

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Name, title and level of final qualification(s)	BSc Psychology <i>Pathway awards:</i> - BSc Psychology with Neuroscience - BSc Psychology with Child Development - BSc Psychology in Practice - BA Psychology in Practice - BA Psychology (Level 6)
Name and title of any exit qualification(s)	Cert HE Foundations of Psychology Cert HE Psychology Dip HE Psychology
Is the programme offered with a Foundation Year?	Yes
Awarding Body	University of London
Teaching Institution(s)	Birkbeck, University of London
Home School/other teaching departments	Psychological Sciences
Location of delivery	Central London
Language of delivery and assessment	English
Mode of study, length of study and normal start month	Full-time (3 years) Part-time (4 years) Full-time with Foundation Year (4 years) September, Daytime or Evening Study
Professional, statutory or regulatory body	British Psychological Society
<u>QAA subject benchmark group(s)</u> <u>Higher Education Credit Framework for England</u>	Psychology
UCAS code	C800; C801 (with FY)
Birkbeck Course Code	UBSPSYCH_C (4 years Part-time); UUBSPSYC_C (3 Years Full-time) UUBFPSYC_C (4 Years Full-time with FY)
HECoS Code	100497
Start date of programme	Prior to 1980
Date of programme approval	Prior to 1980
Date of last programme amendment approval	March 2019
Valid for academic entry year	2025-26
Programme Director	Marie Smith
Date of last revision to document	16/01/2026

Admissions requirements

We welcome applicants without traditional entry qualifications as we base decisions on our own assessment of qualifications, knowledge and previous work experience. We may waive formal entry requirements based on judgement of academic potential.

Please note: if you are planning to transfer credits from previous study to Birkbeck so that they can count towards your degree, the BSc Psychology is an accredited degree with specific requirements regarding the topics covered to be eligible for credit transfer. If you would like further advice on this, please contact us.

UCAS tariff points: 120 points (e.g. A-levels BBB); 64 points for Foundation Year entry

The UCAS tariff score is applicable to you if you have recently studied a qualification that has a UCAS tariff equivalence. UCAS provides a [tariff calculator](#) for you to work out what your qualification is worth within the UCAS tariff.

GCSEs: GCSE (or equivalent) at grade C or grade 4 or above in mathematics is required.

Course aims

The aim of the undergraduate programme in psychology is to equip students with knowledge and critical appreciation of psychological theory and research. It also supports students attain high levels of numeracy, literacy, and problem solving, and the ability to make reasoned arguments. It also provides the subject-specific skills required for careers in psychology and postgraduate training, and a range of transferable skills relevant to careers outside psychology. This includes the ability to work independently and in teams, and to take responsibility for and to manage their own learning.

All graduates will be able to demonstrate a sound knowledge and understanding of benchmark areas within psychology such as biological, cognitive, developmental, social psychology, individual differences and research methods. They will be able to engage critically with the psychological literature, applying multiple perspectives to psychological issues and integrate findings across multiple perspectives. They will be able to identify problems; formulate research questions and hypotheses; and identify appropriate methods for collecting and analysing data (showing an awareness of ethical issues and current ethical codes for experimentation with human participants). Graduates will be able to draw conclusions and communicate their findings effectively.

Students who graduate with a BSc (Bachelor of Science) will also be able to carry out empirical studies using a range of experimental, quasi-experimental, and qualitative paradigms. They will be able to analyse data using quantitative and qualitative methods, and to carry out an extensive piece of independent research. This will involve identifying a relevant problem, formulating hypotheses and choosing appropriate methodologies, carrying out the project efficiently, analysing data appropriately. Completing the full research training curriculum, including a piece of independent research confers on graduates Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership with the British Psychological Society. Students who graduate with a BSc will therefore be eligible to apply to for postgraduate training in professional psychology.

However, only a minority of graduates pursue careers as professional psychologists but the skills acquired through undergraduate study in psychology are highly valued by a wide range of employers. Students who want to pursue a career outside professional psychology have the option of completing a BA (Bachelor of Arts) which prepare students for careers in a very wide range of fields. For example, in their final year, BA students undertake an extended essay, under supervision, on a topic of interest to them. They also have the option of undertaking a

major professional learning review. These features of the BA programmes strengthen graduates' CVs and enhance their employability.

In summary, the undergraduate programme in psychology at Birkbeck is designed to ensure all students first receive a thorough grounding in contemporary psychology and related research methods, and are then free to choose the exit award that most suits their interests, strengths and career plans. Consequently, all students are initially enrolled on the BSc Psychology but decide which exit award they would like to complete, choosing from:

1. BSc Psychology;
2. BSc Psychology with Neuroscience;
3. BSc Psychology with Child Development;
4. BSc Psychology in Practice;
5. BA Psychology in Practice;
6. BA Psychology.

The aim of the BSc Psychology is to provide students with a thorough grounding in academic psychology, and the opportunity to focus their advanced studies on any of the optional modules they find of interest or relevance. These include specialist modules on neuroscience, biopsychology, cognitive science, developmental science and applied psychology. Students have the opportunity to complete an independent research project, under supervision, on a topic of interest to them. This programme prepares students for postgraduate training in professional psychology, as well as a wide range of other careers.

The aim of the BSc Psychology with Neuroscience is to provide students with a thorough grounding in academic psychology, and the opportunity to focus their advanced studies on neuroscience, biopsychology and cognitive science. Students have the opportunity to complete an independent research project, under supervision, on a topic of relevance to neuroscience. This programme prepares students for postgraduate training in professional psychology, as well as a wide range of other careers.

The aim of the BSc Psychology with Child Development is to provide students with a thorough grounding in academic psychology, and the opportunity to focus their advanced studies on the developmental sciences. Students have the opportunity to complete an independent research project, under supervision, on a topic of relevance to child development. This programme prepares students for postgraduate training in professional psychology, as well as a wide range of other careers.

The aim of the BSc Psychology in Practice is to provide students with a thorough grounding in academic psychology, and the opportunity to focus their advanced studies on the applications of psychology. Students have the opportunity to complete an independent research project, under supervision, on a topic of relevance to applied psychology. They also have the option of completing professional learning review. This programme prepares students for postgraduate training in professional psychology, as well as a wide range of other careers. Note, graduates from this programme are NOT qualified to work as applied psychologists until they undergo BPS accredited postgraduate training.

