Psychology is a fascinating subject and one that I am incredibly passionate about. As the scientific study of the mind and behaviour, it allows us to continually push at the boundaries of understanding how humans behave, and to carry out research that impacts on society, enabling us to help people.

I’m proud of our Department. Students and staff have been remarkable in adapting to the changes brought about by the pandemic over the last 12 months.

Part of my role as Head of Department is to recruit expert researchers who make a vital contribution to society. It is important to me that these people are also motivated to share their passion with students and are inspirational in their teaching. My goal is to maintain our strong student outcomes and excellent teaching, and to grow the Department organically.

The sense of community that the size of the Department enables is a key part of our identity and something that our students value. It is a supportive, open and friendly environment. Lancaster is a great place to study and enjoy the experience of being a student. We hope that you’ll make lasting friendships, create special memories and develop life skills that will stay with you long after you graduate. We’d love to welcome you to the Department.

Professor Kate Cain, Head of Department

A place for you
A place to be involved

Belong, Engage, Employ (BEE)

Your future is important to us. The BEE programme offers a range of activities designed to help you engage with opportunities outside of core teaching and enhance your employability when you leave us. Creating a sense of community is a key part of the programme.

Psychology Employability Programme (PEP)

You will be encouraged to join this scheme which has been designed to give you the opportunity to gain relevant work experience by taking part in PEP placements alongside your studies.

Some placements will involve working in the community with charities and organisations that support vulnerable individuals. Others will give you the chance to work as a research assistant alongside expert researchers in the psychology labs.

These roles are part-time and fit around your studies. This means that you can apply for more than one placement in each year of your degree, and by taking on different roles you will get a sense of how your future might look. Each placement will provide you with experience and skills that are valuable to both psychology careers and more general graduate level occupations.

Example placements

- Advocacy Focus – mental health volunteer
- Making Space Supported Housing – activity co-ordinator
- Alzheimer’s Society – community support volunteer
- Prison Care and Advice Trust – group facilitator
- National Autistic Society – research field worker
- Lancaster University – research assistant in neuroimaging/programming
- Lancaster University – research assistant in infant and adult language acquisition
- Lancaster University – research assistant in detecting deception
- Lancaster University – research assistant in infant eye tracking

Careers Cafes

Regular drop ins where you can seek expert guidance on matters such as work experience, postgraduate study, making career decisions, CVs/cover letters and job applications.

Brain Food

Monthly sessions that tackle a range of issues such as coping with exam stress, building confidence and resilience, and balancing work and study. These sessions are informal and relaxed.

For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/psychology
“PEP has really opened my eyes to what research can actually accomplish, and shown me many subject areas I’m interested in pursuing in the future. I’d never considered how brain plasticity could affect motor skills, but it got my creativity flowing, and there’s many of my own experiments I’d love to run! My PEP placement not only gave me the ability to learn applicable and essential lab-based skills, such as handling TMS equipment and keeping a lab logbook, but also how to work effectively in a team. You really get to see the importance of fellow researchers and the participants themselves, and how best to ensure everyone is getting the most out of the research. Helen and her team are so friendly, and it was a joy to spend some time in their research lab.”

Brandon O’Hanlon, BSc Psychology, and now a Masters student

An experience for Brandon

“Can you tell us about your own Psychology Employability Programme (PEP) placement?”

Throughout the summer vacation and Year 2 of my course, I assisted in a research project in the Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) Lab. I helped with recruitment of participants, engaging with participants in the experiment and even using the TMS equipment myself!

What skills and knowledge did you gain from the placement?

I was trained by experienced staff to use Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) devices on motor cortex regions of the brain, which is incredibly exciting technology! Furthermore, I developed fantastic administrative skills and research experience. These helped me to obtain a paid research assistant role with a collaborative study on dyslexia and speech perception using TMS. The administrative experience also helped me to secure another paid role as the student administrative assistant for the PEP itself.

What would you say to students thinking about applying to PEP?

