





### A place for **me**

Thinking back to me and my family walking around Lancaster's campus on my first open day, being sat in a sample lecture, enthralled by what the lecturer was saying, thinking about what it would feel like to study here, and wondering if it was the right decision for me – it now feels so surreal knowing that I've since sat in that same lecture theatre, but this time with the friends I've made at university, been fascinated by lots of different lectures, and knowing it is the right decision for me. I had a gut feeling that Lancaster was the place for me, and remembering that now, I know that my gut feeling was right.

I know that 18-year-old me would feel so much less stressed if she knew how happy I'd be at Lancaster, and that her decision was one of the best ones she'd ever make. I've spent three years here and loved every second of it - from the beginning of first year, learning about all the basic areas of psychology and getting used to being away from home, all the way through to the end of third year, having written a dissertation and studied the areas I have been interested in since college. I've learnt so much about psychology, and all of the different principles it covers. It's been so rewarding to learn about a topic that has so much application to real-life, and I think it teaches you a lot about yourself as well.

Learning about yourself takes time, and I think studying psychology, particularly at Lancaster, really helps. The staff members in the department all want the best for you, and they make that known from your very first day, which definitely helped in keeping myself motivated. The support they offer is exceptional, and the things I have learnt from them will stick with me long after I've graduated. The friends I have made have also had a massive influence on me – they've helped me to grow as a person and we've all helped each other through our university experience. Your experience becomes a joint one, and it's so fun to grow alongside one another.

Choosing which university to study at is a difficult decision, but an important one. For many people, upon visiting the university, they just have a gut feeling, like I did, but this doesn't happen for everyone. It's important to make the right decision for you, and hopefully that happens to be studying Psychology at Lancaster, like it was for me!



Kat Benier

1st year

BSc Hons Psychology

student

# Our psychology degrees

#### **BSc\* and Study Abroad\*\***

Throughout your degree 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

How children develop their thinking and their social behaviour

#### Social Psychology

How people interact with and think

#### 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
- · personality and individual differences

Each topic lasts for 5 weeks.

Skills for working with different types of data, and psychological research methods are taught alongside these topics. You will learn about a variety of different research methods, develop transferable skills for using data, and cover contemporary concerns affecting psychological research and ethics in the context of open science.

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

#### Second year

As well as delving deeper into the topics introduced in Year 1, you will have an increased focus on research methods and skills in thinking about and analysing data. 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 an academic 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 advances in psychology.



- \* Equivalent to Years 1-3 of this degree programme
- \*\* Equivalent to Years 1,2 and 4 in this degree programme



#### Example timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.00am		Developmental Psychology lecture			
10.00am			Developmental Psychology seminar group		
11.00am					Developmental Psychology seminar group
12.00pm	Data Skills lecture		Developmental Psychology lecture	Developmental Psychology lecture	Data Skills
1.00pm		Research Integrity Iecture			lab
2.00pm		Research		Minorsubject	
3.00pm		Integrity lab			

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.

### 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 French Studies** 

**BA Hons** 

**Psychology and German Studies** 

BA Hons

**Psychology and Linguistics** 

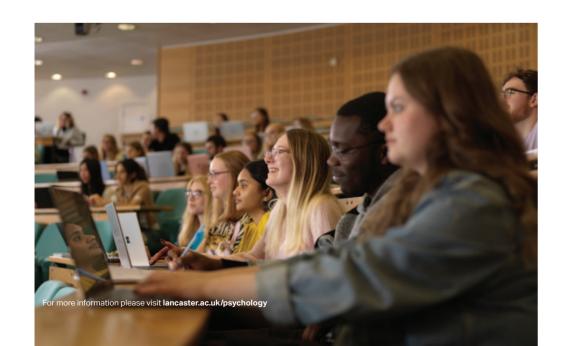
**BA Hons** 

**Psychology and Management** 

RA Hong

**Psychology and Spanish Studies** 

\*these degrees are not accredited by the British Psychological Society (BPS)





Adrian Filip **3rd Year BA Hons Criminology and Psychology** 

I first moved to UK in 2020 when I started University. When I was 19 I finished Highschool in Romania and decided to study Psychology and Criminology at Lancaster University. At the moment, I am in my final year of studying. I chose Lancaster for the support they offer students not only socially but also academically. This is because I am from a country where the first language is not English, so I was concerned that it would have an impact on my academic results, but the university does provide support around these aspects. At first, I was not sure what to expect since I was about to move abroad to a country where people have a slightly different culture than mine. But, as a whole experience, it went better than I expected. Within the

Department of Psychology, and my college, there are a lot of ways in which everyone can get the opportunity to find their own place. Throughout my years of studying at Lancaster University I have tried to engage in as many activities as possible. Because of this, I had the opportunity to befriend people who directed me to a career in social work. Since I am in my final year of studying, I am looking for a job to start after I finish University, their help and guidance was very helpful. My plan at the moment is to work in a social-work related job since I have gained plenty of experience and knowledge within the time that I have attended University.



