



BA (Hons) Psychology with Combined Studies

Programme Specification

2024-2025

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1. INTRODUCTION

This document describes the **BA (Hons) Psychology with Combined Studies** awarded by Richmond University American University in London, using the protocols required by *The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland* (QAA, 2008).

The degree is delivered within the framework of a US Liberal Arts undergraduate degree programme. Typically, students take the programme over 3.5 to 4 years (approximately 10 courses per year, with summer courses allowing for accelerated progress in some cases). Each undergraduate credit is equivalent, approximately, to 1 classroom contact hour per 15-week semester. On this basis, students are required to earn a total of a minimum 120 US academic credit hours in order to complete their degrees. Of the courses in the programme, half are at the “lower-division” taken in the first two years of study and coded 3000-4999, and half are at the “upper division”, taken in years three and four, and coded 5000-6999.

The degrees are also articulated in terms of UK Regulatory Frameworks, chiefly the *FHEQ* and the *Higher Education Credit Framework for England*. Each course has been assigned to an appropriate level on the *FHEQ*, based on the course’s learning outcomes and assessment strategies (note that the courses comprising the first year of the 4-year US undergraduate degree are normally at RQF Level 3). US undergraduate credit can generally be translated to ECTS and UK CATS credits in the following manner: 1 US credit = 2 ECTS credits = 4 UK CATS credits. So a US degree of 120 credits would translate as 240 ECTS credits and 480 UK CATS credits (with a minimum of 360 UK CATS credits at Levels 4-6 on the *FHEQ*).

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content, and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each course can be found in course specification documents and syllabi.

The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by the University and may be verified by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

2. OVERVIEW

Programme/award title(s)	BA (Hons) Psychology with Combined Studies
Teaching Institution	Richmond American University in London
Awarding Institution	Richmond American University in London
Date of last validation	28 March 2022
Next revalidation	Spring 2027
Credit points for the award	124 US Credits 496 UK Credits at <i>FHEQ</i> Levels 3-6 (120 at Level 3; 120 at Level 4; 128 at Level 5; 128 at Level 6)
UCAS Code	University Code: R20 Psychology: C880
Programme start date	Fall 2022
Underpinning QAA subject benchmark(s)	QAA Benchmark Statement: Psychology (2019)
Professional/statutory recognition	BPS accreditation awarded in 2016 and renewed in 2021.
Language of Study	English
Duration of the programme for each mode of study (P/T, FT,DL)	FT
Dual accreditation (if applicable)	Middle States Commission on Higher Education (First accredited 1981; renewed 1996, 2006, 2016.) QAA – Higher Education Review (AP) 2017
Date of production/revision of this specification	May 2022 (see chart at the end of this document for list of revisions)

3. ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

The BA in Psychology is accredited by the British Psychological Society (BPS) and is based on the American liberal arts tradition, which offers a multi-disciplinary approach to education. Students have the opportunity to be a member of the only [Psi Chi](#) chapter in the UK, the International Honor Society in Psychology, which aims to encourage, stimulate, and maintain excellence in scholarship, and to advance the science of psychology. Psi Chi is a member of the Association of College Honour Societies and is an affiliate of the [American Psychological Association](#) (APA) and the [Association for Psychological Science](#) (APS). Students will be able to develop their research skills through the Mind in Society Psychology Research Centre, which organises talks and conferences on current issues. Students have access to the new Psychology Laboratory to design and conduct their own research with faculty and Lab Manager supervision. The Psychology Lab hosts over 40 students actively engaged in research each semester.

4. MISSION

Richmond's Psychology programme promotes the acquisition and demonstration of conceptual knowledge in the core areas of the Psychology discipline such as development, language, phenomenology, personality theory and individual differences, biological psychology, social psychology, psychopathology, cognitive science, and research methods. Psychology students are expected to progressively integrate theoretical perspectives and empirical findings, use appropriately a variety of research approaches and apply psychological principles in a variety of professional settings such as clinical, counselling, educational and legal.

5. PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

BA (Hons) Psychology with Combined Studies degree

A normal course load per academic year is 30 US credits, equivalent to 120 UK credits. Students complete 120 UK credits at Level 6 in the major.

