1. **Programme title(s):**  
MSc Psychology (Conversion Course)  
PG Dip Psychology (Exit Award)  
PG Cert Psychology (Exit Award)  

2. **Awarding body or institution:**  
University of Leicester  

3. **a) Mode of study:**  
Part Time  

   **b) Type of study:**  
Distance Learning  

4. **Registration periods:**  
The normal period of registration for the MSc Psychology (Conversion Course) is 24 months.  
The maximum period of registration for the MSc Psychology (Conversion Course) is 48 months.  

5. **Typical entry requirements:**  
Applicants must have a second class honors (or above) degree. Students for whom English is not their first language and who have not lived in a country where the first language is English for at least three years must demonstrate an IELTS of 6.5 or a TOEFL score of 575 with a score of 4.0 in the test of written English.  

6. **Accreditation of Prior Learning:**  
APL is not accepted on this course.  

7. **Programme aims:**  
The programme aims to equip students with a sound knowledge and understanding of a broad range of topics in Psychology. Each module on the programme covers a key field within psychology aimed at covering the breadth required by the BPS for graduate basis for chartership. This knowledge is based not only on theory and accumulated findings, but also on awareness of the strengths and limitations of research evidence and its application.  

   A particular aim of this programme is to make learning available to those who are unable to pursue a more conventional, campus-based programme.  

   The modules assume no prior knowledge of psychological studies.
The overall programme aims are to:

- develop students’ knowledge of psychology and its relevance, through exposure to key theoretical and methodological approaches and research evidence.
- meet the appropriate British Psychological Society accreditation criteria for graduate basis for chartership
- develop intellectual and research skills appropriate to the level of study, including a critical and systematic approach to the evaluation of evidence.

By the end of the programme successful students will be able to demonstrate:

- integrated knowledge of psychological theory and methodology
- skills of research and enquiry, independent learning and the use of contemporary information resources.
- competence in psychology related empirical research design, implementation and evaluation.
- reasoning, analysis and creativity at a postgraduate level
- effective written communication skills

8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification:

- University of Leicester Learning and Teaching Strategy 2011-2016
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report
- QAA subject benchmark for Psychology
- QAA benchmarks for Masters degree study
- BPS standards for the accreditation of undergraduate, conversion and integrated Masters programmes in psychology

9. Programme Outcomes:

Unless otherwise stated, programme outcomes apply to all awards specified in 1. Programme title(s).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intended Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Teaching and Learning Methods</th>
<th>How Demonstrated?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) Subject and Professional skills</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate: Knowledge of psychological theories and research.</td>
<td>Module material, Supplementary readings provided, Blackboard discussion groups moderated by tutors, Independent research.</td>
<td>All Summative assessment, online discussions. MSc only Dissertation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma: Detailed knowledge of psychological theories and research</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSc: Broad knowledge of psychological theories/research.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Concepts</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Understanding of how concepts relating to psychological theories can be applied in variety of settings.</td>
<td>Module material, Supplementary readings provided, Blackboard discussion groups moderated by tutors, Independent research.</td>
<td>All Summative assessment. MSc only Dissertation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intended Learning Outcomes</td>
<td>Teaching and Learning Methods</td>
<td>How Demonstrated?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Techniques</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Certificate:</td>
<td>Module material, Supplementary readings provided, Blackboard discussion groups moderated by tutors, Independent research.</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding of some of the following: researching, data analysis by quantitative or qualitative methods, research ethics and familiarity with IT packages including SPSS.</td>
<td>Summative assessment, critique of literature, online discussions.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma:</td>
<td></td>
<td>MSc only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding and practical experience of some, of the following: researching, data analysis by quantitative or qualitative methods, research ethics and familiarity with IT packages including SPSS.</td>
<td>Dissertation.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSc:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad understanding of all, and practical experience of many, of the following: researching, data analysis by quantitative or qualitative methods, research ethics and familiarity with IT packages including SPSS.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Critical analysis</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Certificate:</td>
<td>Module material, Supplementary readings provided, Blackboard discussion groups moderated by tutors, Independent research.</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to evaluate concepts and techniques from a limited range of psychological areas, to critique material read and hence construct an informed opinion.</td>
<td>Summative assessment.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma:</td>
<td></td>
<td>MSc only</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ability to independently evaluate concepts and techniques from a limited range of psychological areas, to critique material read and hence construct an informed opinion.</td>
<td>Dissertation.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSc:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to independently evaluate concepts and techniques from a broad range of psychological areas, to critique material read and hence construct an informed opinion.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intended Learning Outcomes</td>
<td>Teaching and Learning Methods</td>
<td>How Demonstrated?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Presentation</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| All                        | Module material, Supplementary readings provided, Blackboard discussion groups moderated by tutors, Independent research. | All  
Summative assessment.  
MSc only  
Dissertation. |
| Ability to organise research findings to construct an argument, to write assignments to a high standard, to write empirical reports in the format expected for publication and to a high standard. To present statistical findings in the correct manner according to universal standards. In addition, to interpret findings in a form for effective communication to a non-specialist audience. |                              |                   |
| **Appraisal of evidence** |                              |                   |
| All                        | Module material, Supplementary readings provided, Blackboard discussion groups moderated by tutors, Independent research. | All  
Summative Assessment, online discussions.  
MSc only  
Dissertation. |
| Ability to evaluate published research and commentary and make appropriate judgements about its application and practical relevance to real world issues. |                              |                   |
| **(b) Transferable skills**|                              |                   |
| **Research skills**        |                              |                   |
| Certificate:              | Module material, Supplementary readings provided, Blackboard discussion groups moderated by tutors, Independent research. | All  
Summative assessment.  
MSc only  
Dissertation. |
| Knowledge of psychological theories and research. |                              |                   |
| Diploma:                  |                              |                   |
| Detailed knowledge of psychological theories and research |                              |                   |
| **MSc:**                  | Ability to conduct a literature search and review, ability to write a research proposal, considering ethics and other methodological issues, ability to devise research tools or to use correctly those already designed. |                              |                   |
| **Communication skills**  |                              |                   |
| All:                      | Blackboard discussion groups, personal communication with tutors, module material. | All  
Summative assessment.  
MSc only  
Dissertation. |
| Good written communication skills developed in the context of formal written assignments. |                              |                   |
### Intended Learning Outcomes