The aim of the BA Psychology in Practice is to provide students with a thorough grounding in academic psychology, and the opportunity to focus their advanced studies on the applications of psychology. Students have the opportunity to complete an independent literature, under supervision, on a topic of relevance to applied psychology. They also have the option of completing a professional learning review. Note, graduates from this programme are NOT qualified to work as applied psychologists. Note, also that students wishing to train as

professional psychologists on graduation should take the BSc Psychology in Practice, rather than the BA.

The aim of the BA Psychology is to provide students with a thorough grounding in academic psychology, and the opportunity to focus their advanced studies on any of the optional modules they find of interest or relevance. These include specialist modules on neuroscience, biopsychology, cognitive science, developmental science and applied psychology. Students have the opportunity to complete an independent literature, under supervision, on a topic of relevance to applied psychology. They also have the option of completing a professional learning review. Note, students wishing to train as professional psychologists on graduation should take the BSc Psychology in Practice, rather than the BA.

The undergraduate programme may be completed on a full-time (3 year) or part-time (4 year basis). Students who do not meet the entry criteria to join the full-time (3 year) undergraduate programme may be offered a place on the BSc Psychology with Foundation Year. **The aim of the Foundation Year** is to support students develop the necessary understanding, skills and confidence to successfully complete an undergraduate degree in psychology. Students who take the Foundation Year have the option of graduating with any of the six undergraduate degrees that form part of the BSc undergraduate programme. Students who perform well in their Foundation Year, achieving grades of 50+% in all modules, may apply for direct entry into the second year of the BSc Psychology. This allows them to complete their preferred degree in three years (including the time spent on the Foundation Year).

The part-time (4 year) programme is recommended for students who have non-traditional entry qualifications, or who have been out of education for some time, or who lack confidence. Students who apply to the part-time (4 year) programme but who need additional support in their first year may be offered a place on 'Route 1A'. Students on this programme complete their degree in 4 years but are taught in small, supportive groups in their first year, before joining the rest of their cohort in their second year. **The aim of Route 1A** is to support students develop the necessary understanding, skills and confidence in their first year of study, in order to successfully complete an undergraduate degree in psychology.

Distinctive Features:

- Our BSc Honours degree in Psychology is accredited by the British Psychological Society.
- We specialise in meeting the needs of busy Londoners, providing face to face teaching in evenings, in both part-time or full-time modes.
- All students gain a thorough grounding in psychology but are free to choose what they study at Level 6 (the most advanced level of study). They may choose entirely at will, or may choose to exit with a specialist degree in Psychology with Neuroscience; Psychology with Child Development; or Psychology in Practice.
- Students may exit with one of six degrees in psychology. They make their final choice of which degree to complete as they go into their most advanced level of study.
- Students may complete BSc or BA degrees.
- Students study in a research-intensive environment and are taught by internationally-renowned academics. The school was recently ranked 5th in the UK for the quality of its research and has particular expertise in child development and developmental science; neuroscience; cognitive science; and the applications of psychology.
- Students on the BA programmes have the option of completing a Professional Learning Review to enhance their employability and strengthen their CVs.
- All students may volunteer to support the research projects of academics, deepening their understanding of psychology and research methods, and strengthening their CVs.
- Students have access to a range of local world class institutions such as the British Library.
- The School of Psychological Sciences has dedicated learning support staff who are highly

experienced in supporting students' learning.

- Students who do not meet the entrance requirements for either the full or part time programmes may be accepted onto pathways that provide additional support in the first year, allowing students to still potentially complete their degree in 3-4 years.
- Students who perform well on the optional Foundation Year programme may apply for direct entry into the second year of the degree, so completing their chosen degree in three years (including the Foundation Year).
- Students who complete the Foundation Year may exit at the end of this year with a Certificate of Higher Education (Foundations of Psychology) that may be accepted by other institutions as the basis for entry into the second year of a full-time degree.
- Students who are unsure whether psychology is for them, lack confidence or require additional support to develop the necessary study skills, may start their studies on our Certificate of Higher Education programme. This allows them to enrol on one course at a time, studying on evenings convenient to them. If they take a specific set of courses - and pass each with 50%+ in each - they may apply for direct entry into the second year of the part-time degree. This allows them to complete their degree in 4 years total (including time on the Certificate courses).
- The undergraduate programme at Birkbeck is specifically designed to meet the needs of recent school graduates as well as those of older students; students who have been out of education for some time; students who do not have traditional qualifications; students who lack confidence; and students who need additional support in their first year of study. Any student interested in completing a degree in psychology should apply to Birkbeck as we have multiple pathways and exit awards designed to meet the needs of students who can demonstrate the ability and motivation to complete a degree in psychology.

Course Description

Students joining the programme have the option of graduating with one of six degrees:

1. BSc (Hons) Psychology (BPS accredited);
2. BSc (Hons) Psychology with Neuroscience (BPS accredited);
3. BSc (Hons) Psychology with Child Development (BPS accredited);
4. BSc (Hons) Psychology in Practice (BPS accredited);
5. BA (Hons) Psychology in Practice (Not BPS accredited)¹;
6. BA (Hons) Psychology (Not BPS accredited).

Each programme may be completed in three or four years. The three-year programme is the equivalent of full-time study, the four year programme is the equivalent of part-time study. Study on all programmes is composed of 360 credits at Levels 4, 5 and 6 (120 credits each).

ALL students are initially enrolled on the BSc Psychology programme. Initially enrolling students on the BSc Psychology ensures they receive a thorough grounding in psychology including biopsychology; developmental and cognitive psychology; individual differences; social psychology; research methods; and the applications of psychology. Students are then able to make an informed decision about which named degree they wish to complete. This decision is made towards the end of their penultimate year and students then focus on developing their specialist interests in their final year.