Please note that students must complete all Liberal Arts requirements AND a minimum of 120 credits at each FHEQ level. The Liberal Arts programme offers more choice amongst levels, so students and advisors must ensure that both Liberal Arts requirements and overall level requirements are satisfied.

Black = Major requirements

Blue = General Education Liberal Arts Core requirements

Green = Electives/Gen Ed Electives

Table 1: Lower-Division/Levels 3 and 4 degree requirements

LOWER-DIVISION REQUIREMENTS			
<i>RQF Level 3</i>		US CREDITS	UK CREDITS
PSY 3100	Foundations in Psychology	3	12
PSY 3101	Psychological Debates and Controversies	3	12
PSY 3102	Scientific Reasoning in Psychology	3	12
GEP 3105	Tools for Change	3	12
GEP 3180	Research and Writing I	3	12
Plus one of the following:		3	12
GEP 3150	Visual Thinking		
GEP 3170	Narratives of Change		
Plus one of the following:		3	12
ENV 3XXX	Any RQF Level 3 ENV course		
XXX 3XXX	RQF Level 3 Elective (only if satisfying ENV requirement at FHEQ Level 4)		
Plus:			
XXX 3XXX	RQF Level 3 Elective	3	12
XXX 3XXX	RQF Level 3 Elective	3	12
XXX 3XXX	RQF Level 3 Elective	3	12
RQF Level 3 Credit Totals		30	120

<i>FHEQ Level 4</i>		US CREDITS	UK CREDITS
PSY 4200	Beginning Human Science Research	3	12
PSY 4205	Conceptual and Historical Issues in Psychology	3	12
PSY 4210	Developmental Psychology	3	12
PSY 4215	Biological Basis of Human Behaviour	3	12
GEP 4180	Research and Writing II	3	12
GEP 4105	Social Change in Practice	3	12
MTH 4120	Probability and Statistics 1	3	12
Plus one of the following:		3	12
ENV 4XXX	Any FHEQ Level 4 ENV course		
XXX 4XXX	FHEQ Level 4 Elective (only if satisfying ENV requirement at RQF Level 3)		
Plus:			
XXX 4XXX	FHEQ Level 4 Elective	3	12
XXX 4XXX	FHEQ Level 4 Elective	3	12
FHEQ Level 4 Credit Totals		30	120

Table 2: Upper-Division/Levels 5 and 6 degree requirements

FHEQ Level 5		US CREDITS	UK CREDITS
PSY 5100	Human Development	3	12
PSY 5215	Personality, Individual Differences and Intelligence	3	12
PSY 5220	Social Psychology	3	12
PSY 5205	Quantitative Methods in Psychology	4	16
PSY 5210	Experimental Methods in Psychology	4	16
Plus one of the following:		3	12
PSY 5101	Human Sexuality and Biodiversity		
PSY 5400	Mind and Language		
PSY 5415	Psychology and Cinema		
PSY 5425	Health Psychology		
MGT 5400	Organisational Behaviour		
Plus one of the following:		3	12
GEP 5101	Service Learning: Digital Collaboration		
GEP 5102	Service Learning: Leadership in a Changing World		
GEP 5103	Service Learning: Environment and Society		
GEP 5104	Service Learning: Global Citizenship and Migration		
Plus:			
XXX 5XXX	FHEQ Level 5 Elective	3	12
XXX 5XXX	FHEQ Level 5 Elective	3	12
XXX 5XXX	FHEQ Level 5 Elective	3	12
FHEQ Level 5 Credit Totals		32	128
FHEQ Level 6		US CREDITS	UK CREDITS
PSY 6101	Theories and Systems in Psychology	4	16
PSY 6102	Developmental Psychopathology	4	16
PSY 6103	Brain and Cognition	4	16
PSY 6393	Senior Project in Psychology I: Quantitative Methods	6	24
PSY 6394	Senior Project in Psychology II: Qualitative Methods	6	24
Plus one of the following		4	16
PSY 6104	Psychoanalysis		
PSY 6105	Existential Psychology		
PSY 6106	Psychology of Happiness and Wellbeing		
PSY 6107	Clinical Psychology		
PSY 6901	World Internship in Psychology		
PSY 6902	Internship in Psychology		
Plus:			
XXX 6XXX	FHEQ Level 6 Elective	4	16

Programme specification and curriculum map – BA (Hons) Psychology with Combined Studies

6. PROGRAMME OUTCOMES

Programme-level learning outcomes are identified below. Please refer to the Curriculum Map at the end of this document for details of how outcomes are deployed across the study programme.