#### Data presentation

**All:**
- Ability to present statistical findings correctly and to present other research findings clearly with a correct interpretation.

**Teaching and Learning Methods:**
- Module material particularly module 1, Supplementary readings provided, Blackboard discussion groups moderated by tutors, Independent research.

**How Demonstrated?**
- All: Summative assessment.
- MSc only: Dissertation.

#### Information technology

**All:**
- Ability to use a range of IT packages including data analysis software such as SPSS. Engagement with online discussion forums and podcasts through Blackboard.

**Teaching and Learning Methods:**
- Module material, Blackboard discussion groups, induction/welcome information provided.

**How Demonstrated?**
- All: Summative assessment, online discussions.
- MSc only: Dissertation.

#### Problem solving

**All:**
- Understanding of how to take an evidence based practice approach to problem solving. Ability to apply research findings to real world problems.

**Teaching and Learning Methods:**
- Module material, assignment briefs, supplementary readings and case studies provided, Blackboard discussion groups, independent research.

**How Demonstrated?**
- All: Summative assessment, online discussion.
- MSc only: Dissertation.

#### Working relationships

**All:**
- Drawing on the expertise and guidance from academic or support staff, informal interaction with fellow students at course conferences or via email/bulletin board, formal contact and negotiation with dissertation supervisor.

**Teaching and Learning Methods:**
- Email/bulletin board interactions with students, formal interactions with staff and, in particular dissertation supervisor, informal interactions with staff and students at course events.

**How Demonstrated?**
- Monitoring group discussions on Blackboard and communication with tutors. Attendance at course events.

#### Managing learning

**All:**
- Ability to self-motivate and self-direct learning so as to schedule work adequately and meet deadlines.

**Teaching and Learning Methods:**
- Independent research, programme modules, integrated and supplementary readings, textbooks.

**How Demonstrated?**
- All: Summative assessment.
- MSc only: Dissertation.

#### Career management

**All:**
- Understanding of career opportunities within psychology and transferrable skills gained from the course.

**Teaching and Learning Methods:**
- Career advice and materials provided on Blackboard, career and job opportunity and further study discussion strand on Blackboard.

**How Demonstrated?**
- Monitoring group discussion on Blackboard. Attendance at course events.

### 10. Special features

N/A
11. Indicators of programme quality
As well as relying on the mainstream indicators (external examiner reports, student results, student feedback forms) the programme will benefit from external assessment by the BPS every three years once initial approval is granted. In addition module materials are reviewed on an annual basis and completely rewritten when required. The course director is actively involved in the BPS and keeps up to date with the changing requirements of their syllabus. The course team are all committed to CPD which directly benefits the course and students.

12. Scheme of Assessment:
As defined in Senate Regulation 6: Regulations governing taught postgraduate programmes of study.

13. Progression points
As defined in Senate Regulation 6: Regulations governing taught postgraduate programmes of study.
In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course and a recommendation will be made to the Board of Examiners for an intermediate award where appropriate.

14. Rules relating to re-sits or re-submissions:
As defined in Senate Regulation 6: Regulations governing taught postgraduate programmes of study.

15. External Examiners reports
To be included following receipt of first report

16. Additional features (e.g. timetable for admissions)
N/A

Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSXXXX</td>
<td>Psychological Research Methods</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSXXXX</td>
<td>Abnormal Psychology and Individual Differences</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSXXXX</td>
<td>Biological Psychology</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSXXXX</td>
<td>Cognitive Psychology</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSXXXX</td>
<td>Social and Developmental Psychology</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSXXXX</td>
<td>Applied Psychology</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSXXXX</td>
<td>Psychology Dissertation</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Appendix 2: Module specifications
See module specification database [http://www.le.ac.uk/sas/courses/documentation](http://www.le.ac.uk/sas/courses/documentation)