

**PROGRAMME APPROVAL FORM
SECTION 1 – THE PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION**

1. Programme title and designation		MSc Health Psychology		
		For undergraduate programmes only Single honours Joint Major/minor		
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Final award				
Award	Title	Credit value	ECTS equivalent	Any special criteria
MSc	Health Psychology	180	90	n/a
3. Nested award				
Award	Title	Credit value	ECTS equivalent	Any special criteria
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
4. Exit award				
Award	Title	Credit value	ECTS equivalent	Any special criteria
PgCert	Psychology and Health	60	30	Pass 60 credits
PgDip	Psychology and Health	120	60	Pass 120 credits
5. Level in the qualifications framework		M		
6. Attendance				
		Full-time	Part-time	Distance learning
Mode of attendance		X	n/a	n/a
Minimum length of programme		1 year	n/a	n/a
Maximum length of programme		3 years	n/a	n/a

7. Awarding institution/body	Kings College London
8. Teaching institution	Kings College London
9. Proposing department	Psychology, Institute of Psychiatry
10. Programme organiser and contact Details	Dr Joe Chilcot Health Psychology Section, Psychology Dept, Institute of Psychiatry, KCL, 5th floor Bermondsey Wing, Guy's Campus, London Bridge, London, SE1 9RT Tel: 020718 82597 Email: joseph.chilcot@kcl.ac.uk
11. UCAS code (if appropriate)	-
12. Relevant QAA subject benchmark/ Professional, statutory and regulatory	British Psychological Society

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body guidelines	
13. Date of production of specification	Original: November 2011 Updated: July 2013 Minor amend to PAF July 2014
14. Date of programme review	2018/19

15. Educational aims of the programme

i.e what is the purpose of the programme and general statements about the learning that takes place over the duration of the programme

The MSc aims to provide students with the knowledge and skills for achieving the British Psychological Society's Stage 1 level of postgraduate training in Health Psychology. More specifically the principal educational aims are to:-

1. Provide an up-to-date and thorough grounding in the theories, concepts and empirical findings in Health Psychology.
2. Provide formal training in quantitative and qualitative research methods, so that students are able to evaluate, plan and conduct research.
3. Prepare students for a subsequent research degree (i.e. PhD) or Stage 2 training¹.
4. Equip students to apply the scientific and theoretical basis of Health Psychology using a scholarly and critical approach.
5. Enable students to disseminate psychological approaches.
6. Enable students to develop an ethical approach to their work, so that they can recognise the applicability and limits of their own competence and the models and methods they use.
7. Enable them to develop their own areas of specialisation and carry out systematic reviews and research in those areas

¹ Stage 2 in Health Psychology is an HPC accredited professional qualification. Successful completion of stage 2 leads to registration as a health psychologist.

16. Educational objectives of the programme/programme outcomes (as relevant to the SEEC Credit Level Descriptors)

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding and skills in the following areas:

Knowledge and understanding

The programme provides a **knowledge and understanding** of the following:

1. Knowledge of the key theories, concepts, methods and empirical findings in all the main areas of health psychology.
2. Understanding of the main psychological factors which influence health, illness and health care delivery.
3. Knowledge of the main

These are achieved through the following **teaching/learning methods and strategies**:

- Seminars and lectures on all the key topic areas.
- Preparation for seminars from recommended reading.
- Active involvement in seminars.
- Feedback on written work.
- Hands-on, computer-based teaching on statistical analysis techniques.
- Conduct and Supervision of systematic

quantitative and qualitative methods for conducting health psychology research and for understanding the contexts in which they can be applied.

4. Knowledge of the data management and multivariate statistical methods for the analysis of research data.

review and research project.

Assessment:

Wide range of in-course assignments which assess critical/evaluative skills, ability to produce a research protocol and a mini systematic review. Exam papers which assess all the main taught areas, including research methods/statistics.

Skills and other attributes

Intellectual skills:

1. Know the range of research designs and methods and the ways in which they are best applied.
2. Know the range of statistical methods and how they should be used.
3. Critically evaluate research within its methodological context.
4. Critically evaluate the usefulness of the key theories and models of health-related behaviour.
5. Know how to design theory based interventions
6. Know how to evaluate the efficacy of health psychology interventions
7. Be able to review and critically discuss the applicability of key psychological concepts and models applied to chronic illness/disability
8. Have a critical understanding of the nature and assessment of the main psychological factors which influence the processes of help-seeking, healthcare delivery and response to treatment.
9. Appreciate the importance of a developmental/lifespan perspective and of socio-demographic factors in health psychology research.
10. Have a basic grasp of other related disciplines (e.g. public health, epidemiology, medical sociology and anthropology)

These are achieved through the following **teaching/learning methods and strategies:**

Seminars, lectures and problem based cases on all the key topics.

Hands-on, computer-based teaching on statistical analysis techniques.