7. KEY PROGRAMME OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the **BA (Hons) Psychology with Combined Studies** degree, students should be able to:

- demonstrate their knowledge of functions of the mind, functions of the brain and personal and group experience, and their interaction (*A Theoretical Knowledge Base*)
- command a variety of theoretical and research perspectives and evaluate their contributions and limitations (*A Theoretical Knowledge Base*)
- understand the historical context and progress in psychological theory and research, and current trends and debates in research, theory development and clinical applications (*A Theoretical Knowledge Base*)
- appreciate the impact of psychology in a cross-cultural and societal context (*B Practical Knowledge Base*)
- recognize the interaction of psychology with other disciplines such as philosophy, medicine, neuroscience, biochemistry, business and education (*C Cognitive Skills*)
- conduct both qualitative and quantitative research projects; and adhere to the ethical principles guiding research and professional conduct (*B Practical Knowledge Base*)
- demonstrate critical thinking skills, writing and presentation skills (*D Personal Development*)

Knowledge and Understanding (A)

LEVEL 3

- i. A basic understanding of the core areas in psychology such as developmental, social and biological psychology, theories in those areas, how they interact, and inform disciplines such as neuroscience, law, marketing and sociology.

LEVEL 4

- i. A broad understanding of the links between domains of knowledge in psychology.
- ii. A broad understanding of how issues in modern psychology relate to historical intellectual problems and provide a framework for current debates.
- iii. A broad understanding of the major areas in developmental and biological psychology and the scientific methods that gave rise and continue to shape theories in those areas.

LEVEL 5

- i. A detailed awareness of the ways in which to engage critically with major thinkers, debates and intellectual paradigms within the subject area and put them to productive use.
- ii. A detailed awareness of the connections between the theories and their applications in experimentation and to be able to critically evaluate these.
- iii. A detailed understanding of the ways experimental methods are contextualised and contribute to the formulation of interpretations of research findings in psychology.

LEVEL 6

- i. A systematic understanding of the historical evolution of theories and systems in psychology, their influence on current debates and their limitations.
- ii. A systematic understanding of the variety of influences on psychological functioning and how different approaches conceptualise these, leading to an ability to critically evaluate schools of thought.
- iii. A systematic understanding of several specialised areas and applications such as developmental psychopathology, cognitive science and counselling theory.
- iv. A systematic understanding of a range of research paradigms, qualitative and quantitative methods, and being aware of their limitations.

Cognitive Skills (B)

LEVEL 3

- i. A basic insight into the scientific methods that gave rise and continue to shape psychological theory.

LEVEL 4

- i. A broad understanding of the ways in which different quantitative and qualitative methodologies are used best when specific phenomena are examined.
- ii. A broad insight into the ethical decisions made by psychologists and implications of these within the psychological context.
- iii. A broad understanding of quantitative and qualitative statistical analysis and software currently used by researchers in psychology.

LEVEL 5

- i. A detailed understanding of how to produce an empirical study proposal and report which develops their argument and integrates a theoretical framework and research methodology with their analysis.
- ii. A detailed understanding of carrying out empirical studies using a variety of methods within ethical and laboratory constraints.
- iii. A detailed understanding of the use of APA standards in the presentation and evaluation of research findings.

LEVEL 6

- i. A systematic understanding of ways to integrate ideas and findings across multiple perspectives and recognising different approaches to practice.

- ii. A systematic understanding of scientific reasoning, the role of evidence and how to make critical judgements of arguments in psychology.
- iii. A systematic understanding of and engagement with ethical principles and approval procedures relating to research projects, and being aware of the ethical context in psychology as a practitioner or researcher.
- iv. A competence in initiating, designing, conducting and reporting empirical research using qualitative and quantitative methods, under minimal supervision, and recognise the theoretical/practical applications and limitations of those projects.

Practical and/or professional skills (C)

LEVEL 3

- i. Demonstrates the ability to gather, organise and deploy ideas and information in order to communicate arguments effectively in written, oral or other forms, with an understanding of appropriate methods.

