

KEY PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Originating institution(s) Bournemouth University	Faculty responsible for the programme Faculty of Science and Technology
Final award(s), title(s) and credits MSc Foundations of Clinical Psychology: 180 level 7 credits (90 ECTS credits)	
Intermediate award(s), title(s) and credits PG Diploma Foundations of Clinical Psychology: 120 level 7 credits (60 ECTS credits) PG Cert Foundations of Clinical Psychology: 60 level 7 credits (30 ECTS credits)	
UCAS Programme Code(s) (where applicable and if known) NA	HECoS Code(s) and percentage split per programme/pathway 100497
External reference points QAA benchmarks for undergraduate psychology degrees QAA benchmarks for Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) QAA Masters characteristics 2015 National Framework for Higher Education Qualifications The UK Quality Code for Higher Education: Part A	
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body (PSRB) links Not Applicable	
Places of delivery Bournemouth University, Talbot Campus	
Mode(s) of delivery Full-time, Part-time	Language of delivery English
Typical duration 12 months full time (September start date) 16 months full time (January start date) 24 months part time (September start date only)	
Date of first intake September 2022	Expected start dates September; January
Maximum student numbers Not applicable	Placements Optional placement: Min. 12 days (90 hrs) and max. of 32 days (240 Hours) full-time commitment. Allocation on competitive bases. Non-credit bearing.
Partner(s) Not applicable	Partnership model Not applicable
Date of this Programme Specification November 2023	
Version number v2.1-0125	
Evaluation and modification reference numbers E212220 EC2122 77 EC 2223 02 FST2324 06, FST2324 07 and FST2324 08 approved 22/11/2023, previously v2.0	
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Programme Specification – Section 1

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE: FULL-TIME DELIVERY

Programme Award and Title: MSc Foundations of Clinical Psychology – Full-time Delivery								
Year 1/Level 7 Students are expected to complete all core and one of the optional credit bearing units throughout the level.								
Unit Name	Core/ Option	No of credits	Assessment Element Weightings			Expected contact hours per unit	Unit version no.	HECoS Code (plus balanced or major/minor load)
			Exam 1	Cwk 1	Cwk 2			
Roots and Range of Psychological Disorders	Core	20	100			20	1.0	100497
Clinical Skills	Core	20		50	50	20	1.0	100497
Psychological Therapy 1	Core	20	100			20	1.0	100497
Psychological Therapy 2	Core	20		50	50	20	1.0	100497
Research Project	Core	60		100		60	3.0	100497
Introduction to Research Methods	Core	20		100		20	1.0	100497
Advanced Quantitative Methods	Option	20	25	75		20	1.0	100497
Advanced Qualitative Methods	Option	20		100		20	1.0	100497
Placement	Option	0		P/F		0	3.1	100497
Progression requirements: None								
Exit qualification: MSc Foundations of Clinical Psychology (requires 180 credits at Level 7) PG Dip Foundations of Clinical Psychology (requires 120 credits at Level 7) PG Cert Foundations of Clinical Psychology (requires 60 credits at Level 7)								
Placement Optional placement, allocation on a competitive basis, zero credits (pass/fail).								

Programme Specification – Section 1

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE: PART-TIME DELIVERY

Programme Award and Title: MSc Foundations of Clinical Psychology – Part-time Delivery								
Year 1 + 2/Level 7								
Students are expected to complete all core and one of the optional credit bearing units throughout the level.								
Unit Name	Core/ Option	No of credits	Assessment Element Weightings			Expected contact hours per unit	Unit version no.	HECoS Code (plus balanced or major/minor load)
			Exam 1	Cwk 1	Cwk 2			
Roots and Range of Psychological Disorders	Core	20	100				1.0	100497
Clinical Skills	Core	20		50	50	20	1.0	100497
Psychological Therapy 1	Core	20	100			20	1.0	100497
Psychological Therapy 2	Core	20		50	50	20	1.0	100497
Research Project	Core	60		100		60	3.0	100497
Introduction to Research Methods	Core	20		100		20	1.0	100497
Advanced Quantitative Methods	Option	20	25	75		20	1.0	100497
Advanced Qualitative Methods	Option	20		100		20	1.0	100497
Placement	Option	0			P/F	0	3.1	100497
Progression requirements: None								
Exit qualification: MSc Foundations of Clinical Psychology (requires 180 credits at Level 7) PG Dip Foundations of Clinical Psychology (requires 120 credits at Level 7) PG Cert Foundations of Clinical Psychology (requires 60 credits at Level 7)								
Placement Optional placement, allocation on a competitive basis, zero credits (pass/fail).								

