC2121 and PSYC2232 can only be taken when combined with our other second year modules in D1 due to coordination and space issues across the modules. Most

exchange students majoring in Psychology will instead wish to take a mixture of modules from D1 and D2.

D: MODULE DETAILS

This section contains a list of modules students can choose from. Please only select from the modules listed in sections D1 or D2 in the Module Handbooks for each subject!

Please note that for third year we operate 3 streams Cognitive Neuroscience (1), Behavioural Science (2), and Developmental Psychology (3). To avoid module clashes, students, including you, can only take modules from one stream. This relates to the first 6 modules listed for year 3.

To find further details for each module (teaching methods and contact hours, prerequisite academic background, method of assessment, content, etc) please refer to the Faculty Handbook online under <http://www.dur.ac.uk/faculty.handbook/>.

D1: Modules available to students majoring in the Psychology Department

YEAR 2

MODULE CODE	MODULE TITLE	TERMS	ECTS
PSYC2241	COGNITIVE AND BIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY	FULL YEAR	10
PSYC2251	DIFFERENTIAL AND CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY	FULL YEAR	10
PSYC2271	SOCIAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY	FULL YEAR	10

More details of the modules are available at <https://apps.dur.ac.uk/faculty.handbook/2025/UG/search?module=&keywords=&department=Psychology&type=&level=2&credits=v> . N.B. These are the modules for 2025-6. Substituting 2026 for 2025 will produce the updated module information.

YEAR 3

MODULE CODE	MODULE TITLE	TERMS	ECTS
PSYC3871	PERCEPTION FROM THE LAB TO THE REAL WORLD ¹	FULL YEAR	10
PSYC3851	LEARNING AND MEMORY: THEORIES, NEURAL BASES, AND CLINICAL APPLICATIONS ¹	FULL YEAR	10
PSYC3861	ORGANISATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY – EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION ²	FULL YEAR	10
PSYC3831	BEHAVIOUR CHANGE: FOUNDATIONS, ADVANCES, AND APPLICATIONS ²	FULL YEAR	10
PSYC3951	DEVELOPMENTAL NEURODIVERSITY ³	FULL YEAR	10
PSYC3981	DEVELOPMENT OF COGNITION ³	FULL YEAR	10
PSYC3961	FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY	FULL YEAR	10
PSYC3841	CURRENT ISSUES IN MENTAL HEALTH	FULL YEAR	10
PSYC3931	EVOLUTION, CULTURE, AND BEHAVIOUR	FULL YEAR	10
PSYC3891	THE PSYCHOLOGY OF SOCIAL RELATIONS	FULL YEAR	10
PSYC3881	PROMOTING PHYSICAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING	FULL YEAR	10
PSYC3921	CLINICAL NEUROPSYCHOLOGY: RESEARCH TO PRACTICE	FULL YEAR	10
PSYC3941	FACE AND BODY PERCEPTION	FULL YEAR	10

Please note that the first 6 modules are divided into streams 1, 2 and 3 and, if you choose to take these modules, then they must be from the same stream. L3 modules which are available might change at short notice. More information on these modules can be found at

https://apps.dur.ac.uk/faculty_handbook/2025/UG/search?module=&keywords=&department=Psychology&type=&level=3&credits= N.B. These are the modules for 2025-6. Substituting 2026 for 2025 will produce the updated module information.

D2: Modules for students coming through a different department

For students without substantial knowledge of Psychology there are two Year 1 modules available from C800. Students with a substantial background in Psychology may refer to section D1 for a choice of modules.

YEAR 1

Modules available from the BSc Psychology (C800)

MODULE CODE	MODULE TITLE	TERMS	ECTS
PSYC1071	INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY 1: COGNITIVE & BIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY	FULL YEAR	10
PSYC1081	INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY 2 DEVELOPMENTAL, SOCIAL & ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY	FULL YEAR	10