Students who complete a BSc programme undertake a full-programme of research training that culminates in them completing an empirical research project under supervision. Students who complete one of the BA programmes undertake the research training but do not undertake the empirical project. They also have the option of completing alternative option modules rather

¹ These BA programmes will not be accredited by the British Psychological Society given the students do not conduct an independent empirical research project.

than the final research methods course at Level 5. At Level 6, they go onto complete an extended essay under supervision (rather than an empirical research project).

Level 4 students take the following modules:

- Academic Skills for Psychology (15 credits)
- Introduction to Research Methods (30 credits)
- Introduction to Neuroscience (15 credits)
- Introduction to Cognition (15 credits)
- Introduction to Developmental Psychology (15 credits)
- Introduction to Social Psychology (15 credits)
- Introduction to Individual Differences (15 credits)

NB Students on Route 1A take the following modules at Level 4:

- Theoretical and Conceptual Foundations of Psychology (15 credits)
- Understanding Research Methods in Psychology (15 credits)
- Research Methods in Practice (15 credits)
- Understanding Neuroscience (15 credits)
- Understanding Individual Differences (15 credits)
- Understanding Applied Social Psychology (15 credits)
- Psychology Study Skills (0 credits)

Level 5 all BSc students take the following modules:

- Social Psychology (15 credits)
- Cognition (15 credits)
- Neuroscience (15 credits)
- Individual Differences (15 credits)
- Perception and Attention (15 credits)
- Developmental Psychology (15 credits)
- Research Methods 1 (15 credits)
- Research Methods 2 (15 credits)

BA students may take the following options in place of Research Methods 1 and 2:

- Psychological and Developmental Issues in Childhood and Adolescence (15 credits)
- Social Perspectives on Development (15 credits)
- Psychology for Personal and Professional Development (15 credits)

Level 6 all BSc students take the following module:

- Psychology Project (Level 6, 30 credits)

Level 6 all BA students take the following module:

- Extended Essay (Level 6, 30 credits)

Level 6 all BA / BSc Psychology students choose option modules from the list below to the value of 90 credits (Level 6):

- Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience (15 credits)
- Brain and Cognitive Development (15 credits)
- Educational Psychology (15 credits)
- Genetics and Psychology (15 credits)
- R for Reproducible Psychological Research (15 credits)

- Neuropsychology (15 credits)
- Neurodiversity
- Language (15 credits)
- Cognitive Modelling (15 credits)
- Health Psychology (15 credits)
- Family Studies (15 credits)
- Sexuality, Psychology and Sex Work (15 credits)
- Clinical and Counselling Psychology (15 credits)
- Attachment Theory: Introduction and Critique (15 credits)

Level 6 all BSc Psychology with Neuroscience students take:

- Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience (15 credits)

Then choose option modules from the list below to the value of 75 credits:

- Brain and Cognitive Development (15 credits)
- Genetics and Psychology (15 credits)
- Cognitive Modelling (15 credits)
- Neurodiversity (15 credits)
- Neuropsychology (15 credits)
- R for Reproducible Psychological Research (15 credits)
- Language (15 credits)

Level 6 all BSc Psychology with Child Development students take:

- Brain and Cognitive Development (15 credits)

Then choose option modules from the list below to the value of 75 credits:

- Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience (15 credits)
- Genetics and Psychology (15 credits)
- Language (15 credits)
- Family Studies (15 credits)
- Educational Psychology (15 credits)
- Qualitative Research in Psychology (15 credits)
- Attachment Theory: Introduction and Critique
- Cognitive Modelling (15 credits)
- Neurodiversity
- R for Reproducible Psychological Research

Level 6 all BA/BSc Psychology in Practice students take:

- Health Psychology (15 credits)

Then choose option modules from the list below to the value of 75 credits:

- Clinical & Counselling Psychology (15 credits)
- Family Studies (15 credits)
- Educational Psychology (15 credits)
- Sexuality, Psychology and Sex Work (15 credits)
- Attachment Theory: Introduction and Critique (15 credits)
- Cognitive Modelling (15 credits)
- Neuropsychology (15 credits)
- Neurodiversity (15 credits)
- R for Reproducible Psychological Research

Those students who pass all modules on the Foundation Year with grades of 50+% may apply for progression onto the second year of the full-time programme, completing their degree in a total of 3 years.

Students on the BSc / BA Psychology have free choice of options at Level 6, so designing their own programme entirely according to their interests, strengths and career plans.

Students on one of the other exit awards take a compulsory Level 6 module, then choose from a more discrete list of specialist options.

The three-year degrees may all be taken with an additional Foundation Year. This is for students who do not meet the entry criteria for the full-time programme but who can demonstrate the ability to complete the degree, subject to an additional year of study at the start of their programme. The Foundation Year is composed of an additional 120 credits at Level 4 and allows students to develop and practice the skills needed to complete the degree². It also ensures students gain a firm understanding of core concepts within psychology to support students' performance in subsequent years of the programme. Students who pass all modules on the Foundation Year automatically progress to the first year of the degree³. However, students who achieve grades of 50% in all modules of the Foundation Year may apply to join the second year of the degree, so completing their studies in three years of full-time study, rather than four. Students who complete the Foundation Year have the option of leaving with a Certificate of Higher Education (Foundations of Psychology).

Students taking the Foundation Year take the additional Level 4 modules

- Theoretical and Conceptual Foundations of Psychology (15 credits)
- Understanding Research Methods for Psychology (15 credits)
- Research Methods in Practice (15 credits)
- Understanding Neuroscience (15 credits)
- Understanding Applied Cognitive Psychology (15 credits)
- Understanding Applied Social Psychology (15 credits)
- Understanding Personality & Intelligence (15 credits)
- Understanding Lifespan Psychology (15 credits)
- Psychology Study Skills (0 credits)

Part-time students who do not meet the entry criteria for the part-time programme, but who can demonstrate the ability to complete the degree, may be offered a place on Route 1A. This programme provides an additional support in students' first year of study but doesn't lengthen their programme, so students on the part-time degree normally complete their programme in 4 years of part-time study. Route 1A covers the same material as Route 1 but is delivered through a small group, tutorial style of teaching that suits some students better (particularly those for whom English is a second language and those who lack confidence or experience in mathematics).

² Students who complete the Foundation Year and all three years of a degree graduate with 480 credits (240 credits at Level 4; 120 credits at Level 5; 120 credits at Level 6).