# 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. Here you will develop you skills in debating, reflecting and building ideas with others. You will learn to present yourself with increasing knowledge and confidence.

#### Practicals

Practical classes are designed to help you discover key psychological methods and techniques. 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 presentations, posters, media analysis and group work presentations.





### John's study tips

#### John Lim Yue Han

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Year BSc Hons Psychology Exchange student from Malaysia

Studying psychology can be pretty challenging. However, an effective study plan can go a long way to help make your studies less daunting. First of all, the lecturers will usually upload the lecture slides a day prior to the lecture itself. Therefore, you could start writing your own notes beforehand so that you would be prepared for the lectures. Also, I highly recommend setting aside a few hours a week to revise your lecture notes. This will help to strengthen your understanding of the lecture content. If you do have any questions regarding the content, there will be weekly Q&A sessions wherein you can ask the lecturers to explain what you learned in further detail. Apart from that, studying with your course mates can really help to make studying psychology more enjoyable.

Listening to their perspectives on the lecture content can really open the door to insightful and critical discussions about psychology. Juggling between exams, assignments, and social activities can also be a challenge for many. Therefore, it is important to set up a timetable to allocate your time so that you will not feel overwhelmed at the workload. As important as exams may be, it is equally important to take a break every now and then as well. You would not want to be experiencing burnout during exam season, after all. In conclusion, planning your time efficiently will not only make studying psychology easier, but it will also help you to enjoy your university life to the fullest.

### Belong, Engage, Employ (BEE)

Your future is important to us, which is why we have developed BEE where we offer a range of workshops, advice and opportunities for you to develop your employability skills through working with people and organisations and by meeting dedicated careers staff who will quide you in your career choices.

#### 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

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

#### **Careers Cafes**

in infant eye tracking

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. We also have '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.





Eloise Duck 3rd year BSc Hons Psychology student

#### Psychology Alumni Evening

An annual event in which our past students return to talk about their career progression. This is a great opportunity for informal networking, and to hear first hand about how other students have advanced their careers. Psychology Connect This scheme offers one day opportunities for those who aren't able to undertake longer placements. It's a great opportunity to see how your degree can be applied whilst expanding your network.

#### Psychology Connect

This scheme offers one day opportunities for those who aren't able to undertake longer placements. It's a great opportunity to see how your degree can be applied whilst expanding your network.

#### Eloise Duck - PEP Experience

Over my second and third years studying at Lancaster I have gained experience working as a voluntary research assistant investigating visual manipulations. I applied for this position through the Psychology Employability Programme (PEP) at the start of my second year. I have loved working on this project, learning from my supervisor and the other students on our team and getting a view of what a job in research might look like. As part of my PEP I have gained first-hand experience generating initial ideas, creating surveys, assisting with data collection, and writing up findings. The skills I have learned have helped with my third-year dissertation project and allowed me to stand out during my Master's application (in Human Computer Interaction) which I will begin in September. The PEP scheme is an invaluable resource that has really helped develop my abilities and passion for the subject. I would highly recommend it to any prospective students coming to the Psychology Department!

## An experience for **Brandon**

# 56

#### Can you tell us about your own Psychology

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

#### What skills and knowledge did you gain

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 general 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. The skills and research experience gained in my PEP placement have taken me to where I am now as a third-year PhD student. It has been the foundation of my educational progression over the past 6 years at Lancaster, and sparked the passion for research that I still hold today!

#### What would you say to students thinking

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.



# Brandon O'Hanlon



BSc Psychology, MSc Psychological Research Methods, and now a PhD student

### Hello Future

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).

#### Skills developed through a psychology degree

Communication

Literacy

Problem solving

Interpersonal skills

Critical evaluation

Information gathering

Independent working

To pursue a career in professional psychology such as clinical, educational or 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





### Ellie Bradeley **Psychology student alumna**



#### What was your experience as an undergraduate at

My time at Lancaster was everything I hoped it would be. A chance to build a network of truly inspiring friends and colleagues, spend every day learning more, and discover what my future holds. Lancaster city's historic and dynamic culture has been the perfect place to study and an easy place to call home. My experience has been valuable, and one I will reflect upon with affection for a very long time!