LEVEL 4

- i. Demonstrates the ability to gather, organise and deploy ideas and information in order to evaluate their strengths and weaknesses, and express them effectively in written, oral or other forms.
- ii. Demonstrates a broad understanding of quantitative and/or qualitative research methods.
- iii. Demonstrates an ability to judge the reliability of sources, and begins to identify the strengths and weaknesses of concepts and theoretical frameworks.

LEVEL 5

- i. Demonstrates the ability to formulate and synthesize arguments cogently, retrieve and generate information, and select appropriate criteria to evaluate sources, with a detailed understanding of quantitative and/or qualitative methods.
- ii. Delivers work with limited supervision to a given length, format, brief and deadline, properly referencing sources and ideas and making use, as appropriate, of a problem-solving approach.
- iii. Exercises a degree of independent and informed critical judgement in analysis.

LEVEL 6

- i. Demonstrates the ability to gather, organise and deploy complex and abstract ideas and information in order to formulate arguments cogently, and express them effectively in written, oral or other forms.
- ii. Demonstrates the ability to organise and manage supervised, self-directed projects, through which a sophisticated understanding of research methods is demonstrated.
- iii. Demonstrates the ability to produce detailed analyses of competing perspectives and concepts, to make comparisons and connections and to identify the possibility of new concepts.

- iv. Demonstrates the ability to provide critically appraisals of some of the widespread common sense understandings and misunderstandings of the subject area, and the debates and disagreements to which these give rise.

Key Skills (D)

LEVEL 3

- i. Demonstrates an awareness of views other than their own and adapts behaviour to meet obligations in personal and/or group outcomes and/or outputs.

LEVEL 4

- i. Acts with limited autonomy under direction or supervision and engages in evaluation of own work and capabilities and outputs in key areas.
- ii. Demonstrates the ability to work productively in a group or team, recognising the factors that affect team performance.
- iii. Demonstrates the ability to use a range of information communication technology (ICT) skills to perform tasks.

LEVEL 5

- i. Demonstrates the ability to engage in self-reflection, and uses feedback to adapt own actions and interpersonal communication skills to a range of contexts, audiences and degrees of complexity.
- ii. Delivers work with limited direction or supervision, demonstrating the capacity to consider and evaluate their own work using justifiable criteria.
- iii. Demonstrates the ability to adapt to complex and non-routine performance tasks using information communication technology (ICT).

LEVEL 6

- i. Demonstrates the ability to act with minimal direction or supervision, to engage in self-reflection, use feedback to analyse own capabilities, appraise alternatives, and plan and implement actions.
- ii. Demonstrates personal responsibility and professional codes of conduct, while taking responsibility for their own work, learning and development, and effectiveness in professional and interpersonal communication.
- iii. Demonstrates the ability to work effectively within a group or team, including skills such as listening, contributing, leading, negotiating and proactively managing conflict as is appropriate.
- iv. Demonstrates the ability to flexibly locate their own normative views and cultural commitments within the practice of research, with a level of autonomy.

8. TEACHING, LEARNING, AND ASSESSMENT

Teaching Strategy

The teaching and learning strategy adopted within the BA (Hons) Psychology with Combined Studies degree is based on the understanding that all students will be treated as active learners. Clearly, the precise approach will vary from course to course, depending on the learning outcomes relevant to each class.

The generic components of our teaching and learning strategy normally involves a variety of approaches and include delivering many of the following:

- Regular use of formal lecture sessions in all courses.
- Occasional workshops and seminars in some courses.
- Regular use of individual and/or team-based projects in all courses.
- Regular use of self-directed and directed reading in all courses.
- Peer-tutoring led by advanced students in many courses.
- Use of audio-visual and library resources in some courses.
- Regular use of tutor- and student-led discussion groups via e-learning platforms such as PowerCAMPUS (or Blackboard) in many courses.

The combination of teaching and learning approaches mentioned above develops our students' knowledge, thinking skills and practical skills.