³ The grades achieved on the Foundation Year are not included in the calculation of a students' final degree classification.

Course Structure

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Comp Core/ Option	Likely teaching term(s)
BSc Psychology - PART TIME, 4 years					
Year 1: Route 1					
4	SCPS204H4	Academic Skills for Psychology	15	Compulsory	T1
4	SCPS176H4	Introduction to Social Psychology	15	Compulsory	T2
4	SCPS154S4	Introduction to Research Methods	30	Compulsory	T2-3
4	PSYC048H4	Introduction to Neuroscience	15	Compulsory	T1
4	SCPS156H4	Introduction to Individual Differences	15	Compulsory	T3
Year 1: Route 1A					
4	SCPS236H4	Theoretical and Conceptual Foundations of Psychology	15	Compulsory	T1
4	SCPS168H4	Understanding Research Methods for Psychology	15	Compulsory	T1
4	SCPS169H4	Research Methods in Practice	15	Compulsory	T3
4	SCPS237H4	Understanding Neuroscience	15	Compulsory	T2
4	SCPS189H4	Understanding Individual Differences	15	Compulsory	T1
4	SCPS188H4	Understanding Applied Social Psychology	15	Compulsory	T2
4	SCPS148Z5	Psychology Study Skills	0	Compulsory	T1-2
Year 2					
4	SCPS203H4	Introduction to Developmental Psychology	15	Compulsory	T1
4	SCPS175H4	Introduction to Cognition	15	Compulsory	T2
5	SCPS177H5	Quantitative Research Methods	15	Compulsory	T2
5	SCPS163H5	Social Psychology	15	Compulsory	T3
5	SCPS179H5	Cognition	15	Compulsory	T3
5	PSYC044H5	Neuroscience	15	Compulsory	T1
Year 3					
5	SCPS160H5	Individual Differences	15	Compulsory	T1
5	SCPS180H5	Perception and Attention	15	Compulsory	T1
5	PSYC026H5	Developmental Psychology	15	Compulsory	T2
5	SCPS178H5	Research Methods 2	15	Compulsory	T3
6		See Indicative Option List – year 4	15	Option	
6		See Indicative Option List – year 4	15	Option	
Year 4					
6	PSYC046S6	Project BSc Psychology	30	Core	T1-3
<i>Select option modules to the value of 60 credits</i>					
INDICATIVE OPTION LIST:					
6	PSYC069H6	Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience	15	Option	T1
6	PSYC031H6	Health Psychology	15	Option	T1
6	PSYC028H6	Family Studies	15	Option	T1
6	PSYC019H6	Brain and Cognitive Development	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS164H6	Educational Psychology	15	Option	T1
6	SCPS001H6	Sexuality, Psychology and Sex Work	15	Option	T2
6	PSYC072H6	Genetics and Psychology	15	Option	T2
6	PSYC034H6	Language	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS181H6	Attachment Theory: Introduction and Critique	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS182H6	Clinical and Counselling Psychology	15	Option	T1

6	SCPS228H6	R for Reproducible Psychological Research	15	Option	T1
6	SCPS229H6	Cognitive Modelling	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS227H6	Neuropsychology	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS238H6	Neurodiversity	15	Option	T2

BSc Psychology – FULL TIME, 3 years

Year 1

4	SCPS204H4	Academic Skills for Psychology	15	Compulsory	T1
4	SCPS176H4	Introduction to Social Psychology	15	Compulsory	T2
4	PSYCO48H4	Introduction to Neuroscience	15	Compulsory	T1
4	SCPS154S4	Introduction to Research Methods	30	Compulsory	T2-3
4	SCPS175H4	Introduction to Cognition	15	Compulsory	T2
4	SCPS203H4	Introduction to Developmental Psychology	15	Compulsory	T1
4	SCPS156H4	Introduction to Individual Differences	15	Compulsory	T3

Year 2

5	SCPS177H5	Quantitative Research Methods	15	Compulsory	T2
5	SCPS163H5	Social Psychology	15	Compulsory	T3
5	SCPS179H5	Cognition	15	Compulsory	T3
5	PSYC044H5	Neuroscience	15	Compulsory	T1
5	SCPS160H5	Individual Differences	15	Compulsory	T1
5	SCPS180H5	Perception and Attention	15	Compulsory	T1
5	PSYC026H5	Developmental Psychology	15	Compulsory	T2
5	SC12010H5	Qualitative Research Methods	15	Compulsory	T3

Year 3

6	PSYC046S6	Project BSc Psychology	30	Core	
6		<i>Select option modules to the value of 90 credits</i>	90	Option	

See [Indicative Option List – BSc Psychology above](#)

BSc Psychology with Foundation Year – FULL TIME, 4 years

Foundation year

4	SCPS236H4	Theoretical and Conceptual Foundations of Psychology	15	Compulsory	T1
4	SCPS168H4	Understanding Research Methods in Psychology	15	Compulsory	T1
4	SCPS169H4	Research Methods in Practice	15	Compulsory	T3
4	SCPS237H4	Understanding Neuroscience	15	Compulsory	T2
4	SCPS187H4	Understanding Applied Cognitive Psychology	15	Compulsory	T1
4	SCPS188H4	Understanding Applied Social Psychology	15	Compulsory	T2
4	SCPS189H4	Understanding Personality and Intelligence	15	Compulsory	T3
4	SCPS190H4	Understanding Developmental Psychology	15	Compulsory	T2
4	SCPS148Z5	Psychology Study Skills	0	Compulsory	T1-2

Year 1

4	SCPS204H4	Academic Skills for Psychology	15	Compulsory	T1
4	SCPS176H4	Introduction to Social Psychology	15	Compulsory	T2
4	PSYCO48H4	Introduction to Neuroscience	15	Compulsory	T1
4	SCPS154S4	Introduction to Research Methods	30	Compulsory	T2-3
4	SCPS175H4	Introduction to Cognition	15	Compulsory	T2
4	SCPS203H4	Introduction to Developmental Psychology	15	Compulsory	T1
4	SCPS156H4	Introduction to Individual Differences	15	Compulsory	T3