Apply. Just do it! I can say without a doubt that I thoroughly enjoyed my PEP placement throughout the year, and the opportunities it has provided me went above and beyond what I had expected and hoped for when I first applied. PEP is all about gaining valuable and insightful experience, no matter where you wish to apply it.

For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/psychology
Being a BEE Psychology Ambassador is the epitome of a multi-faceted role; my specific duties comprise the scheduling and planning of the BEE events, coupled with collating the feedback from these events, amongst day-to-day administrative duties. My fellow Ambassador handles the social media and advertisement side of the role, ensuring our Instagram - @BEEPsychLU - is crisp, fresh, and flush with followers (duties somewhat outside of my forte...!). It was my desire and interest in mental health that piqued my interest in BEE’s Ethos: Belong, Engage, Employ - the belief that all individuals deserve to be heard, respected, and treated equally. In the spirit of true transparency, balancing the role with the workload of a degree can sometimes be a demanding task, but it is made easier by having the support of my fellow Ambassador in difficult times, and nevertheless the role is a rewarding one.

Due to the current climate, tailoring and delivering the BEE sessions virtually has brought forward a new and somewhat unprecedented challenge, and finding new ways to keep people engaged with the sessions over Microsoft Teams, coupled with the absence of free pizza (a key feature of BEE’s in-person sessions!), was always going to be a head-scratcher. However, it is the absence of these in-person interactions that has brought a new life to BEE. During the virtual sessions, students and lecturers alike have shared an incalculable number of valuable insights in regard to dealing with the current climate, and quite often the attendees have helped us at BEE as much as we have helped them, creating a truly heart-warming atmosphere in every session. Ultimately, that is what makes the role a rewarding one.

I’m a 2nd Year Psychology Student, and I am one of Lancaster University’s BEE Psychology Ambassadors. BEE Psychology offers (alternating) weekly ‘Brain Food’ and ‘Career Café’ events, both of which are tailored toward ensuring all students have a safe space to speak about their interests, their current worries, or (you guessed it!), any career-related questions, without the worry of feeling under pressure.

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Nicola Cook studied Psychology at Lancaster University as an undergraduate and went on to complete a Masters in Psychological Research Methods. Nicola now works as a research assistant for Pearson Clinical Assessment UK.

“My time studying Psychology at Lancaster has prepared me extremely well for my career! I was never sure exactly what I wanted to do after university but within a month of finishing my MSc, I secured a job in London which I love! I didn’t realise the value of everything I learnt at Lancaster until I had left. I am now 8 months into my job and I can see my skills being put into action. I am especially thankful to my PEP placement and the researchers who I worked with at Lancaster for allowing me the opportunity to develop these skills. Learning to code in R during stats, my knowledge of research methods and ethics, experience of research projects as well as the customer service skills I developed as a Psychology ambassador, have all been recognised by my colleagues and have put me in an advanced position to bring something unique to the team. I will always be grateful for the opportunities that studying at Lancaster gave me!”

To pursue a career in professional psychology such as clinical, educational and forensic psychology, postgraduate study is essential. A much larger proportion of psychology students choose to pursue other careers whilst still capitalising on the skills and knowledge gained through their degree.

Major employers of psychology graduates include:

- Commercial and industrial companies
- Financial organisations
- Human resources departments
- Local and national government
- Marketing companies
- The media
- National Health Service
- Police force, National Probation Service and prisons
- Schools, sixth form colleges and further education institutions
- Social services

Skills developed through a psychology degree:

- Communication
- Literacy
- Problem solving
- Interpersonal skills
- Critical evaluation
- Information gathering
- Independent working

Studying psychology will equip you with a range of transferable skills that are valued by employers. Our graduates progress on to varied careers within and beyond the field of psychology. As you settle in to your degree, you’ll get a feel for the scope of the subject and from day one you will be coached on valuable employability skills (such as CV writing, communicating with confidence and working in a team).
Different ways of learning

**Lectures**
Lectures provide an introduction to the key issues and findings in each topic and are delivered by an expert in that particular field. They typically last for an hour and you’ll be expected to supplement your lecture notes with further independent reading.