Their knowledge is acquired through

- Structured lectures and supporting materials
- Directed reading and use of internet materials
- Independent research

Their cognitive skills are developed through

- Conducting research
- Making presentations and preparing other assessments
- Helping others to learn

Their practical skills are gained through

- Application of theory to practices encountered during internships
- Using information technology to retrieve and manipulate data
- Negotiating by means of team-based projects

Their key skills are gained through

- Employing and using appropriate linguistic skills
- Independent learning

Assessment Strategy

The assessment strategies we use with our **BA (Hons) Psychology with Combined Studies** degree speak directly to how we anticipate progression with student learning to take place.

In terms of following up with the assessment of student learning and consistent with US liberal arts traditions, our classes rely on the system of continuous assessment on a course-by-course basis and throughout any given semester. This approach often involves the use of term-papers, portfolios of work, quizzes, mid-semester and final exams as well as student presentations and general class discussion. Not every component applies to every course, but

Programme specification and curriculum map – BA (Hons) Psychology with Combined Studies

most do relate to many of the classes that are offered. Many of our courses involve a site visit or require attendance at a public lecture as well. Students generally find these events to be extremely valuable to their learning.

Most of the courses will follow the University Assessment Norms, however some may follow specialised norms, as listed in each CSD. See the Assessment Norm Policy for full details: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/university-policies/>

Each senior will end their programme with a dissertation which will normally have 8,000-10,000 words.

9. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Admissions

Details of the entry requirements, including English language requirements, may be found at the appropriate page of the University website listed below, where a comprehensive Admissions Policy and Summary of Practice document is also published.

<https://www.richmond.ac.uk/undergraduate-admissions/>

Transfer Credit

Prospective students with specific levels of subject achievement in Advanced Placement Tests, GCE A Levels and some other UK and international qualifications may enter with Advanced Credit and be given exemption from certain courses of the programme. Please see the Transfer Credit Policy Undergraduate for details.

10. EXIT AWARD REQUIREMENTS

An exit award is defined as a lower award than one for which the student is registered. Such an award may be conferred if a student completes part, but not all, of the requirements of the programme for which he or she is registered. Students may not enter the university registered for an exit award.

Associate of Arts Degree in General Studies (US)

The US Associate of Arts (AA) degree can be awarded as an exit degree for those students completing the following minimum requirements.

30 US / 120 UK credits at RQF Level 3

30 US / 120 UK credits at FHEQ Level 4

Of the total number of credits required for the AA degree, 30 US/120 UK credits must be completed at Richmond. Students must obtain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 and a major of 2.0 in order to qualify for this degree. Latin Honours are not applied to the AA Degree.

Programme specification and curriculum map – BA (Hons) Psychology with Combined Studies

The requirements for the AA degree are outlined in Table 1 above. All Level 3 and 4 Major and General Education Liberal Arts Core Requirements must be completed.

Certificate of Higher Education in Psychology (UK)

The UK Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) can be broadly aligned with the US Associate of Arts Degree, but the CertHE does not require the completion of 30 US/120 credits at RQF Level 3. Students who qualify for the AA degree will automatically qualify for the CertHE. But students may qualify for a CertHE without fulfilling the requirements for a US AA degree if they have not completed all of the RQF Level 3 requirements necessary to obtain the AA.

The UK CertHE can be awarded as an exit award for those students completing the following minimum requirements.

120 credits at FHEQ Level 4

120 credits at FHEQ Level 5

- Pass (normally a GPA of between 1.85 and 2.99 for all Level 4 courses)
- Merit (normally a GPA of 3.0 to 3.54)
- Distinction (normally a GPA of 3.55 and above for all level 4 courses)

Of the total number of credits required for the UK DipHE, 15 US/60 UK Level 4 credits and 15 US/60 UK Level 5 credits must be completed at the University.

The requirements for the UK DipHE are outlined in the sections of Table 1 and Table 2 above pertaining to FHEQ Level 4 and FHEQ Level 5 requirements. All Level 4 Major and General Education Liberal Arts Core Requirements must be completed. Level 6 courses can be “dipped-down” to fulfil missing Level 5 credits.

Students may not be awarded more than one UK exit award and the University Examination Board will recommend the most relevant one for the individual student circumstance.

Diploma of Higher Education in Psychology

The UK Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE) has no US equivalent. The UK DipHE can be awarded as an exit award for those students completing the following minimum requirements.