AIMS OF THE DOCUMENT

The aims of this document are to:

- define the structure of the programme(s);
- specify the programme award titles;
- identify programme and level learning outcomes;
- articulate the regulations governing the awards defined within the document.

AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME(S)

This programme aims to develop MSc Graduates who specialise in Clinical Psychology, who

1. have an in-depth knowledge of theories in clinical psychological disorders. While understanding the causal and maintenance models of these disorders. Specifically have the necessary breadth of knowledge of the theories at the root of these clinical and few neuropsychological disorders.
2. have an in-depth knowledge and understand the key therapies of practice within the clinical psychological treatment approaches.
3. have the necessary critical thinking and methodological skills for the advancement and creating of knowledge in the area of clinical psychology and effectively aid the development of support and/or treatment in these conditions in the future.

This programme is designed specifically for psychology graduates. The course specifically integrates psychology principles and supports research training throughout the course to ensure that the graduates are fully equipped to continue training in professional practical career and/or academic pathways. The units draw on the expertise from range of clinical practitioners in addition to clinical psychologists and chartered psychologists who teach on this course. Students are also made aware of the clinical training options available for future pathways and we invite professional practitioners to provide insights where possible.

In addition to the clinical focus provided in the two core units, the students learn qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods research skills and ethical practice as researchers. The MSc research projects offers a process of mentorship and the students for this course have the option to bring a clinical angle to their projects and/or literature reviews. The optional placement modules and research opportunities within the department provide the students with key transferable skills such as time management, communication, professional practice etc.

The program is aimed to provide in-depth knowledge in specific areas within clinical/counselling psychology therefore also catering to students who are interested in adding a further qualification beyond their Bachelors level awards, but are not interested to study beyond a Level 7 (research PhD) but are keen to continue their education in preparation for a professional career pathway within clinical and/or educational and/or counselling services such as becoming a clinical psychologist, or a counselling or an educational psychologist or a counsellor.

Finally, with the general foundation in clinical psychology is relevant to many pathways within psychology careers, the transferable skills and the personal and professional development provided with the course assist employability across a range of other disciplines/sectors, for instance as research associates/officers, teachers, lecturers, charities as well as across business and other organisations.

Overall this programme provides the students with critical and methodological skills that are necessary for the advancement and creation of knowledge in the area of clinical psychology, to better understand the mental health across the lifespan and different psychological conditions, understand and respect individual differences, be more aware of cultural differences and apply this knowledge to educational, clinical, neuropsychological and other occupational setting. This course therefore represents a useful addition to the knowledge economy with provision of well-trained individuals capable of furthering knowledge and improving educational and clinical services and management of various psychological disorders. The MSc program has currency with the academic, professional and employer communities and appropriate key internal and external points of reference were considered and continue to be consulted in its development.

ALIGNMENT WITH THE UNIVERSITY'S STRATEGIC PLAN

The MSc Foundations of Clinical Psychology was initially designed and aligned in accordance with Bournemouth University's 2012-2018 strategic plan. However the central tenets are upheld in BU2025 and the programs supports and aligns with these goals and values in the following ways:

- 1. The fusion of excellent teaching, world-class research and professional practice** is at the heart of BU's vision and values. Students are supported by academics with a wealth of professional practice experience, many of whom are actively engaged in clinical and education service and/or involved in cutting edge research in their chosen field. Teaching is also delivered by experts from the field who are currently practioners (Clinical /counselling psychologists; Neuropsychologists; Counsellors) who have continued to contributed and support this course. Students are encouraged to participate in a range of coursework activities and optional placements that bridge the theory and professional practice experience. In addition to assignments focusing on the clinical psychology underpinnings, the programme's innovative pedagogic approach offers students the opportunity to learn by engaging in a series of tasks that supports transferable skills and or methods aligned to professional practice (e.g. case report, essays, presentations and/or writing skills). These are aimed at equipping students with the full range of skills necessary to succeed in the contemporary clinical, educational and research environment. Often informed by the academics team's own experience as well as that of professional practioners in the educational and clinical sectors who contribute to our teaching.
- 2. Dedication to inclusivity and repect for diversity:** Teaching withing the programme is aimed to help students develop into conscientious global citizens who are aware of biases and inequalities within the knowledgebase of clinical psychology/psychology, who are able to practice inclusivity in their own professional lives (for instance, in adapting the environments and/or therapy approaches to those who are neurodiverse and/or are also sensitive to the ethnicity and cultural differences). In line with the University's student-centred approach to learning, the course offers a full and a part - time option and affords students the opportunity to tailor their experience to their personal needs and requirements.
- 3. Positive contribution towards enriching society:** As per the above, the programme aims to contribute to exceptional graduates, individuals who are highly skilled, conscientious and critical thinkers, to employment within a number of different sectors. More broadly as it pertains to society and global citizenship and encourages the development of students as respectful and inclusive of diversity in its different forms (including neurodiversity, adaptations to which needs to be made in everyday life).
- 4. Dedication to excellence:** In addition to supporting students to reach their personal goals and aiming to contribute exceptional professionals to the society, the programme is continually monitored and evaluated as regards to teaching standards and its relevance for professional practice and the career pathways mentioned above.