**Seminars**
Seminars are weekly one hour sessions where you will be encouraged to discuss your learning with a small group of fellow students, under the guidance of a tutor. We encourage you to make the most of these groups by speaking out and listening to others. You will learn to increasingly present yourself with knowledge and confidence.

"The advantage of all the different teaching methods (lectures, seminars, etc) is that it allows everyone to have at least a bit of what they enjoy every week! It also creates a great balance between formal and informal learning."

Joana Carvalho Ribeiro, 3rd year Biology with Psychology student

**Practicals**
Practical classes are designed to help you discover the key psychological research methods. You will also get hands-on experience conducting your own psychology experiments in small groups.

**Assessment**
In 1st year, the assessment process varies across modules and includes essays, lab reports, class tests, regular web based assessments and end of year exams. The assessment methods used in 2nd and 3rd year help to develop transferable skills – for example, oral presentation, posters, media analysis and group work presentation.

**Study tips**

1. Don’t be afraid to ask for help! Lecturers and tutors are there for you and your questions.

2. Make sure you are keeping up with lectures! It might be tempting to leave some behind, but this will make a huge difference during exam periods.

3. Try your best to be organised! It is worth it for the time you’ll save when revising.

4. Make the most of the time spent in lectures! Taking notes is a great way to enhance memorisation.

95% of students agreed that staff are good at explaining things (National Student Survey 2020)

For more information, please visit [www.lancaster.ac.uk/psychology](http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/psychology)
A place for me

A member of the Psychology Department here at Lancaster, Lara Warmelink, told me something once that stuck. She said one of the best parts of her job is getting to see the teenagers who enter the doors on Open Days, exit years later as fully fledged adults. I’m only just coming to the end of my first year, and yet this sentiment already rings so true.

In all honesty, I don’t think I’d recognise the person I was reading this psychology brochure a year ago. And the fact that I already feel like I’ve matured so much, makes me extremely excited for what the next two years have in store for me here.

In particular, studying Psychology at Lancaster has allowed my understanding of the world and myself to completely expand. During the course of my first year, I have learned so much on such a broad range of psychological disciplines. To be learning such interesting and fundamental information about the mind and behaviour, whilst simultaneously transforming into an independent adult, is so fulfilling. I believe that developing an understanding of psychology goes hand in hand with learning about yourself and becoming a grown-up.

Choosing the right university for you is extremely important because it’s where you’ll spend some of the most fundamental years of your life. The university you choose will shape your future self, so not only must it match who you are, but it must also match the person you want to be.

The people you meet will also heavily affect the adult you become. I remember one of my biggest fears before university was that I wouldn’t meet my type of people, but I’ve found regardless of where you end up, the people you’re meant to befriend will simply find you. And they’ll change your life as much as you change theirs.

If I could tell my younger self one thing, it would be that everything happens for a reason. So that’s what I want to share here. If Lancaster is the place for you, it is simply where you’ll end up, and it’s where Lara and the rest of the Psychology Department will watch you leave as a confident, independent adult, with a mind full of psychological knowledge.

Faye Rennie, 1st year Psychology student

For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/psychology
A degree for you

BSc, BA, MPsych* and Study Abroad**

You will study the key themes of modern psychology:
+ Neuroscience: how the brain works, including how brain damage and disease may influence behaviour
+ Cognitive Psychology: how people perceive and think about the world
+ Developmental Psychology: how children develop their thinking and their social behaviour
+ Social Psychology: how people interact with and think about others

First year

In your first year, you will be given a thorough introduction to the theory behind the key areas of psychology: developmental psychology, neuroscience, cognitive psychology, social psychology, then personality and individual differences. Each topic lasts for 5 weeks.

Statistics and research methods are taught alongside these topics. You will learn about the basics of effective psychological research methods, the contemporary concerns affecting psychological research in the context of open science, and how you can ensure your research is in line with best practice.

The practical skills that you learn in conducting research in psychology will help you in your analysis of other studies and in your own research. You will be taught through a combination of lectures, seminars and practical lab classes.