#### What did you enjoy most about studying

The highlight of my time studying Psychology at Lancaster was during my final year, as I gained first-hand experience of the academic world as a Research Assistant with the Developmental Psychology Department (Baby Lab). This experience hugely increased my affection for empirical research and provided such a sense of community. Throughout this position I was encouraged to explore the core concepts of psychological development and investigate novel ways of conducting meaningful research. This hands-on approach hugely benefited my undergraduate work, and also allowed me to nurture fantastic relationships with both my peers and the Department.

#### Where you are now and what skills did you learn

I am currently training as an Education Mental Health Practitioner (EMHP) with Barnardo's, a role that extends the Increasing Access to Psychological Therapies movement into the education system, working with both children and school staff.

Developing a strong statistical skill set during my undergraduate years has been particularly important.

These competencies allow me to interpret and understand data that reflects how effective my work is in supporting children's mental health, and also indicates the progress made across the educational institutions in our area. The ability to reflect critically has also been invaluable, encouraging me to 'think outside of the box' when faced with complexity, and to find creative ways of workingaround a problem.

#### How did you get into your current job role?

Prior to training as an EMHP, I gained experience as a Learning Support Assistant in a school for children with Special Educational Needs. From this, and my time studying at Lancaster, I have been able to reflect upon key psychological themes relevant to the clinical and educational fields, including the systemic challenges of promoting positive mental health in schools. Securing my current role took a handful of applications and a lot of reflection, yet was made a reality with some self-belief and support from the network of friends and colleagues I made at Lancaster.

#### How do you feel studying at Lancaster University

I really believe that I would not be where I am now without the support from the Psychology Department at Lancaster! The team is empowering, encouraging, and kind. They are also willing to give you a real challenge and push you to achieve well. I have felt so confident stepping into the world of work with my experiences at Lancaster behind me, and I couldn't be more grateful for my time as an undergraduate!



### Hawwaa Mulla



1<sup>st</sup> Year BSc Hons Psychology

## Social Media Ambassador experience



I'm a first year Psychology student with a minor in sociology. I am a student ambassador for Lancaster University, and I am a digital content creator for the Psychology Department at Lancaster University. I have produced digital content for Lancaster throughout my first year.

Being a content creator has been an excellent opportunity to get creative and do something I love. It has also allowed me to enhance and broaden my personal skill set. I love how flexible the ambassador job is especially as a content creator. I am given the responsibility to come up with ideas, capture and edit them independently, which pushes me out of my comfort zone but also benefits me.

The digital content ambassador job requires filming, and due to the nature of this task I have had more opportunities to explore around campus and Lancaster town. As I started the ambassador job my roles included relevant stories, and capturing content on instagram. After our success on the Instagram app, we have now expanded to start a TikTok account which I also capture content for alongside a team of other student ambassadors. This opens yet more doors for me creatively and builds more skills I can use after university.

The reason why I chose to pursue the student ambassador digital content creator role was because I wanted to help students entering higher education make the right choice for them. Spreading information about the Psychology Department on social media enables more students to see how amazing our Department is and the opportunities available.

The student ambassador role has been incredibly rewarding and the team is very positive and hardworking. I have had a huge amount of support from the student ambassador team about a multitude of queries, not only work related. I am proud to be a psychology student at Lancaster University as well as a digital content ambassador for the Department. I am also grateful for the opportunity I have been given to work alongside incredible individuals representing our Department



\*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.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Psychology BSc	+ An Introduction to Cognitive Psychology + An Introduction to Neuroscience + Personality & Individual Differences + Social Psychology in a Digital Age + Statistics for Psychologists 1 & 2 + Research Integrity & Open Science 1 & 2 + Essential skills for Psychologists + Minor module*	Core BPS** content  + Cognitive Psychology  + Developmental Psychology  + Foundations of Cognitive Neuroscience  + Research Methods 1    Experimental Methods in Psychology  + Research Methods 2    Asking questions, analysing responses  + Social Psychology  + Statistics for group comparisons  + Statistics: from association to modelling causality	Core  + Research Project  Plus 5 from the following***  + Bewildering, bizarre or just banal? Cognition in and out the laboratory  + Cognitive Affective and Clinical Neuroscience  + Current Directions in Social Psychology  + Forensic and Investigative Psychology  + Prozac Nation: Human Psychopharmacology  + The Developing Mind  + The Lying Brain: An Examination of Hallucinations  & Delusions in Normal, Clinical and Pathological Populations  + Culture in Cognition and Development  + The Psychology of Art  + Topics in Clinical Psychology	
Psychology BSc (Study Abroad)	+ An Introduction to Cognitive Psychology + An Introduction to Neuroscience + Personality & Individual Differences + Social Psychology in a Digital Age + Statistics for Psychologists 1 & 2 + Research Integrity & Open Science 1 & 2 + Essential skills for Psychologists + Minor module*	Core BPS** content  + Cognitive Psychology  + Developmental Psychology  + Foundations of Cognitive Neuroscience  + Research Methods 1    Experimental Methods in Psychology  + Research Methods 2    Asking questions, analysing responses  + Social Psychology  + Statistics for group comparisons  + Statistics: from association to modelling causality	Year abroad	Core  + Research Project  Plus 5 from the following***  + Bewildering, bizarre or just banal? Cognition in and out the laboratory  + Cognitive Affective and Clinical Neuroscience  + Current Directions in Social Psychology  + Forensic and Investigative Psychology  + Prozac Nation: Human Psychopharmacology  + The Developing Mind  + The Lying Brain: An Examination of Hallucinations  & Delusions in Normal, Clinical and Pathological  Populations  + Culture in Cognition and Development  + The Psychology of Art  + Topics in Clinical Psychology



