Programme Specification (Undergraduate)

Date amended: 23/03/22

For 2022/23 entry

1. Programme title(s) and UCAS code(s):

BSc Psychology with Cognitive Neuroscience C850

With optional Year in Industry or Year Abroad (transfer available in Year 2 subject to availability)

2. Awarding body or institution:

University of Leicester

3. a) Mode of study: Full Time

b) Type of study: Campus-based

4. Registration periods:

The normal period of registration is three years (four years for those who take one year abroad or in industry)

The maximum period of registration is five years (six years for those who take one year abroad or in industry)

5. Typical entry requirements:

- A2 level grades: ABB-BBB
- Normal GCSE requirements: At least Grade C / 4 in English Language, Mathematics or statistics, Biology or Core Science and Additional Science
- International Baccalaureate: 32-28 points
- European Baccalaureate: Pass with 80% overall
- Access to HE diploma: Pass with 30 credits at distinction (plus the three GCSEs as stated above)
- English Language requirement: IELTs 6.5

For students on the year abroad:

For the aims, learning outcomes and application criteria for the GCSA Year Abroad please see https://le.ac.uk/study/undergraduates/courses/abroad

6. Accreditation of Prior Learning:

APL not accepted

7. Programme aims:

The programme aims to:

- develop students' knowledge of psychology and cognitive neuroscience, through exposure to key theoretical and methodological approaches and research evidence;
- deliver a curriculum informed by the research, scholarship and practice of our staff;

- develop intellectual and research skills appropriate to the level of study, including a critical and systematic approach to the evaluation of evidence;
- provide opportunities to develop a variety of personal transferable skills, relevant to the needs of a wide range of graduate employers;
- prepare students for further research training in psychology and postgraduate training in professional applied psychology;
- satisfy the educational requirements for degree accreditation and graduate membership of the British Psychological Society.

For those on the year abroad, additional programme aims are to:
For the aims, learning outcomes and application criteria for the GCSA Year Abroad please see https://le.ac.uk/study/undergraduates/courses/abroad

For those on the year in industry, see additional programme specification content for Year in Industry programmes

8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification:

- Accreditation reports by the British Psychological Society (Latest review March 2019)
- QAA Benchmarking statement for Psychology (December 2019)
- QAA institutional Audit (2016)
- QAA: The UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- University Learning Strategy
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report (Latest review Spring 2012).
- National Student Surveys (NSS) - Annual
- Annual Developmental Review
- Destinations of Leavers of Higher Education Survey - Annual
- External Examiners' Reports - Annual

9. Programme Outcomes:

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies		
(i) Mastery of an appropriate body of knowledge		
Demonstrate awareness of the core underlying principles and key theoretical and methodological themes in psychology and cognitive neuroscience.	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, practical classes and workshops, directed reading, resource-based learning, research projects.	Examinations, coursework (e.g. essays, research reports including the dissertation, reviews, critiques, oral presentations, poster presentations)
(ii) Understanding and application of key concepts and techniques		

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Evaluate and determine the importance of research findings in psychology and cognitive neuroscience in the context of theoretical development, knowledge advancement, and practice.	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, practical classes and workshops, directed reading, resource-based learning, research projects.	Examinations, coursework
(iii) Critical analysis of key issues		
Demonstrate the capacity to analyse and critically appraise evidence from both experimental procedures and the literature.	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, practical classes and workshops, directed reading, resource-based learning, research projects.	Examinations, coursework
(iv) Clear and concise presentation of material		
Produce clear and concise quantitative analysis and results.	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, practical classes and workshops, directed reading, resource-based learning, research projects. Those on Year Abroad Year 4: Year abroad Information session	Examinations, coursework Those on Year Abroad Year 4: Oral presentation during Year abroad Information session
(v) Critical appraisal of evidence with appropriate insight		
Develop structured and mature arguments reflecting an understanding of prevalent issues in psychology and cognitive neuroscience.	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, practical classes and workshops, directed reading, resource-based learning, research projects.	Examinations, coursework
(vi) Other discipline specific competencies		
Develop a sound understanding of statistical techniques and their applications. Design, execute and present research projects and a dissertation. Understand ethical principles in relation to the conduct of research in psychology and cognitive neuroscience.	Lectures, tutorials, practical classes and workshops, directed reading, resource-based learning, research projects. As above As above	Examinations, research reports Research reports, particularly the dissertation Examinations, research reports