Example timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.00am</td>
<td>Developmental Psychology lecture</td>
<td>Developmental Psychology seminar group</td>
<td>Developmental Psychology seminar group</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.00am</td>
<td></td>
<td>Developmental Psychology lecture</td>
<td>Developmental Psychology lecture</td>
<td>Statistics lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.00am</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Developmental Psychology seminar group</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.00pm</td>
<td>Statistics lecture</td>
<td>Developmental Psychology lecture</td>
<td>Developmental Psychology lecture</td>
<td>Research Integrity lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.00pm</td>
<td>Research Integrity lecture</td>
<td></td>
<td>Research Integrity lecture</td>
<td>Minor subject</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.00pm</td>
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Note: this timetable is an example based on the early part of the course where Developmental Psychology is covered and indicative of what you might reasonably expect a working week to look like.

Second year

As well as delving deeper into the topics introduced in Year 1, you will have an increased focus on research methods and statistics. The content of this year is important in ensuring British Psychological Society accreditation. You will be encouraged to work more independently in preparation for your own research project which you will start planning towards the end of the year.

Third year

In this year, you will carry out your own individual research project under the expert supervision of a practised researcher. This will allow you to put into practice all the skills that you’ve developed to date and pursue your own line of enquiry. In addition to the project, you will choose 5 modules from a wide range of optional modules. These 3rd year modules are subject to variation each year as we draw on the strengths of our academic staff and offer topics that reflect the latest advancements in psychology.

For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/psychology
MPsyCh

Our four year integrated Masters programme is accredited by the British Psychological Society (BPS) and has been specifically designed for those who wish to pursue a career in research. It is also suitable for people who want to earn an advanced degree to provide a competitive edge in the job market.

You will typically choose three advanced modules giving you the opportunity to specialise in key topics across different fields of psychology. These modules are taught by academic staff whose research is internationally renowned. You have complete freedom of choice so you can choose the modules that you feel are best suited to your interests.

In addition to the modules, you will complete an in-depth and extended research project during your fourth year. By the time you complete your studies, you will have a deeper understanding of psychological science and the skills and knowledge required to conduct independent research.

For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/psychology

Combined Degrees

In addition to our Psychology degrees, you can also combine Psychology with these subjects.

BSc Hons* Biology with Psychology (Placement Year)
BA Hons* Criminology and Psychology
BSc Hons* Marketing with Psychology
BA Hons Psychology with Chinese Studies
BA Hons Psychology and Spanish Studies

BSc Hons Psychology and German Studies
BA Hons Psychology and Linguistics
BA Hons Psychology and Management
BA Hons Psychology and Spanish Studies

*these degrees are not accredited by the British Psychological Society (BPS)
### Psychology BSc & BA Hons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+ An Introduction to Cognitive Psychology</td>
<td>Core BPS** content</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>Core</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ An Introduction to Developmental Psychology</td>
<td>+ Cognitive Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>+ An Introduction to Neuroscience</td>
<td>+ Developmental Psychology</td>
<td>+ Plus 5 from the following***</td>
<td>+ Bewildering, bizarre or just banal? Cognition in and out the laboratory</td>
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<tr>
<td>+ Personality &amp; Individual Differences</td>
<td>+ Foundations of Cognitive Neuroscience</td>
<td>+ Cognitive Affective and Clinical Neuroscience</td>
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<tr>
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<td>+ Research Methods 1</td>
<td>+ Current Directions in Social Psychology</td>
<td>+ Current Directions in Social Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>+ Statistics for Psychologists 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>+ Experimental Methods in Psychology</td>
<td>+ Forensic and Investigative Psychology</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ Research Integrity &amp; Open Science 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>+ Research Methods 2</td>
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### Psychology (Study Abroad) BSc & BA Hons

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**Core**
- Research Project

**Core MPSych dissertation**
- Plus 3 from the following
  - Analysing Talk and Text
  - Analysing and Interpreting Data 1 & 2
  - Conducting and Presenting
  - Developmental Disorders
  - Developmental Psychology
  - Independent Literature Review
  - Psychological Aspects of Advertising
  - Psychological Research
  - Social Psychology

*The availability of minor modules is subject to any entry pre-requisites and timetabling restrictions.
** BPS – British Psychological Society
*** These optional modules are indicative content as the topics change to reflect the latest developments in psychology.

