



1. Programme Title(s):

MSc in Psychological Research Methods

Postgraduate Certificate in Psychological Research Methods (only available as exit/interim award)

2. Awarding body or institution:

University of Leicester

3. a) Mode of study

Full time and Part-time

b) Type of study

Campus based

4. Registration periods:

The normal period of registration is one year full time and two years part-time

The maximum period of registration is two years full time and four years part-time

5. Typical entry requirements:

At least a good second-class honours degree in Psychology. Candidates for whom English is not their first language will be required to demonstrate an IELTS score of 6.5 or a TOEFL score of 575 with 4.0 in the Test of Written English.

6. Accreditation of Prior Learning:

n/a

7. Programme aims:

The programme aims to provide detailed theoretical instruction and practical experience in psychological research methods, with an emphasis on equipping students with the research and professional skills required for a career in research.

8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification:

University of Leicester Discovery-Led and Discovery-Enabling Learning Strategy

Periodic Developmental Review Report, 2012

External Examiners' reports

Framework for Higher Education Qualifications

9. Programme Outcomes:

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(a) Subject and Professional skills		
Knowledge		
Advanced knowledge of psychological research methods	Seminars, tutorials, guided independent study, supervised and independent research	Formal written assessments, oral presentations, research project, written examination

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Concepts		
Acquisition of key concepts in psychological research, statistical data analysis and current developments in psychological research	Seminars, tutorials, guided independent study, supervised and independent research	Formal written assessments, oral presentations, research project, written examination
Techniques		
Advanced techniques for data analysis, data presentation use of software and equipment for psychological research	Seminars, tutorials, guided independent study, supervised and independent research	Formal written assessments, oral presentations, research project, written examination
Critical analysis		
Ability to independently evaluate theories, concepts, techniques, and published results	Seminars, tutorials, guided independent study, supervised and independent research	Formal written assessments, written literature review, oral presentations, research project, written examination
Presentation		
Ability to organise research findings and theoretical arguments, to write research reports in accordance with specific guidelines for discipline, to present data effectively	Seminars, tutorials, guided independent study, supervised and independent research	Formal written assessments, oral presentations, research project, written examination
Appraisal of evidence		
Ability to critically evaluate research findings and results published in psychological literature	Seminars, tutorials, guided independent study, supervised and independent research	Formal written assessments, written literature review, oral presentations, research project,
(b) Transferable skills		
Research skills		
Ability to conduct bibliographic search and literature review. Acquisition of management skills and career development skills	Seminars, tutorials, guided independent study, supervised and independent research	Written literature review, portfolio of activities, grant application proposal, research project
Communication skills		
Ability to deliver effective oral presentations. Ability to present written reports conforming to the specific guidelines for the discipline	Tutorials, guided independent study, supervised research. Feedback on written and oral presentations	Oral presentations, written reports
Data presentation		
Ability to select and use appropriate descriptive statistics	Tutorials, guided independent study, supervised research	Oral presentations, written reports
Information technology		
Ability to use programs for data analysis and for the development of psychological experiments	Tutorials, guided independent study, supervised research	Oral presentations, written reports
Problem solving		
Ability to design and conduct psychological experiments	Tutorials, guided independent study, supervised research	Oral presentations, written reports
Working relationships		
Ability to work effectively in groups. Ability to self and peer assess other student's work	Tutorials, guided independent study, supervised research. Peer review of oral presentations.	Oral presentations, project reports

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Managing learning		
Literature search, critical review of published research; critical assessment of research presentation;	Tutorials; project supervision	Literature review; written reports; project report
Career management		
Prepare effective CVs; plan job interviews; publicise own research	Seminars, tutorials, guided independent study	Portfolio of activities

10. Special features:

The programme provides students with opportunities to conduct in-depth research into topics related to research conducted within the School of Psychology. The programme prepares students with a practical understanding of psychological research methods and emphasises professional and career development skills. The course is suitable for students wishing to take the MSc prior to undertaking a PhD or on a stand-alone basis prior to further research, vocational training (e.g., in Clinical Psychology) or career advancement.

11. Indications of programme quality:

Recent external examiner's report indicate that: "a particular strength of the program is the focus on applying classroom skills in real research settings"; this is "a successful research methods course" with clear "structure and aims" and where students' performance provides "a strong sign of a successful research methods course" and where "quality of teaching is consistent".

12. Scheme of Assessment

As defined in Senate Regulation 6: Regulations governing Taught Postgraduate Programmes of Study (see [Senate Regulations](#)).

13. Progression points

As defined in Senate Regulation 6: Regulations governing Taught Postgraduate Programmes of Study (see [Senate Regulations](#))

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 (see [Senate Regulations](#)).

15. Additional information [e.g. timetable for admissions]

N/A

16. External Examiners

The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners' reports can be found [here](#).

Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

PS7086	Advanced Research Methods in Psychology 1	20 credits
PS7087	Advanced Statistical Methods for Psychology	20 credits
PS7088	Managing and Presenting Psychological Research	20 credits
PS7089	Advanced Research Methods in Psychology 2	20 credits
PS7090	Evaluating Psychological Research	20 credits
PS7091	Professional Skills	20 credits
PS7092	Research Project	60 credits

Appendix 2: Module Specifications

See module specification database <http://www.le.ac.uk/sas/courses/documentation>