



MSc Psychology (BPS)

POSTGRADUATE

ONLINE



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Arden University has three decades of experience providing higher education, and we’ve helped more than 50,000 students globally gain the qualifications they need to succeed. According to our 2021 graduate survey, we have a 95% student satisfaction rating, and 9 out of 10 Arden students believe studying with us has helped them transform their careers.



MSc Psychology (BPS)

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You can visit the Arden University website page for this course [here](#).

COURSE CONTENT OVERVIEW

Arden's MSc Psychology course is perfect for anyone interested in exploring a career within psychology, or who are passionate about understanding human behavior. Completion of this course grants GBC status--an important feature for anyone interested in pursuing specialisation training with the BPS--and eligibility for BPS graduate membership (which also grants the use of the post-nominal letters GMBPsS). Across the course you will study contemporary psychology, including human lifespan, mental health, brain-behavior relationships, and controversial research, and benefit from academic expertise, international collaboration, and real-world experiences through research assistant schemes, conferences, and more.

Course at a glance

- Ideal for career development or those with a passion for understanding human behavior.
- As this a conversion course, you can apply even if your previous qualifications were not related to psychology.
- Arden University will cover your BPS student membership while you are studying with us (terms apply).
- Explore the latest developments in contemporary psychology, including human lifespan, mental health, brain-behavior relationships.

Key facts

Location: Online

Start dates: Every 3 months

Part time: 1 year+

Contact us

If you'd like to get in touch to find out more about studying this course, please use the following:

UK enquiries:

Call 0800 268 7737

Email study@arden.ac.uk

International online learning:

Call +44 20 300 56070

Email online@arden.ac.uk

Berlin blended learning:

Call +49 30 23590100

Email studyberlin@arden.ac.uk

Entry requirements

- A UK honours degree or equivalent in any subject at 2:2 or above. If your degree is in psychology it must not be accredited by the BPS or a Third Class UK honours degree or equivalent in psychology if you also possesses a master's degree.
- Students that do not hold an honours degree will need to evidence independent research such as a dissertation.
- A maths qualification at least Grade C at GCSE, or complete our mini module which has no formal assessment.
- IELTS 6.5 (no less than 6.0 in any element); or TOEFL iBT 90; or equivalent; Alternatively, we can accept evidence that you have previously studied in English.

Career Progression

- Psychologist
- Counsellor
- Social Worker
- Journalist
- Human Resources Manager

If you'd like to get your application started, please click [here](#).

Online learning

Studying this course online gives you a lot of flexibility and convenience. You can enrol with us from anywhere in the world and study your degree from the comfort of home, without the requirement to attend classes in a physical location.

You'll study the course through ilearn, our university campus in the cloud. ilearn provides you with an integrated online learning experience, including your virtual classroom, lecture hall, and online library of more than half a million books and journals – yours for free while you study with us.

Studying online doesn't mean studying alone. As well as receiving regular feedback and guidance from your course tutor, you'll be studying with likeminded students and you'll have access to community message boards to discuss your course and the topics being raised within it.

We've even set up community boards embedded into each of the course modules so you can have discussions with your tutor and classmates on the topics you're currently learning.

You can find out more about online learning with Arden University [here](#).

Online learning key benefits

- Study anywhere worldwide
- Plan your own schedule
- Benefit from reduced costs
- Study around work and family life

Discover why so many students choose online learning with Arden [here](#).



An MSc Psychology conversion qualification kickstarts your journey as a psychologist and can also help you transition into senior roles in management and leadership across diverse careers. Your studies will focus on areas such as mastering psychology fundamentals, critical analysis of theory and research, and practical application. You'll explore captivating areas such as behavioral neuroscience, individual differences, mental health, and lifespan development.

During the course, you'll also benefit from the experience and knowledge of our academic staff in a collaborative and international learning environment. You'll have the opportunity to gain realworld insight and experience through our specialised psychology support, including opportunities such as volunteer research assistant schemes, student conferences, guest speakers, professional interest groups, employability events, and more. Please see the following pages for a detailed overview of each course module.

Level 7 core modules

Research Methods (20 credits)

This module introduces the origins of psychology and its evolution into a scientific discipline. It will develop your understanding of quantitative and qualitative psychological research methods, including experimental design, participant recruitment, discourse analysis, data collection and analysis using statistical software, ethical considerations, APA format written reports, and data discussion and presentation. Your learning outcomes from this module include the ability to:

- **Identify, research, critically summarise and apply key concepts in psychology to a range of psychological issues.**
- **Critically evaluate and apply different methodological approaches to the study of psychological concepts.**
- **Report a mini research project at a postgraduate level with a reflective understanding of ethical issues in human participation in research.**
- **Critically distinguish between different research approaches in psychology and their application, based on relevant theoretical, philosophical, practical, statistical, and methodological reasoning.**

Behavioural Neuroscience (20 credits)

In this module you will be introduced to the core methodologies of biological psychology and cognitive neuroscience and their major influence in other areas of psychology. You will gain insight into the biological basis of human behaviour, philosophical approaches to the mind-brain problem, and the interaction of central and peripheral nervous system models to produce mental life and motivated behaviours. This will include perspectives from genetics, evolution, human and animal research, neuroimaging, and brain disorders. The module will help you to:

- **Demonstrate a critical understanding and depth of knowledge of the core areas of psychology and the ability to assess their relevance in the understanding of the contemporary world.**
- **Undertake effective communication and presentation skills to support or strengthen arguments and analysis.**
- **Read and review psychological research from an informed and critical perspective.**

Individual Differences and Mental Health (20 credits)

Through critical examination of key historical and contemporary approaches to measuring and defining intelligence, personality, and normality, this module will develop your ability to assess individual differences and mental health. The module links theoretical approaches with practical applications of psychological assessment, equipping you with basic skills in using psychological tests, psychometric instruments, and categorising distress. It will also show the impact of social, cultural, psychological and biological factors on mental health. You will develop the skills to:

- **Collect, evaluate, and apply information from a variety of sources in order to address questions regarding human psychology.**
- **Use relevant research theory and knowledge to critically evaluate psychometric testing or explanations of mental and emotional distress.**
- **Identify, research, critically summarise, and apply key concepts in psychology to a range of psychological topics and scenarios.**

Social Psychology (20 credits)

By exploring conceptual and historical issues in research-based social psychology, this module will develop your understanding of human behaviour in a social context. It will introduce the traditional and critical philosophies underlying contemporary social psychological research, as well as a wide range of theoretical and methodological perspectives. The modules' practical nature will develop your ability to apply social psychological theory to real-world settings. It will also develop your ability to:

- **Demonstrate a critical understanding and in-depth knowledge of the core areas of psychology and the ability to assess their relevance in the understanding of the contemporary world.**
- **Critically understand the main theoretical perspectives and debates in psychology in their historical and contemporary contexts in a reflective way.**
- **Identify, research, critically summarise and apply key concepts in psychology to a range of psychological issues.**
- **Critically reflect to support enhanced learning, self-awareness and interaction with others.**

Lifespan Development (20 credits)

This module gives an overview of human development across the lifespan, including the effect of childhood experiences on later development. It will critically analyse a range of approaches to human development and how these can be applied to real-world case studies. The domains of cognitive, social, emotional, and moral development across the lifespan will be explored, as well as meta-representation and its relation to personal development and self-explanation, theory of mind, relational representations, and issues with clinical self-representation. It will help you to:

- **Demonstrate a critical understanding and depth of knowledge of the core areas of psychology and the ability to assess their relevance in the understanding of the contemporary world.**
- **Assimilate data and evidence to support a reasoned argument to explain some aspect of human mental life and behaviour.**
- **Evaluate and apply different methodological approaches to the study of mental life and behaviour.**

Cognitive Psychology (20 credits)

Giving a broad overview of human cognitive psychology, this module will introduce the major issues underlying the field and draw attention to the key conceptual and ethical considerations of cognitive research. Several key topics will be explored, such as methods by which the brain processes information and constructs its interpretation of the world, the interactive nature of cognitive processing, and the core role of empirical research in developing cognitive theory. At the end of the module you will be able to:

- **Critically understand the main theoretical perspectives and debates in psychology in their historical and contemporary contexts in a reflective way.**
- **Collect, evaluate, and apply information from a variety of sources in order to address questions regarding human psychology.**
- **Identify, research, critically summarise and apply key concepts in psychology to a range of psychological issues.**

Advanced Research Project (60 credits)

The advanced research project provides an opportunity to apply the theoretical knowledge and practical research skills you have gained throughout your degree programme. Here you will be expected to design, implement, analyse, critically evaluate, and communicate an original piece of empirical research on a key psychological issue of your interest. This provides the chance for you to consider issues related to the prospective career you wish to pursue. Your final learning outcome at the end of this module includes the ability to:

- **Evaluate and apply different methodological approaches to the study of mental life and behaviour.**
- **Conduct an independent research project at a postgraduate level with a reflective understanding of ethical issues in human participation in research.**
- **Critically distinguish between different research approaches in psychology and their application, based on relevant theoretical, philosophical, practical, statistical, and methodological reasoning.**

**Professor Brian Smith**

Deputy Provost of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Technology

The Faculty of Social Sciences and Technology is currently overseen by Professor Brian Smith, Deputy Provost. Bringing more than three decades of experience, Brian has been awarded the prestigious Higher Education Academy National Teaching Fellow for excellence in developing inspiring and innovative new learning and teaching models in global higher education. This work was core to his PhD to understand learner behaviour and ontological needs in the classroom, blended and online learning. He carries a wealth of experience and has touched a variety of disciplines – including healthcare, psychology, technology, law and engineering, to name a few.

Why study with Arden University?

At Arden University we believe everyone, everywhere has the right to gain the life and career benefits that higher education can bring. We are dedicated to making the university experience convenient and accessible to ambitious and motivated individuals worldwide.

Our mission is to connect adult learners like you with higher education study opportunities that give you the tools you need to fulfil your career and life goals. We challenge conventional perceptions of degree study by providing flexible, vocational courses with timetables and learning options that fit around your life commitments.

As an education provider that is not constrained by bricks and mortar or traditions, we are able to offer courses that are innovative, affordable, and which help students and employers reap the benefits of contemporary training and skills development.

Arden is the university that comes to you, on your terms, helping you achieve the life and professional success you want.



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