For more information, please visit [www.lancaster.ac.uk/psychology](http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/psychology)
Why study abroad?

- Gain a thorough grounding in the key areas of modern psychology, complemented by the benefits of living and studying abroad
- Engage with different methodologies, research and teaching practices within your host university
- Widen your academic network
- Increase your employment opportunities

Potential destinations

Asia, Australia, Canada, Europe (Italy, the Netherlands and Switzerland), USA and New Zealand.

Partner universities may vary so for up to date information, we advise that you contact the Global Experiences team directly: globalexperiences@lancaster.ac.uk

For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/psychology

A global experience

Marie Ceesay,
4th year Psychology Study Abroad student

Studying abroad in Seoul, South Korea, was the most insightful and rewarding experiences I’ve had at university. I met so many lifelong friends, visited and experienced a completely different culture whilst eating the best foods.

I had support from the Psychology Department throughout the entire process, from choosing my destination to the modules I could study. This support continued to my 2nd term abroad when COVID hit when I would receive emails asking about my wellbeing, and they were supportive with any difficulties or queries that I had.

There are many travel opportunities available to you at Lancaster University, from study abroad to short term vacation travels or travels with student societies. The short-term vacation programmes are held during the Easter or summer holidays with opportunities to visit places such as Germany, France or Belgium or travel much further to China, India or Malaysia. These trips are perfect for those not wanting to commit to a full year as they tend to be a week to three weeks long or for those wishing to start small to see if long term travel suits them.

I had the opportunity in my first year to take part in an exchange to Utrecht, Netherlands, with the Psychology Society as well as a summer school in Seoul, South Korea. The small travels gave me the confidence I needed to study abroad for an entire year.

I am very grateful for all the opportunities as they allowed me to learn new languages and completely changed my future aspirations.

*Places overseas are subject to availability. Please contact the Global Experiences Team for more information.
A place for the researcher

Our teaching experts bring their knowledge and passion to your lecture theatre, lab class and seminar.

This means that you will learn about the latest developments and their real-world application in this broad and fast-moving science.

Many of our prospective and current students tell us that they want to help people and to bring about positive change in the world. This is what drives our research too and we are proud of the impact that our work has.

Infancy and Early Development
A globally renowned group working on the development of babies from before birth through to the social and physical world of toddlerhood.

Language and Cognition
Our expertise focuses on language at multiple levels from phonemes to literacy, and cognition from behavioural regulation to embodied cognition, and beyond.

Perception and Action
We investigate human interactions with the world and their effect on behaviour via sensory and motor processes.

Social Processes
We study the social and cognitive processes that shape human actions and evaluations of others using a range of quantitative and qualitative methodologies.

For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/psychology
Entry requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>UCAS Code</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BSc Hons Psychology</td>
<td>C800</td>
<td>3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA Hons Psychology</td>
<td>C802</td>
<td>3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSc Hons Psychology (Study Abroad)</td>
<td>C801</td>
<td>4 years with a year abroad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA Hons Psychology (Study Abroad)</td>
<td>C803</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPsych Hons Psychology</td>
<td>C804</td>
<td>4 years</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Entry requirements for BSc/BA Hons Psychology and BSc/BA Hons Psychology (Study Abroad)**

- **A levels**
  - AAB
- **BTEC**
  - DDD

**International Baccalaureate**

35 points overall with 16 points from the best 3 Higher Level subjects.

**Required subjects:**

Mathematics grade B or 6 (grade 5 will be considered on a case by case basis).

**Entry requirements for MPsych Hons Psychology**

- **A levels**
  - AAA
- **BTEC**
  - DDD

**International Baccalaureate**

35 points overall with 16 points from the best 3 Higher Level subjects.

**Required subjects:**

Mathematics grade B or 6 (grade 5 will be considered on a case by case basis).