LEARNING HOURS AND ASSESSMENT

Bournemouth University taught programmes are composed of units of study, which are assigned a credit value indicating the amount of learning undertaken. The minimum credit value of a unit is normally 20 credits, above which credit values normally increase at 20-point intervals. 20 credits is the equivalent of 200 study hours required of the student, including lectures, seminars, assessment and independent study. 20 University credits are equivalent to 10 European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) credits.

The assessment workload for a unit should consider the total time devoted to study, including the assessment workload (i.e. formative and summative assessment) and the taught elements and independent study workload (i.e. lectures, seminars, preparatory work, practical activities, reading, critical reflection).

Assessment per 20 credit unit should normally consist of 3,000 words or equivalent. Dissertations and Level 6 and 7 Final Projects are distinct from other assessment types. The word count for these

Programme Specification - Section 2

assignments is 5,000 words per 20 credits, recognising that undertaking an in-depth piece of original research as the capstone to a degree is pedagogically sound.

STAFF DELIVERING THE PROGRAMME

Students will usually be taught by a combination of senior academic staff with others who have relevant expertise including – where appropriate according to the content of the unit – academic staff, qualified professional practitioners, demonstrators/technicians and research students.

The two core units of the MSc in Foundations of Clinical Psychology have professional practitioners from outside contributing to the course, because the course is designed to have inputs from practitioners and researchers in areas within clinical psychology. This also provides the students with an opportunity for networking and gaining additional clinical information.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES – AND HOW THE PROGRAMME ENABLES STUDENTS TO ACHIEVE AND DEMONSTRATE THE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

PROGRAMME AND LEVEL 7 INTENDED PROGRAMME OUTCOMES

<p>A: Subject knowledge and understanding</p> <p>The MSc Foundations of Clinical Psychology programme (Level 7) provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:</p>	<p>The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate learning outcomes for the MSc Foundations in Clinical Psychology programme (Level 7):</p>
<p>A1 thorough knowledge of the inherent variability and diversity of psychology across psychological disorders.</p> <p>A2 in-depth knowledge of specialised areas and their applications from a therapeutic perspective.</p> <p>A3 in-depth knowledge of research approaches and methods relevant to clinical psychology</p>	<p>Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lectures (A1 – A3); • seminars (A1 – A3); • directed reading (A1 – A3); • use of the VLE (A1 – A3); • independent research (A3).
	<p>Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coursework essay (A1 – A2); • Oral presentations (A1 – A2) • MSc Dissertation (A3).
<p>B: Intellectual skills</p> <p>The MSc Foundations of Clinical Psychology programme (Level 7) provides opportunities for students to:</p>	<p>The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the learning outcomes for the MSc Clinical and Developmental Psychology Programme (Level 7)</p>

Programme Specification - Section 2

<p>B1 apply the skills needed for academic study and enquiry, managing the complexity, uncertainty and ambiguity in the present knowledge base.</p> <p>B2 critically analyse and evaluate the current literature from a variety of sources in the discipline</p> <p>B3 synthesise information from a number of sources in order to gain a coherent understanding of theory and practice</p> <p>B4 Evaluation of methodologies and critiques of them and, where appropriate to propose new hypothesis.</p>	<p>Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lectures (B1 – B4); • seminars (B1 – B4); • self-study of learning materials and directed reading (B1 – B4); • use of the VLE (B1 – B4); • independent research (B1 – B4). <p>Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • coursework essay (B1 – B4); • MSc Dissertation (B1 – B4).
<p>C: Practical skills</p> <p>The MSc Foundations of Clinical Psychology programme (Level 7) provides opportunities for students to:</p>	<p>The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the learning outcomes for The MSc Foundations of Clinical Psychology programme (Level 7):</p>
<p>C1 A comprehensive and advanced understanding of clinical psychology and demonstrate their understanding of ethical principles within clinical practice.</p> <p>C2 the ability to plan, initiate, design, conduct and report evidence from a project under appropriate supervision</p> <p>C3 To demonstrate competence in choosing and applying a range of advanced statistical and experimental methods</p>	<p>Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lectures (C1 – C3); • independent research (C2 - C3); • group exercises (C3). <p>Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • coursework essay (C1); • dissertation (C2 - C3).
<p>D: Transferable skills</p> <p>The MSc Foundations of Clinical Psychology programme (Level 7) provides opportunities for students to:</p>	<p>The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the learning outcomes for</p>