Year 2					
5	SCPS177H5	Quantitative Research Methods	15	Compulsory	T2
5	SCPS163H5	Social Psychology	15	Compulsory	T3
5	SCPS179H5	Cognition	15	Compulsory	T3
5	PSYC044H5	Neuroscience	15	Compulsory	T1
5	SCPS160H5	Individual Differences	15	Compulsory	T1
5	SCPS180H5	Perception and Attention	15	Compulsory	T1
5	PSYC026H5	Developmental Psychology	15	Compulsory	T2
5	SC12010H5	Qualitative Research Methods	15	Compulsory	T3
Year 3					
6	PSYC046S6	Project BSc Psychology	30	Core	T1-3
6		<i>Select option modules to the value of 90 credits</i>	90	Option	
See Indicative Option List – BSc Psychology above					
BSc Psychology with Neuroscience – pathway PART TIME, 4 years					
Year 1 (Route 1 as listed above for BSc Psychology)					
Year 1 (Route 1A as listed above for BSc Psychology)					
Year 2 as listed above for BSc Psychology					
Year 3					
5	SCPS160H5	Individual Differences	15	Compulsory	T1
5	SCPS180H5	Perception and Attention	15	Compulsory	T1
5	PSYC026H5	Developmental Psychology	15	Compulsory	T2
5	SC12010H5	Qualitative Research Methods	15	Compulsory	T3
6		<i>Select option modules to the value of 30 credits</i>	30	Option	
See Indicative Option List – Year 4, below					
Year 4					
6	PSYC046S6	Project BSc Psychology	30	Core	T1-3
6	PSYC069H6	Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience (students may take this in Year 3, subject to timetabling constraints)	15	Compulsory	T1
<i>Select option modules to the value of 45 credits</i>					
INDICATIVE OPTION LIST – BSc Psychology with Neuroscience					
6	PSYC019H6	Brain and Cognitive Development	15	Option	T2
6	PSYC072H6	Genetics and Psychology	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS238H6	Neurodiversity	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS227H6	Neuropsychology	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS228H6	R for Reproducible Psychological Research	15	Option	T1
6	PSYC034H6	Language	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS180H6	Qualitative Research in Psychology	15	Option	T1
6	SCPS229H6	Cognitive Modelling	15	Option	T2
BSc Psychology with Neuroscience – pathway FULL TIME, 3 years					
Year 1 as listed above for BSc Psychology					
Year 2 as listed above for BSc Psychology					
Year 3					
6	PSYC046S6	Project BSc Psychology	30	Core	T1-3
6	PSYC069H6	Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience	15	Compulsory	T1
		<i>Select option modules to the value of 75 credits</i>	75	Option	
See Indicative Option List – Year 4, BSc Psychology with Neuroscience) – PART TIME , above					

BSc Psychology with Neuroscience with Foundation Year, FULL TIME, 4 years

[Foundation Year](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology with Foundation Year

[Year 1](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology

[Year 2](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology

Year 3

6	PSYC046S6	Project BSc Psychology	30	Core	T1-3
6	PSYC069H6	Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience	15	Compulsory	T1
6		Select option modules to the value of 75 credits	75	Option	

See [Indicative Option List – Year 4, BSc \(Hons with Neuroscience\) – PART TIME](#), above

BSc Psychology with Child Development pathway PART TIME, 4 years

Year 1 ([Route 1](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology)

Year 1 ([Route 1A](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology)

[Year 2](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology

Year 3

5	SCPS160H5	Individual Differences	15	Compulsory	T1
5	SCPS180H5	Perception and Attention	15	Compulsory	T1
5	PSYC026H5	Developmental Psychology	15	Compulsory	T2
5	SC12010H5	Qualitative Research Methods	15	Compulsory	T3
6		Select option modules to the value of 30 credits	30	Option	

See Indicative Option List – Year 4, below

Year 4

6	PSYC019H6	Brain and Cognitive Development (students may take this in Year 3, subject to timetabling constraints)	15	Compulsory	T2
6	PSYC046S6	Project BSc Psychology	30	Core	T1-3

Select option modules to the value of 45 credits

INDICATIVE OPTION LIST – BSc Psychology with Child Development

6	PSYC069H6	Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience	15	Option	T1
6	PSYC028H6	Family Studies	15	Option	T1
6	SCPS164H6	Educational Psychology	15	Option	T1
6	PSYC072H6	Genetics and Psychology	15	Option	T2
6	PSYC034H6	Language	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS181H6	Attachment Theory: Introduction and Critique	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS180H6	Qualitative Research in Psychology	15	Option	T1
6	SCPS229H6	Cognitive Modelling	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS238H6	Neurodiversity	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS228H6	R for Reproducible Psychological Research	15	Option	T1

BSc Psychology with Child Development pathway FULL TIME, 3 years

[Year 1](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology

[Year 2](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology

Year 3

6	PSYC019H6	Brain and Cognitive Development	15	Compulsory	T2
6	PSYC046S6	Project BSc Psychology	30	Core	T1-3
6		Select option modules to the value of 75 credits	75	Option	

See [Indicative Option List – Year 4, BSc Psychology with Child Development – PART TIME](#), above

BSc Psychology with Child Development with Foundation Year pathway FULL TIME, 4 yrs

[Foundation Year](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology with Foundation Year

[Year 1](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology

[Year 2](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology

Year 3

6	PSYC019H6	Brain and Cognitive Development	15	Compulsory	T2
6	PSYC046S6	Project BSc Psychology	30	Core	T1-3
6		Select option modules to the value of 75 credits	75	Option	

See [Indicative Option List – Year 4, BSc Psychology with Child Development – PART TIME](#), above

BSc Psychology in Practice – pathway PART TIME, 4 years

[Year 1 \(Route 1\)](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology

[Year 1 \(Route 1A\)](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology

[Year 2](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology

Year 3

5	SCPS160H5	Individual Differences	15	Compulsory	T1
5	SCPS180H5	Perception and Attention	15	Compulsory	T1
5	PSYC026H5	Developmental Psychology	15	Compulsory	T2
5	SCPS178H5	Research Methods 2	15	Compulsory	T3
6		Select option modules to the value of 30 credits	30	Option	