Essential Readings.

Assessment:

In-course assignments, which assess critical/evaluative skills, ability to produce a research protocol and a mini systematic review. Exam papers which assess all the main taught areas, including research methods/statistics.

Practical skills:

1. Be able to use the windows based version of SPSS for creating and editing data files, data management, and all basic

These are achieved through the following **teaching/learning methods and strategies:**

Hands-on, computer-based teaching on statistical analysis techniques.

univariate and multivariate statistical analyses in health psychology research.

2. Be able to write a research proposal using a health psychology intervention.
3. Be able to complete and write up a mini systematic review.
4. Be able to design, conduct and write up an empirical health psychology research project.

Specific teaching sessions and handouts on writing research proposals and conducting systematic reviews. Teaching on research methods, feedback sessions on research plans and 1:1 research project supervision.

Assessment:
In-course assignments which assess ability to produce a research protocol and a mini systematic review.
Exam paper to assesses methodological and statistical skills.
Research project dissertation.

Generic/transferable skills:

1. Ability to summarise and critically evaluate published research.
2. Group work and problem solving.
3. presentation skills
4. Generating and writing a research protocol.
5. Methods for systematic reviewing and developing theory based interventions
6. Applying for ethics permission.
7. Methodological and statistical skills.
8. Basic Clinical Skills (e.g. basic listening and communication skills, motivation interviewing)

These are achieved through the following **teaching/learning methods and strategies:**

Group tasks in seminars and roleplaying.
Learning on in-course reading and assignments.
Presentations of papers and project plans.
Computer-based teaching on statistical analysis techniques

Assessment:
In-course assignments
End of course examinations.
Research project dissertation
Placement Report and Presentation

17. Statement of how the programme has been informed by the relevant subject benchmark statement(s)/professional, statutory and regulatory body guidelines

All the content, level and style of the course is based on the guidelines provided by the British Psychological Society for Stage 1 (MSc level) training in postgraduate health psychology.

The course is subject to formal accreditation by the Training Committee of the British Psychological Society's Division of Health Psychology.

18. In cases of joint honours programmes please provide a rationale for the particular subject combination, either educational or academic

n/a

Programme approval 2011/12

Which is the lead department and/or School?

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19. Programme structure

Please complete the following table and, if appropriate, to include joint, major/minor or other variations

Code = code of each module available for the programme

Title = title of each module available for the programme, plus its credit level and credit value

Status = please indicate whether the module is introductory (I), core (Cr), compulsory (Cp), one or more of however many modules must be passed to progress (CrCp), (P) professional (i.e. module testing skills/competency that has no credit level or value but is a professional body requirement) or optional (O) for each type of programme. For postgraduate programmes use the "single honours" column

Pre-requisite/Co-requisite = where appropriate please indicate whether the module is pre-requisite to another module or co-requisite by noting pre or co and the module code that it is pre/co-requisite to.

Assessment = please indicate in broad terms the assessment for the module eg written examinations, coursework

(Note: the availability of optional modules may vary slightly from year to year; the following are the modules available at the commencement of the programme)

Code	Title	Credit Level	Credit Value	Status (I, Cr, Cp, CrCp, P, O) for each type of module			Pre-requisite/ Co-requisite (Please note the module code)			Assessment
				Single	Joint	Major/Minor	Single	Joint	Major/Minor	
Full-time Study										
First Year										
7PAHHRB	1. Health Related Behaviours, Cognitions & Emotions	7	15	Cr						Coursework Written Examination
7PAHCID	2. Psychosocial factors of Chronic Illness and Disability	7	15	Cr						Coursework Written Examination
7PAHHCD	3. Psychology and Health Care Delivery	7	15	Cr						Coursework
7PAHHLIN	4. Health Psychology in Action & Professional Development	7	30	Cr						Coursework
7PAHHRMS	5. Basic and Advanced	7	45	Cr						Coursework

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	Research Methods and Statistics.									Written Examination
7PAHHRES	6. Research Project	7	60	Cr						Coursework
If a Masters programme, are level 6 credit levels permitted within the programme?										
No										
Maximum number of credits permitted with a condoned fail (core modules excluded)										
n/a all modules are core										
Are students permitted to take any additional credits, as per regulation A3?										
No										
Are students permitted to take substitute modules, as per regulation A3?										
No										
Are there any exceptions to the regulations regarding credits, progression or award requirements? (where relevant the information should also differentiate the particular requirements of pathways within a programme or nested/exit awards)										
The programme offers an exit award of the Post Graduate Certificate in Psychology and Health at 60 credits at level 7, and the Post Graduate Diploma in Psychology and Health at 120 credits at level 7. These are exit awards only and students are not able to enrol directly on the programme at entry										
Other relevant information to explain the programme structure										
<i>Please note that <u>new</u> students enrolling on the information provided on this section of the PAF will have these regulations stipulated throughout their programme of study. The only exception to this will be if there are changes made by Professional, Regulatory or Statutory Bodies that are noted to this programme.</i>										
n/a										

20. Marking criteria

DISTINCTION (70%+) – very strong content and critical approach.