## A global experience

66

### Holly Barnett Study abroad student

In July I boarded a plane alone to Australia for my year abroad. I had shortlisted Australia, Canada and the USA as my options, but Australia was always my first choice. Having never lived in another country before, I was apprehensive. I was looking forward to a year of sun and of course, studying. My time here has been more than I could've imagined.

I have been living on the Gold Coast in Queensland for over 10 months. My place in student accommodation means I have been able to make friends and find others on study abroad years. My host university, Griffith University, is ranked highly with 5 different campuses.

Through my time at Griffith University, I have been able to delve further into psychology. I have taken modules such as 'Abnormal Psychology' which provided me with an understanding of how to be a clinical psychologist. I also chose to study criminology modules. This will benefit me in relation to my dissertation which I will be writing next year, as this will have a Criminal Psychology element.

The most important module I have been able to study is Aboriginal History. I knew I wanted to understand the country I was living in, and this module has been an excellent way of doing that. This enabled me to create assessment pieces different than what I had done at Lancaster. Overall, my academic knowledge has grown to encourage me to think further about how culture and psychology are linked.

I also worked in a local theme park, operating rollercoasters. This enabled me to earn a wage and gain experience working with the public. Thanks to this, I had the opportunity to travel over the Christmas period. I was able to visit Tasmania, complete a hike in New Zealand and spend three weeks living with locals on tropical islands in Fiji. I will also be spending two weeks hiking through the Australian desert before flying home. My days off from university have mostly been spent at the beach or hiking. During my first term, I went on a camping trip to Byron Bay which was incredible. I have been lucky enough to see humpback whales, dolphins, snakes, turtles, sharks and sting rays. I also had the opportunity to compete at Griffith Uni events such as a trail half-marathon in Toohey Forest. This would not have been possible had I not chosen to study abroad.

I would highly recommend a study abroad year to anyone who wants to travel and develop independence. I also think this year has been beneficial to me in choosing which pathway I would like to follow with my psychology degree. I have been able to speak with more academics and learn extra content which has helped me decide which career idea to pursue. I am very grateful to Lancaster for this opportunity.





# 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 applications 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.

We conduct world-leading research in four key research groups.

#### Infancy and Early Development

We investigate how babies and young children develop an understanding of the world around them. We study babies from before birth through to their exploration of the world as toddlers.

#### Language and Cognition

We work on how people learn language and develop reading skills throughout their lifespan, we also study how memory and attention affect our processing of the world around us.

#### **Perception and Action**

We find out how humans interact with the world, how the brain responds to different situations, and how that can be affected by age and disease.

#### Social Processes

We explore the social and cognitive processes that shape human actions, such as discovering when and why people are pro-social or anti-social, and how that affects decisionmaking, security, and trust.

# Entry requirements

Degree	UCAS Code	Duration
BSc Hons Psychology	C800	3 years
BSc Hons Psychology (Study Abroad)	C801	4 years with a year abroad

#### Entry requirements for BSc Hons Psychology and BSc 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).

#### Important information

The information in this leaflet relates primarily to 2024/25 entry to the University and every effort has been taken to ensure the information is correct at the time of printing. The University will use all reasonable effort to deliver the course as described but the University reserves the right to make changes after going to print. You are advised to consult our website at www.lancaster.ac.uk/study for up-to-date information before you submit your application. Further legal information may may be found at www.lancaster.ac.uk/compliance/legalnotice.

© Lancaster University – Psychology 2023





#### **Department of Psychology** Lancaster University, Lancaster, LA1 4YF

T: +44 (0)1524 593698 E: psychology@lancaster.ac.uk

Connect with us

- @ @psychologylancaster
- **∂** apsychologylancaster
  - @lancspsychres
- Lancaster Psychology

lancaster.ac.uk/psychology



Printed on FSC paper using vegetable based inks