See Indicative Option List – Year 4, below

Year 4

6	PSYC046S6	Project BSc Psychology	30	Core	T1-3
6	PSYC031H6	Health Psychology (this may be taken in Year 3 subject to timetabling constraints)	15	Compulsory	T1

Select option modules to the value of 45 credits

INDICATIVE OPTION LIST – BSc Psychology in Practice

6	SCPS182H6	Clinical and Counselling Psychology	15	Option	T1
6	PSYC028H6	Family Studies	15	Option	T1
6	SCPS164H6	Educational Psychology	15	Option	T1
6	SCPS001H6	Sexuality, Psychology and Sex Work	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS181H6	Attachment Theory: Introduction and Critique	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS180H6	Qualitative Research in Psychology	15	Option	T1
6	SCPS229H6	Cognitive Modelling	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS227H6	Neuropsychology	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS228H6	R for Reproducible Psychological Research	15	Option	T1

BSc Psychology in Practice – pathway FULL TIME, 3 years

[Year 1](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology

[Year 2](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology

Year 3

6	PSYC046S6	Project BSc Psychology	30	Core	T1-3
6	PSYC031H6	Health Psychology	15	Compulsory	T1
6		Select option modules to the value of 75 credits	75	Option	

See [Indicative Option List – Year 4, BSc Psychology in Practice – PART TIME](#), above

BSc Psychology in Practice (with Foundation Year)– pathway FULL TIME, 3 years

[Foundation Year](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology with Foundation Year

[Year 1](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology

[Year 2](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology

Year 3

6	PSYC046S6	Project BSc Psychology	30	Core	T1-3
6	PSYC031H6	Health Psychology	15	Compulsory	T1
6		Select option modules to the value of 75 credits	75	Option	

See [Indicative Option List – Year 4, BSc Psychology in Practice – PART TIME](#), above

BA Psychology in Practice – pathway PART TIME, 4 years

[Year 1 \(Route 1\)](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology

[Year 1 \(Route 1A\)](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology

Year 2

4	SCPS203H4	Introduction to Developmental Psychology	15	Compulsory	T1
4	SCPS175H4	Introduction to Cognition	15	Compulsory	T2
5	SCPS163H5	Social Psychology	15	Compulsory	T3
5	SCPS179H5	Cognition	15	Compulsory	T3
5	PSYC044H5	Neuroscience	15	Compulsory	T1
5		Select 1 option at Level 5 to the value of 15 credits:	15	Option	
5	SCPS177H5	Quantitative Research Methods	15	Option	T2
5	SC12007H5	Psychological and Developmental Issues in Childhood and Adolescence	15	Option	T1
5	SCPS004H5	Social Perspectives on Development	15	Option	T3
5	SC12008H5	Psychology for Personal and Professional Development	15	Option	T3

Year 3

5	SCPS160H5	Individual Differences	15	Compulsory	T1
5	SCPS180H5	Perception and Attention	15	Compulsory	T1
5	PSYC026H5	Developmental Psychology	15	Compulsory	T2
5		Select 1 option at Level 5 to the value of 15 credits:	15	Option	
5	SCPS177H5	Quantitative Research Methods	15	Option	T2
5	SC12010H5	Qualitative Research Methods (*note Quantitative Research Methods is a prerequisite)	15	Option	T3
5	SC12007H5	Psychological and Developmental Issues in Childhood and Adolescence	15	Option	T1
5	SCPS004H5	Social Perspectives on Development	15	Option	T3
5	SC12008H5	Psychology for Personal and Professional Development	15	Option	T3
6		Select options at Level 6 to the value of 30 credits	30	Option	

See Indicative Option List - Year 4, below

Year 4

6	SCPS165S6	Extended Essay	30	Core	T1-3
6	PSYC031H6	Health Psychology (this may be taken in Year 3 subject to timetabling constraints)	15	Compulsory	T1

Select option modules to the value of 45 credits:

INDICATIVE OPTION LIST – BA Psychology in Practice

6	SCPS182H6	Clinical and Counselling Psychology	15	Option	T1
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6	PSYC028H6	Family Studies	15	Option	T1
6	SCPS164H6	Educational Psychology	15	Option	T1
6	SCPS001H6	Sexuality, Psychology and Sex Work	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS181H6	Attachment Theory: Introduction and Critique	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS180H6	Qualitative Research in Psychology	15	Option	T1
6	SCPS229H6	Cognitive Modelling	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS227H6	Neuropsychology	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS228H6	R for Reproducible Psychological Research	15	Option	T1

BA Psychology in Practice – pathway FULL TIME, 3 years

[Year 1](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology

Year 2

5	SCPS163H5	Social Psychology	15	Compulsory	T3
5	SCPS179H5	Cognition	15	Compulsory	T3
5	PSYC044H5	Neuroscience	15	Compulsory	T1
5	SCPS160H5	Individual Differences	15	Compulsory	T1
5	SCPS180H5	Perception and Attention	15	Compulsory	T1
5	PSYC026H5	Developmental Psychology	15	Compulsory	T2

Select 2 options at Level 5 to the value of 30 credits

5	SCPS177H5	Quantitative Research Methods	15	Option	T2
5	SC12010H5	Qualitative Research Methods (*note Qualitative Research Methods is a prerequisite)	15	Option	T3
5	SC12007H5	Psychological and Developmental Issues in Childhood and Adolescence	15	Option	T1
5	SCPS004H5	Social Perspectives on Development	15	Option	T3
5	SC12008H5	Psychology for Personal and Professional Development	15	Option	T3

Year 3

6	SCPS165S6	Extended Essay	30	Core	T1-3
6	PSYC031H6	Health Psychology	15	Compulsory	T1
6		<i>Select option modules to the value of 75 credits</i>	75	Option	

See [Indicative Option List – Year 4, BA Psychology in Practice – PART TIME](#), above

BA Psychology in Practice with Foundation Year – pathway FULL TIME, 4 years

[Foundation Year](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology with Foundation Year