120 credits at FHEQ Level 4

120 credits at FHEQ Level 5

- Pass (normally a GPA of between 1.85 and 2.99 for all Level 4 courses)
- Merit (normally a GPA of 3.0 to 3.54)
- Distinction (normally a GPA of 3.55 and above for all level 4 courses)

Of the total number of credits required for the UK DipHE, 15 US/60 UK Level 4 credits and 15 US/60 UK Level 5 credits must be completed at the University.

The requirements for the UK DipHE are outlined in the sections of Table 1 and Table 2 above pertaining to FHEQ Level 4 and FHEQ Level 5 requirements. All Level 4 Major and General Education Liberal Arts Core Requirements must be completed. Level 6 courses can be “dipped-down” to fulfil missing Level 5 credits.

Students may not be awarded more than one UK exit award and the University Examination Board will recommend the most relevant one for the individual student circumstance.

STUDENT SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE

There is a range of student support and guidance, for both academic and general wellbeing, available to students. This is accomplished through a range of programmes and services that positively impact learning as well as the total student life experience.

All students have an allocated full-time faculty member who acts as their Academic Adviser. Academic Advisers have on-going responsibility for students’ academic progress, meeting with each student at least once per semester. Programme Directors assist students with registration, enabling smooth progression through the degree. They also advise on career opportunities and provide pastoral support in many cases.

A range of Math's, English, Technology and Writing workshops have been established to support students with particular needs in these areas. Librarians are on hand to assist with library use, which includes instruction in web-based resources.

The University endeavours to make all practical and reasonable adjustments to ensure students are able to fully participate in the University community. Students who declare a physical disability or a special educational need are supported to ensure the quality of their educational experience meets their individual requirements. SEN students, for instance, receive extra time in examinations, and have the option of writing exams on university-provided computers, and/or of taking exams in a separate room.

The University operates a well-staffed Student Affairs department that provides services intended to support and encourage student welfare, safety and development. This department oversees medical registration of students and provides counselling services. It also organizes a range of extracurricular activities and travel designed to further enhance students’ educational experiences. Disciplinary and social grievance procedures are also overseen by this department.

PLACEMENT

The Internship Office the University offers a formal mechanism through which students may receive work-placement opportunities. These placements are supervised, career-related work experiences combined with reflective, academic study that help students apply theoretical knowledge in the workplace. Participation in the internship programme is optional, but students who choose to take up a placement receive academic credit for their placement and associated academic work (see level 6 options).

Expectations with regard to careers education, information, advice and guidance (as outlined in the section on Enabling Student Achievement in *The UK Quality Code for Higher Education*) are handled by the university's Student Affairs department. This department conducts a variety of career services for students, ranging from resource provision to a CV service, and in particular through the LEAD (Leadership, Education and Development) seminar series.

In addition to these services, the alumni office offers networking opportunities where students may contact alumni working in a variety of fields. The alumni office also offers these services via social media such as LinkedIn and Facebook.

STUDY ABROAD

Richmond students have the option to take a leave of absence and travel away from the university as a 'study abroad'. With 40 partnerships spread over five continents, students are able to select from a wide range of partners. All courses taken elsewhere must be pre-approved by Registry Services.

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

The **BA (Hons) Psychology with Combined Studies** degree is operated under the policy and regulatory frameworks of Richmond American University in London, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, the Framework of Higher Education Qualifications, and the UK Quality Code for Higher Education.

Also key to the background for this description are the following documents:

- QAA (2018). The Revised UK Quality Code for Higher Education. (www.qaa.ac.uk)
- QAA (2008). Higher Education Credit Framework for England: guidance on academic credit arrangements in Higher Education in England.
- SEEC (2016). Credit Level Descriptors for Higher Education. Southern England Consortium for Credit Accumulation and Transfer (www.seec.org.uk).
- Middle States Commission on Higher Education. Standards for Accreditation and Requirements of Affiliation. 2014: Thirteenth Edition; Rev. Ed. 2015. (<http://www.msche.org/publications/RevisedStandardsFINAL.pdf>)

The programme gained BPS continuous accreditation starting with the 2016-2017 cohort on 31.01.17. Accreditation by the Society demonstrates that the programme meets the standards set by the Psychology professional body in the UK. It is a high-quality benchmarking process that ensures students are offered the highest standard of learning

and teaching, and provides an opportunity for graduates to gain membership of the Society (<http://www.bps.org.uk/what-we-do/benefits-belonging/membership/membership>).