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(b) Transferable skills		
(i) Oral communication		
Demonstrate clarity, fluency and coherence in oral expression of issues pertaining to psychology and cognitive neuroscience	Lectures, tutorials	Oral presentations to different target audiences
(ii) Written communication		
Produce clearly written material with appropriate use of evidence, demonstrating the ability to write to varying lengths, audiences and levels of formality.	Lectures, tutorials, practical classes and workshops, directed reading, resource-based learning, research projects.	Essay-based examinations, coursework
(iii) Information technology		
Demonstrate the effective use of IT for accessing databases and scientific literature; manipulating, processing and presenting information.	Lectures, tutorials, practical classes and workshops, directed reading, resource-based learning, research projects.	Examinations, coursework
(iv) Numeracy		
Apply numerical and statistical techniques to data analysis.	Practical classes and workshops, resource-based learning, research projects	Statistics examinations, research reports, Dissertation
(v) Team working		
Collaboratively solve problems, identify methodologies, manage distribution of effort, and collectively arrive at conclusions.	Tutorials, group research projects,	Coursework (e.g. research reports based on collaboratively collected data)
(vi) Problem solving		
Be able, in a critical, balanced and informed manner, to evaluate issues and problems in psychology and cognitive neuroscience.	Lectures, tutorials, practical classes and workshops, directed reading, resource-based learning, research projects, particularly the dissertation	Examinations, coursework

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(vii) Information handling		
Demonstrate the capacity to retrieve and manage a variety of resource materials and to analyse evidence from the literature.	Lectures, tutorials, practical classes and workshops, directed reading, resource-based learning, research projects, particularly the dissertation	Examinations, coursework
(viii) Skills for lifelong learning		
Demonstrate the acquisition of the skills and attributes necessary for lifelong learning, including: intellectual independence, effective time management, planning and organisation, knowing when to ask for help, professional attitude to colleagues, research honesty, ethical frameworks. Plan for and obtain successful personal, educational and career development.	Lectures, tutorials, practical classes and workshops, directed reading, resource-based learning, research projects Tutorials, career development programmes, resource-based learning, personal development planning.	Examinations, coursework. Personal development planning activities, curriculum vitae.

10. Progression points:

End of Year 1
To pass from Year 1 to Year 2, students must obtain an overall weighted average of at least 40, with no honours modules below 40. The normal expectation will be that students progress from Year 1 to Year 2 in a 12 month period. The maximum periods of study require progression from Year 1 to 2 within 36 months from first registration on the degree.

End of Year 2
To pass from Year 2 to Year 3, students must pass all Year 2 modules, obtaining an overall weighted average of at least 40, with no honours modules below 40 and no non-honours modules below 35. The normal expectation will be that students progress from Year 2 to Year 3 in a 12 month period. The maximum periods of study require progression from year 2 to 3 within 48 months from first registration on the degree.
In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course.

11. Scheme of Assessment

The programme follows the standard scheme of award and classification set out in Senate Regulation 5.

12. Special features:

The School of Psychology is based in the Department of Neuroscience, Psychology and Behaviour. Teaching is drawn from staff with research expertise spanning the discipline of psychology, with additional specialisms in Experimental Psychology, Cognitive Neuroscience, Behavioural Neuroscience, Clinical Neuroscience, Psychological Wellbeing and Professional Psychology. Students

enrolled on this degree programme are provided with a solid theoretical and practical grounding in key issues in psychology with a particular focus on cognitive neuroscience. Material is taught through a range of traditional and contemporary teaching methods. Learning is assessed by a portfolio of traditional and innovative assessments. In Years 2 and 3, there is a focus on choice. In addition to core modules, students can choose from a range of option modules to tailor their curriculum to suit their particular interests. There is also a strong focus on the development of both academic and transferable skills. An additional Study Abroad Year is also available, subject to academic performance at the end of Year 2.