[Year 1](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology

[Year 2](#) as listed above for BA Psychology in Practice

[Year 3](#) as listed above for BA Psychology in Practice

BA Psychology – pathway PART TIME, 4 years

[Year 1 \(Route 1\)](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology)

[Year 1 \(Route 1A\)](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology)

[Year 2](#) as listed above for BA Psychology in Practice

Year 3

5	SCPS160H5	Individual Differences	15	Compulsory	T1
5	SCPS180H5	Perception and Attention	15	Compulsory	T1
5	PSYC026H5	Developmental Psychology	15	Compulsory	T2
<i>Select 1 option at Level 5 to the value of 15 credits:</i>					
5	SCPS177H5	Quantitative Research Methods	15	Option	T2
5	SC12010H5	Research Methods 2 (*note Research Methods 1 is a prerequisite)	15	Option	T3

5	SC12007H5	Psychological and Developmental Issues in Childhood	15	Option	T1
5	SCPS004H5	Social Perspectives on Development	15	Option	T3
5	SC12008H5	Psychology for Personal and Professional Development	15	Option	T3
6		Select options at Level 6 to value of 30 credits	30	Option	

See Indicative Option List - Year 4, below

Year 4

6	SCPS165S6	Extended Essay	30	Core	T1-3
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Select option modules to the value of 60 credits

INDICATIVE OPTION LIST – BA Psychology

6	PSYC069H6	Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience	15	Option	T1
6	PSYC031H6	Health Psychology	15	Option	T1
6	PSYC028H6	Family Studies	15	Option	T1
6	PSYC019H6	Brain and Cognitive Development	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS164H6	Educational Psychology	15	Option	T1
6	SCPS001H6	Sexuality, Psychology and Sex Work	15	Option	T2
6	PSYC072H6	Genetics and Psychology	15	Option	T2
6	PSYC034H6	Language	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS181H6	Attachment Theory: Introduction and Critique	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS180H6	Qualitative Research in Psychology	15	Option	T1
6	SCPS182H6	Clinical and Counselling Psychology	15	Option	T1
6	SCPS228H6	R for Reproducible Psychological Research	15	Option	T1
6	SCPS229H6	Cognitive Modelling	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS227H6	Neuropsychology	15	Option	T2
6	SCPS238H6	Neurodiversity	15	Option	T2

BA Psychology pathway FULL TIME, 3 years

[Year 1](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology

[Year 2](#) as listed above for BA Psychology in Practice

Year 3

6	SCPS165S6	Extended Essay	30	Core	T1-3
6		Select option modules to the value of 90 credits	90	Option	

See [Indicative Option List – Year 4, BA Psychology – PART TIME](#), above

BA Psychology with Foundation Year– pathway FULL TIME, 4 years

[Foundation Year](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology with Foundation Year

[Year 1](#) as listed above for BSc Psychology

[Year 2](#) as listed above for BA Psychology in Practice

[Year 3](#) as listed above for BA Psychology

Core: Module must be taken and passed by student

Compulsory: Module must be taken but can be considered for compensated credit (see CAS regulations paragraph 24)

Option: Student can choose to take this module

How you will learn

Your learning and teaching is organised to help you meet the learning outcomes (below) of the course. As a student, we expect you to be an active learner and to take responsibility for your learning, engaging with all of the material and sessions arranged for you.

Each course is divided into modules. You will find information on the virtual learning site (Moodle, see Academic Support below) about each of your modules, what to expect, the work you need to prepare, links to reading lists, information about how and when you will be assessed.

Your learning for this course will be organised around the activities outlined below.

- The BSc programme offers a variety of learning opportunities for students via lectures, seminars, laboratory classes, small group work and individual supervision appropriate to the aims and objectives of particular modules.
- The main teaching provision on the programme is through lectures. Most of these are formal in nature, but on some module small group discussion work and poster presentations are embedded as appropriate. Smaller groups on modules in the final year enable some options to run as seminars with substantial student involvement.
- The first year teaching aims to support students during entry to degree level study. Weekly seminars run through the first term in conjunction with the Academic Skills for Psychology module, and provide study skills support, small group work, opportunities for students to reflect critically on course material, and practice oral presentations.
- Teaching on the foundation year and on Route 1A is in small, interactive, tutorial style classes that support the development of knowledge, skills, confidence and effective self-directed learning. Assessment is by coursework including in-class timed assignments as well as essays/assignments completed at home.
- Research methods are introduced in at Level 4 and developed a Level 5. There is a progression from structured coursework during laboratory classes to supervised small group work at Level 5.
- Level 6 of the programme offers particular opportunities for reflection, analysis, evaluation, application and consolidation of learning. The menu of courses each student takes at this advanced level of study is based on their particular interests. The specialist modules on offer reflect the department's research expertise in cognitive and developmental sciences; psychobiology and neuroscience; and applied psychology. Students on the BSc Psychology and the BA Psychology have free choice of options at Level 6. Students on all other programmes take one compulsory modules and then choose option courses that focus on their chosen pathway (neuroscience; child development; applied psychology). Each provides students the grounding for postgraduate training or study (but none qualify them to practice as professional psychologists). Classes are smaller Level 6 modules, providing the opportunity for substantial student participation. All students write a dissertation, under supervision from academic staff, based either on independent empirical research or an extensive review of the literature (depending on their programme of study). Students on one of the specialist pathways focus their study in their dissertation on a topic within that speciality.
- The range of teaching methods used ensures that the learning outcomes are achieved. There is more emphasis on subject-specific and practical skills at Levels 4-5, but the development of intellectual and personal/social skills, while emphasized in the final year, is also embedded in the programme throughout.

How we will assess you

The course will use a variety of assessment methods. Assessment is used to enhance your learning rather than simply to test it. For most of the modules associated with this course, your assessment will be through the following types of assessment.

Short written exercises, essays which will develop in length and expected complexity as you progress through your studies, quizzes and multiple-choice questionnaires..

Learning outcomes (what you can expect to achieve)

'Learning outcomes' indicate what you should be able to know or do at the end of your course. Providing them helps you to understand what your teachers will expect and also the learning requirements upon which you will be assessed.