MERIT (60-69%) – strong content and reasonably critical approach

PASS – which, for internal purposes, is further broken down as follows :-

Adequate (54-59%) – sound but not comprehensive content, lacking in critical approach.

Fair (50-54%) – Patchy content, lacking in critical /evaluative approach.

FAIL(less than 50%) – failure to achieve minimal content or critical/evaluative approach

21. Will this Programme report to an existing Board, and if so which one? If a new Programme Board of Examiners is to be set up please note name of Board here

Health Psychology Programme Exam Board reporting to the IoP School Exam Board

22. Please confirm that the process for nominating External Examiners has commenced, and if known, note whom the nominated External Examiner(s) may be

Prof Diana Harcourt
University of West England

23. Particular features of the programme which help to reduce the barriers experienced by disabled students and ensure that the programme is accessible to all students who meet the entry requirements

The Programme will make every reasonable effort to meet the recommendations of a needs assessment.

**PROGRAMME APPROVAL FORM
SECTION 3 – SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

Not all of the information in this section will be relevant for all programmes and for some programmes this section will not be relevant at all

1. Programme name; MSc Health Psychology

2. Is this programme involved in collaborative activity?

Yes

No

If yes what type of Collaborative Provision is it (*tick appropriate box*)?

Does the programme have an access/feeder Programme for entry into it?

Does the programme have an articulation/ progression agreement for entry into it?

Dual Award

Franchised Provision

Joint Award

Partnership Programme

Recognition of Study or Award of Credit through off-campus study or placement

Staff and student exchange

Validated provision

Have the relevant stages and appropriate paperwork been approved and the paperwork forwarded onto ASQ Office?

Yes

No

Not applicable

3. If the programme is a joint award with an institution outwith the University of London, validated provision or franchised provision, has the necessary approval been sought from College Education Committee?

Yes

No

Not applicable

Please attach a copy of Part 1 of the Partner Profile and checklist submitted to the College Education Committee

4. Partnership programme - in cases where parts or all of the programme are delivered away from one of the College campuses by a body or bodies external to the College please provide the following details

VARIOUS

“4. Health Psychology in Action & Professional Development”

Students will undertake an eight-twelve week placement relevant to health psychology either in KHP trusts or in industry partnership organisations (Atlantis Health Care). Objectives will be available for each placement. One key objective across all placements is for the student to consider and define the role of a health psychologist in the host organisation.

Students will be assigned to one placement environment and will undertake the placement one-two days a week for an eight-twelve week block depending on the placement and its objectives/needs. At the end of this period students will be required to produce a placement report and conduct a 15-minute presentation to the cohort and section staff. Students will also receive supervision from a member of the MSc core teaching team while on placement. In the majority of cases it is envisaged that the supervisor will be the student's personal tutor.

Dr Cooper (placement coordinator) will meet with potential placement hosts to provide them with particular details surrounding placements, aim and objectives. Each placement will have agreed aims and objectives before students start.

Percentage/amount of the programme delivered off-campus or by external body

The eight-twelve week placement will total approx 80-100 hours (approx. 1-2 days per/week)

Nature of the involvement of external body

Provision of placement experience

Description of the learning resources available at the off-campus location

This will vary between placements. Students will view how health psychology may be put into practice, liaise with multidisciplinary teams and define the role of Health Psychology as distinct from other related disciplines.

What mechanisms will be put in place to ensure the ongoing monitoring of the delivery of the programme, to include monitoring of learning resources off-site or by the external body?

Students will be asked to complete a project placement feedback form.
The placement co-ordinator will have ultimate responsibility overseeing each placement site.

Please attach the report of the visit to the off-campus location

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5. Recognition of study or award of credit through off-campus study or placement - please indicate how the time will be spent, the length of time out, the amount of credit and whether it is a compulsory or optional part of the programme

Year abroad	Year in employment	Placement	Other (please specify)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Time spent 1-2 days for 8-12 weeks

Credit amount:

Placement report- 80% of 30 credit

Presentation: 20% Oral Presentation

6. Please provide a rationale for any such time outside the College, other than that which is a requirement of a professional, statutory or regulatory body

Placements will enrich the student experience and provide our students with exposure to health psychology in action.

We envisage that placements will also give us a marketing advantage since most MSc Courses in Health Psychology lack placements and basic clinical skills training.

5. Please give details if the programme requires validation or accreditation by a professional, statutory or regulatory body

Name and address of PSB

British Psychological Society
St. Andrews House,
48 Princess Road East
Leicester LE1 7DR

Frequency of validation/ accreditation 6 years/ on-going accreditation

Date of next validation/ accreditation TBC