Programme Specification - Section 2

	the MSc Foundations of Clinical Psychology programme (Level 7) provides
<p>D1 examine and apply analytical thinking and problem-solving skills in a variety of theoretical and practical situations</p> <p>D2 develop interpersonal and empathic skills arising from a good understanding of capacities and limitations of particular groups of people</p> <p>D3 competently communicate ideas and documented findings by written means (and oral and visual means, where appropriate).</p> <p>D4 synthesize information from literature and/or through research and present the findings succinctly.</p> <p>D5 develop initiative, self-direction and personal responsibility in management of learning and research.</p>	<p>Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lectures (D1 – D5); • seminars (D1 – D5); • directed reading (D1- D5); • use of the VLE (D1); • independent research (D1-D5). <hr/> <p>Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • coursework essay (D1- D3); • MSc Dissertation (D1-D5).

ADMISSION REGULATIONS

Please refer to the course website for further information regarding admission regulations for this programme: [MSc Foundations of Clinical Psychology | Bournemouth University](#)

ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

The assessment regulations for this MSc programme are the University's Standard Postgraduate Assessment Regulations:

<https://intranetsp.bournemouth.ac.uk/Documents/arpp61.aspx>

WORK BASED LEARNING (WBL) AND PLACEMENT ELEMENTS

Optional work and/or research placement may be available pending placement availability in clinical or research settings. Placements will be allocated ideally at the start of the course (Semester 1, i.e. September or January) on a competitive (and P/F) basis, however, if any placement opens up in Semester 2 (i.e. January or September)– they still will be advertised to the students for application. The placement unit is a zero-credit unit. Students on this programme also get the opportunity to engage with the Voluntary Research Apprenticeship scheme, working alongside a member of staff in their laboratory on a course-related topic of research. They need to submit a short report on their experience at the end of the placement.

Programme Skills Matrix

Units		Programme Intended Learning Outcomes																						
		A 1	A 2	A 3				B 1	B 2	B 3	B 4				C 1	C 2	C 3		D 1	D 2	D 3	D 4	D 5	
L E V E L 7	Roots and Range of Psychological Disorders	X	X	X				X	X	X	x				X	X			X	X	X	X	X	
	Psychological Therapy 1	X	X	X				X	X	X	x				X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
	Psychological Therapy 2	X	X	X				X	X	X	x				X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
	Research Project	X	X	X				X	X	X	x				X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
	Introduction to Research Methods	x		x				x		x	x				x	x			x			x		x
	Advanced Quantitative Methods	x		x				x			x					x	x			x			x	x
	Advanced Qualitative Methods	x		x				x	x	x	x				x	x			x			x	x	x
Clinical Skills	X	X	X				X	X	X	x				X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		
<p>A – Subject Knowledge and Understanding This programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> thorough knowledge of the inherent variability and diversity of psychology across psychological disorders. in-depth knowledge of specialised areas and their applications from a therapeutic perspective. in-depth knowledge of research approaches and methods relevant to clinical psychology 							<p>C – Subject-specific/Practical Skills This programme provides opportunities for students to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A comprehensive and advanced understanding of clinical psychology and demonstrate their understanding of ethical principles within clinical practice. the ability to plan, initiate, design, conduct and report evidence from a project under appropriate supervision To demonstrate competence in choosing and applying a range of advanced statistical and experimental methods 																	
<p>B – Intellectual Skills This programme provides opportunities for students to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> apply the skills needed for academic study and enquiry, managing the complexity, uncertainty and ambiguity in the present knowledge base. critically analyse and evaluate the current literature from a variety of sources in the discipline synthesise information from a number of sources in order to gain a coherent understanding of theory and practice Evaluation of methodologies and critiques of them and, where appropriate to propose new hypothesis. 							<p>D – Transferable Skills This programme provides opportunities for students to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> examine and apply analytical thinking and problem-solving skills in a variety of theoretical and practical situations develop interpersonal and empathic skills arising from a good understanding of capacities and limitations of particular groups of people competently communicate ideas and documented findings by written means (and oral and visual means, where appropriate). 																	

	<ol style="list-style-type: none">4. synthesize information from literature and/or through research and present the findings succinctly. 5. Develop initiative, self-direction and personal responsibility in management of learning and research.
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