At the end of this course, you should be able to demonstrate the following:

Subject Specific:

- (1) Knowledge and understanding of core benchmarked areas of psychology, including biological, cognitive, developmental, social psychology, and individual differences, including historical aspects.
- (2) The ability to apply multiple perspectives to psychological issues.
- (3) The ability to integrate ideas and findings across multiple perspectives.
- (4) The ability to plan, carry out, and communicate empirical studies using a range of experimental, quasi-experimental, and qualitative methodologies.
- (5) An understanding of data and data analysis.
- (6) An ability to use critically primary sources.
- (7) An ability to use psychology databases.
- (8) An ability to use and understand statistical software packages for the analysis of data.

Intellectual:

- (9) Independent and critical thought.
- (10) Literacy and high levels of numeracy.
- (11) Problem analysis and problem solving skills.
- (12) Critical analysis and evaluation of ideas and findings.

Practical:

- (13) Communication of ideas and findings by written, oral and visual means.
- (14) High levels of computer literacy, including word processing and use of specialised statistical software and database packages.
- (15) Research skills, including identifying problems, generating hypotheses, choosing appropriate methodologies, analysing data and drawing appropriate conclusions, and presenting reports.
- (16) Presenting findings effectively and in an evaluative context, and showing an awareness of ethical issues and current ethical codes for experimentation with human participants.

Personal and Social:

- (17) The ability to reflect on and to take responsibility for their own learning.
- (18) The ability to undertake self-directed study and project management.
- (19) The ability to work effectively in teams.
- (20) Readiness for post-graduate study and / or training.

The aims for the various exit awards are the same with the following amendments:

BSc (Hons) Psychology with Neuroscience:

(1b) In-depth knowledge and understanding of neuroscience, biopsychology and cognitive science.

(10) Literate with high levels of numeracy.

(20) Readiness for post-graduate study and / or training.

BSc (Hons) Psychology with Child Development:

Subject specific

(1b) In-depth knowledge and understanding of developmental sciences.

(10) Literate with high levels of numeracy.
(20) Readiness for post-graduate study and / or training.

BSc (Hons) Psychology in Practice:

(1b) In-depth knowledge and understanding of the applications of psychology.

(10) Literate with high levels of numeracy.

(20) Readiness for post-graduate study and / or training.

BA (Hons) Psychology in Practice:

(1b) In-depth knowledge and understanding of the applications of psychology.

(4) Understanding of how empirical studies are planned, carried out, communicated and critiqued when a range of experimental, quasi-experimental and qualitative methodologies are employed.

(5) A basic understanding of data and data analysis.

(6) Ability to use and critique primary sources, and an understanding of their application in practice.

(10) Numerate and high levels of literacy.

(14) Computer literate.

(15) Skills required to frame a research question; search relevant bodies of literature; manage search results; synthesise the research literature; and write an assessment of the literature that identifies: what is known about the area of study; those questions the body of research does not answer; and further research questions important for that field of study.

(20) Readiness for post-graduate study and / or training.

6. BA (Hons) Psychology:

(4) Understanding of how empirical studies are planned, carried out, communicated and critiqued when a range of experimental, quasi-experimental and qualitative methodologies are employed.

(5) A basic understanding of data and data analysis.

(6) Ability to use and critique primary sources, and an understanding of their application in practice.

(10) Numerate and high levels of literacy.

(15) Skills required to frame a research question; search relevant bodies of literature; manage search results; synthesise the research literature; and write an assessment of the literature that identifies: what is known about the area of study; those questions the body of research does not answer; and further research questions important for that field of study.

(20) Readiness for post-graduate study and / or training.

Careers and further study

Graduates can pursue career paths in psychology, human relations, education or marketing and advertising. Possible professions include:

- clinical psychologist/counselling psychologist
- user experience (UX) researcher
- educational psychologist
- further education lecturer
- human resources officer
- market researcher
- academic or business researcher.

Birkbeck offers a range of careers support to its students. You can find out more on [the careers pages of our website](#).

Academic regulations and course management

Birkbeck's academic regulations are contained in its [Common Award Scheme Regulations](#) and Policies published by year of application on the Birkbeck website.

You will have access to a course handbook on Moodle and this will outline how your course is managed, including who to contact if you have any questions about your module or course.

Support for your study

Your learning at Birkbeck is supported by your teaching team and other resources and people in the College there to help you with your study. Birkbeck uses a virtual learning environment called Moodle and each course has a dedicated Moodle page and there are further Moodle sites for each of your modules. This will include your course handbook.

Birkbeck will introduce you to the Library and IT support, how to access materials online, including using Moodle, and provide you with an orientation which includes an online Moodle module to guide you through all of the support available. You will also be allocated a personal tutor and provided with information about learning support offered within your School and by the College.

[Please check our website for more information about student support services.](#) This covers the whole of your time as a student with us including learning support and support for your wellbeing.

Quality and standards at Birkbeck

Birkbeck's courses are subject to our quality assurance procedures. This means that new courses must follow our design principles and meet the requirements of our academic regulations. Each new course or module is subject to a course approval process where the proposal is scrutinised by subject specialists, quality professionals and external representatives to ensure that it will offer an excellent student experience and meet the expectation of regulatory and other professional bodies.

You will be invited to participate in an online survey for each module you take. We take these surveys seriously and they are considered by the course team to develop both modules and the overall courses. Please take the time to complete any surveys you are sent as a student.

We conduct an annual process of reviewing our portfolio of courses which analyses student achievement, equality data and includes an action plan for each department to identify ongoing enhancements to our education, including changes made as a result of student feedback. Our periodic review process is a regular check (usually every four years) on the courses by department with a specialist team including students.

Each course will have an external examiner associated with it who produces an annual report and any recommendations. Students can read the most recent external examiner reports on the course Moodle pages. Our courses are all subject to Birkbeck Baseline Standards for our Moodle module information. This supports the accessibility of our education including expectations of what information is provided online for students.

The information in this programme specification has been approved by the College's Academic Board and every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information it contains.

Programme specifications are reviewed periodically. If any changes are made to courses, including core and/or compulsory modules, the relevant department is required to provide a revised programme specification. Students will be notified of any changes via Moodle.

Further information about specifications and an archive of programme specifications for the College's courses is [available online](#).