For students enrolled in the accredited program, the following information is important:

- Students will need to complete all required courses in the psychology degree at FHEQ Levels 4-6 as well as 2 Psychology options to be eligible for Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (GBC) with the BPS.
- Students must pass the empirical psychology projects (PSY 6393 and PSY 6394) with a grade of C, and gain at least a Lower Second Class Honours degree, or its equivalent to be eligible for the GBC. Please see the University's Degree Classification Document for information about the equivalence between GPA and UK honours classifications.

Ensuring and Enhancing the Quality of the Programme

The **BA (Hons) Psychology with Combined Studies** degree features detailed published educational objectives that are consistent with the mission of the institution. All course outlines contain course specific objectives that are regularly monitored by the individual instructors and by the faculty as a group.

The University has several methods for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of its provision. These include:

- External Examiners
- Internal Moderation
- Student representation
- Curricular change approval process
- Annual Programme Monitoring and Assessment
- Formal Programme Review, every 5 years
- Course evaluation
- Student satisfaction surveys and the NSS
- Feedback from employers

BA (Hons) Psychology with Combined Studies is provided through a system of ongoing evaluations that demonstrate achievement of the programme's objectives, and uses the results to improve the effectiveness of the programme. Ongoing evaluation is carried out for both US (the Middle States Commission on Higher Education) and UK (QAA) reviews. The University is a voluntary subscriber member of the QAA, and underwent its first full Institutional Review in May 2013 and a Higher Education Review (AP) in 2017.

LIBRARY RESOURCES

Books

Faculty and Students are encouraged to help in the purchase of library resources and submit requests for new purchases relating to and supporting their subject areas and research. Details of selected new acquisitions are publicized on the library subject pages and online catalogue.

The library also purchases academic ebooks to support students required reading, as well as cataloguing open access resources. These books are made available through the library catalogue.

Every year, the library collection is reviewed and non-relevant or out of date stock is withdrawn. Analysis of loans compared to purchases and new publications within core subject areas are used to drive additional purchases to make sure that the collection remains relevant and current.

Journals

At present the Library subscribes directly to approximately 30 periodical titles. Where electronic access is provided with a subscription this has been made available through the library's online Publications Finder.

In consultation with faculty the Library regularly reviews its periodical subscriptions, ensuring relevant coverage is provided as the curriculum changes.

Online journal databases

Full text e-journal services include access to Ebsco's: Academic Search Premier, Art Full Text, Business Source Premier, Communication and Mass Media Complete, Education Full Text, International Bibliography of Theatre & Dance, International Security & Counter Terrorism Reference Center, SPORTDiscus and PsycArticles; WARC and JSTOR. These provide access to around 42,000 titles, as well as business and market data and case studies.

In addition, students are directed to a multitude of other online databases which they can search for citations including Google scholar and subject specific internet gateways.

In all cases where the full text is neither in the library's subscription resources nor available online the Library provides free inter-library loans to students and faculty using the services of the British Library (BL On Demand).

Access to the e-journal databases can be found on the Library portal.

Other online resources

Other online resources include the Proquest: Global Newsstream. This is used to access 4,000 titles, mainly national and international newspapers but also to related newswires and monitoring services. We also have a subscription to FT Education which provides on-line and mobile access to the newspaper archive as well as a wide range of digital and multi-media features, in-depth reports on a wide range of business and political topics and a digital learning tool that allows students and faculty to annotate and share articles. Additionally, the Statista platform provides easy access to over 1,900,000 statistics on a wide range of business & social topics from over 22,500 sources as well as industry reports, research dossiers and market outlooks. A subscription to Mintel Academic provides access to market research data and expertise across the retail, media and financial services sectors in the UK as well as global trends and consumer behaviour analysis.

There are pages of subject related resources on the library's portal which aim to guide students to quality internet material as well as the most relevant subscription resources.

Scanning/Digitising

Under CLA licence the library provides online access to scanned materials from the library print collection to faculty. These can then be accessed by students on a particular course of study through the member of faculty's Blackboard pages.