13. Indications of programme quality

BSc Psychology with Cognitive Neuroscience is accredited by the British Psychological Society and as such confers eligibility for Graduate Membership and/or the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership.

The BPS continued the accreditation of the programme in their partnership visit of March 2019. The reviewing team commended our programmes in view of the assessment and feedback practice that enhances students learning. Four further areas of good practice were highlighted in their report relating to our provision of a HelpDesk that runs throughout the term, the support systems we have in place as a school and how we have embedded employability and transferable skills training into the curriculum. They made no recommendations for further enhancement and commented that these are impressive, high quality and well managed programmes, which exceed the Society's expectations.

The teaching programmes have received consistent commendation from external examiners for the quality of the teaching provision.

14. External Examiner(s) reports

The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners' reports can be found at exam-papers [log-in required]

Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

Notes

1. To allow progression to the next year of your course, you must pass all pre-requisite modules. Pre-requisite modules are marked * above. There are no exceptions to this rule.

2. Core modules are compulsory. All Year 1 modules are core.

Updates to the programme

Academic year affected	Module Code(s)	Update
2024/25	PS3104	Dissertation: Project module removed. Administrative change only.

Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

BSc Psychology with Cognitive Neuroscience			
Semester 1		**Semester 2**	
Year 1			
PS1101	Historical Perspectives in Psychology (15)	**PS1105**	Introduction to Social, Developmental and Applied Psychology (15)
PS1102	Introduction to Sensation, Perception and Cognition (15)	**PS1106**	Introduction to Brain and Behaviour (15)
PS1103	Psychological Research Skills 1 (15) *	**PS1107**	Psychological Research Skills 2 (15) *
PS1104	Thinking and Communicating like a Psychologist 1 (15)	**PS1108**	Thinking and Communicating like a Psychologist 2 (15)
	Semester total: 60 credits		**Semester total: 60 credits**
Year 2			
Core modules [2]			
PS2101	Psychopathology: an integrated approach to disorders of the mind (15)*	**PS2111**	Information Processing and Cognition (15)*
PS2102	Social and Developmental Psychology (15) *	**PS2105**	Psychology with Cognitive Neuroscience Research Project (15) *
PS2103	Practical Research Skills in Psychology (15) *		

		Option modules, 2 chosen from:	
PS2107	Topics in Cognitive Neuroscience (15) *	**PS2109**	Topics in Health and Wellbeing (15) *
		PS2110	Topics in Clinical Neuroscience (15) *
		PS2112	Topics in Social and Developmental Psychology (15) *
		PS2114	Introduction to Programming for Psychology (15) *
	Semester total: 60 credits		**Semester total: 60 credits**

With a Year Abroad (option)

An appropriate number of modules equivalent to at least 120 Leicester credits will be selected chosen in consultation with the departmental study abroad coordinator among those offered by the partner institution.

Year 3

Core modules [2]

PS3102	Psychology with Cognitive Neuroscience Dissertation (30) – 2 semester module

PS3107	Brain and Cognition (15)	**PS3108**	Advanced Social and Developmental Psychology (15)
		PS3120	Advanced Cognitive Neuroscience (15)
Option modules, 2 chosen from:		**Option modules, 1 chosen from:**	
PS3109	Individual and Interactive Decision Making (15)	**PS3113**	Occupational Psychology (15)
PS3110	Visual Cognition: from the laboratory to the real world (15)	**PS3114**	Neuroscience of Mental Health (15)
PS3111	Psychology Across the Lifespan (15)	**PS3115**	Individual Differences and Well-being (15)
PS3112	Clinical Psychology (15)	**PS3116**	Evolution, Cognition and Behaviour (15)
		PS3117	Clinical and Cognitive Neuropsychology (15)
PS3121	Forensic Psychology (15)	**PS3122**	Psychology of Sport & Physical Activity (15)

	PS3126	Psychology in the Educational Context (15)
	PS3127	Data Science Methods for Psychology (15)
Semester total: 60 credits		**Semester total: 60 credits**

Appendix 2: Module specifications

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