Library Instruction

Students are encouraged to complete a library induction session online and visit the library during Orientation. Under the Liberal Arts Core, professional librarians teach information literacy and research skills to students as an integral part of GEP 3105 Tools for Change, GEP 4105 Social Change in Practice, GEP 3180 Research & Writing I and GEP 4180 Research & Writing II courses. In addition, further sessions on subject specific resources, tailored to individual assignments as required, are offered on Upper Division courses. Students can also receive individual, tailored help with resources, research skills and referencing on a one-to-one basis either in person or online throughout their studies.

APPENDIX 1 Curriculum Map

Green Cells are core courses from within the Major

Pink Cells are core courses from other Majors. Their learning outcomes are derived from their relevant programme specifications. They have been fitted as well as possible into the Psychology Curriculum Map

Yellow Cells are optional courses from within the Major

Blue Cells are optional courses from other programmes

LEVEL 3	PSY 3100 Foundations of Psychology	PSY 3101 Psychological Debates and Controversies	PSY 3102 Scientific Reasoning in Psychology
3A(i)	X	X	X
3B(i)	X	X	X
3C(i)	X	X	X
3D(i)	X	X	X

LEVEL 4	MTH 4120 Probability & Stats 1	PSY 4200 Beginning Human Science Research	PSY 4205 Conceptual & Historical Issues in Psychology	PSY 4210 Developmental Psychology	PSY 4215 Biological Basis of Human Behaviour
4A(i)		X	X	X	X
4A(ii)			X		
4A(iii)				X	X
4B(i)	X	X			
4B(ii)		X	X	X	
4B(iii)	X	X			
4C(i)			X	X	X
4C(ii)	X	X			

4C(iii)			X		X
4D(i)		X	X		
4D(ii)		X			X
4D(iii)			X	X	X

LEVEL 5	PSY 5100 Human Development	PSY 5215 Personality	PSY 5220 Social Psychology	PSY 5205 Quantitative Methods	PSY 5210 Experimental Methods	PSY 5400 Mind & Language	PSY 5415 Psychology & Cinema	PSY 5425 Health Psychology	PSY 5101 Human Sexuality and Biodiversity	MGT 5400 Organisational Behavior
5A(i)	X	X	X			X	X		X	
5A(ii)		X	X		X			X	X	
5A(iii)					X			X	x	
5B(i)		X		X	X				x	
5B(ii)				X	X					
5B(iii)			X	X	X				X	
5C(i)	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	
5C(ii)		X					X			X
5C(iii)	X		X				X	X		X
5D(i)	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X
5D(ii)					X	X	X			
5D(iii)			X	X	X			X		x

z	PSY 6101 Theories & Systems	PSY 6102 Developmental Psychopathology	PSY 6103 Brain and Cognition	PSY 6393 Senior Project I	PSY 6394 Senior Project II	PSY 6104 Psychoanalysis	PSY 6105 Existential Psychology	PSY 6106 Psychology of Happiness	PSY 6107 Clinical Psychology	PSY 6902 Internship in Psychology	PSY 6901 World Internship in Psychology
6A(i)	X					X		X			
6A(ii)	X									X	X
6A(iii)		X	X			X	X		X	X	X
6A(iv)				X	X				X		
6B(i)		X	X			X		X	X		
6B(ii)	X		X								
6B(iii)				X	X					X	X
6B(iv)				X	X						
6C(i)	X	X	X	X		X		X			
6C(ii)				X	X					X	X
6C(iii)	X		X				X				
6C(iv)	X	X	X			X	X	X	X		
6D(i)		X		X	X			X		X	X
6D(ii)				X	X				X	X	X
6D(iii)	X		X			X			X	X	X
6D(iv)				X	X		X				

Faculty may access the KILO map: [KILO KPO Tables](#)

Programme Specification Publication Dates

First Edition	20 June 2006
Revision 1	February 2008
Revision 2	June 2009
Revision 3	May 2010
Revision 4	February 2012
Revision 5	June 2012 (substantive revision, including <i>FHEQ</i> and credit mapping)
Revision 6	August 2013
Revision 7	June 2014
Revision 8	May 2015
Revision 9	April 2016
Revision 10	March 2017
Revision 11	April 2018
Revision 12	July 2019
Revision 13	May 2020
Revision 14	May 2021
Revision 15	November 2021
Revision 16	July 2022
Revision 17	May/June 2023
Revision 18	March 2024