



Course Specification

MA

Interdisciplinary Psychology

Course Code: MAINP

2024/25

leedsbeckett.ac.uk

MA Interdisciplinary Psychology (MAINP)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2024/25 Postgraduate Entrants

Confirmed at DEC/2023

General Information

Award	MA Interdisciplinary Psychology
Contained Awards	Postgraduate Diploma Interdisciplinary Psychology Postgraduate Certificate Interdisciplinary Psychology
Awarding Body	Leeds Beckett University
Level of Qualification and Credits	Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 180 credit points at Level 7 of the Higher Education Credit Framework for England.
Course Lengths and Standard Timescales	Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is confirmed below:

Programme	Length	FT/PT	Mode
MA Interdisciplinary Psychology - MAINP	1 Year	FT	Campus-Based
MA Interdisciplinary Psychology - MAINP	2 Years	PT	Campus-Based

Part Time Study	PT delivery is usually at half the intensity of the FT equivalent course, although there may be flexibility to increase your pace of study to shorten the overall course duration. Some modules may be delivered in a different sequence to that defined within this information set but the modules offered within each level are consistent.
Location(s) of Delivery	The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus.
Entry Requirements	Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning/ Admissions enquiries may be directed to: AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk .

Course Fees

Course fees and any additional course costs are confirmed in your offer letter. Fees enquiries may be directed to:

Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

Timetable Information

Timetables for Semester 1 will be made available to students during induction week via:

- i) The Student Portal (MyBeckett)
- ii) The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions may be discussed with your Course Administrator.

Policies, Standards and Regulations (<https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations/>)

There are no additional or non-standard regulations which relate to your course.

Key Contacts

Your Course Director

Dr Joseph Ibrahim J.Ibrahim@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Your Course Manager

Dr Conrad Russell C.russell@leedsbeckett.ac.uk
(contact for course enquiries)

Your Academic Advisor

An Academic Advisor will be allocated after arrival.

Your Course Administrator

You will be informed of your course administrator during induction week. The email address for the admin team is Sociologyadmin@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

Professional Body

N/A

Accreditation/ Recognition Summary

N/A

Course Overview

Aims

MA Interdisciplinary Psychology is a research-informed Master's programme. MA Interdisciplinary Psychology follows the aims of the Leeds Beckett 'Learning Pathway' in seeking to develop students as 'independent learners, critical thinkers and capable citizens'. The MA curriculum encourages students to explore the framing assumptions implicit in all psychological approaches as well as the ways in which the 'psy-disciplines' influence everyday life in mental health, educational and employment contexts. Throughout the MA programme, students are encouraged to adopt a critical, question-driven stance towards psychology, as a basis for original, independent thinking and the application of theory and evidence in novel ways. The MA programme is designed to support students' transition to postgraduate study, and to progressively develop their confidence in their academic and professional abilities. The MA connects theory to real world contexts, and therefore supports students in applying knowledge to complex situations.

The aims of the programme are:

1. To understand psychological theory and practice as a 'conversation' which crosses disciplinary boundaries.
2. To draw on critical, psychoanalytic and transpersonal approaches from within Psychology, as well as exploring psychological insights from Anthropology, Sociology, Theology, Philosophy, Literature, Film and Cultural Studies.
3. To critically and reflexively analyse the discipline of Psychology itself as a discursive formation.
4. To enable students to appropriately apply the insights of psychology as critical tools for historical, political, cultural and social analysis.
5. To analyse the interpersonal, intersubjective, and social dimensions of consciousness, self and psyche.
6. To challenge ethnocentric attitudes which privilege Western approaches to psychology.
7. To promote a truly historical and global psychology, encompassing modern and pre-modern, European and non-European psychologies.
8. To appreciate the transformative potential of psychology at both an individual and social level, and to consider the ethical consequences of such a transformation.
9. To inspire and equip students to engage with, share in and contribute to the intellectual tradition of psychology.

Course Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1.	Be able to analyse, evaluate and apply the key concepts of Interdisciplinary Psychology in a range of contexts, in creative and novel ways.
2.	Demonstrate an ability to critically synthesise insights from psychoanalysis, critical psychology and transpersonal psychology.
3.	Have developed, and be able to demonstrate, a 'psychological imagination', which crosses disciplinary boundaries.

4.	Apply a critical understanding of issues of social transformation and social power to psychological theory and practice.
5.	Have developed a sophisticated understanding and appreciation of the historical diversity of psychological traditions.
6.	Bring a truly cross-cultural and global focus to psychological analysis.
7.	Be able to contribute to psychological practice and scholarship and to communicate its values to others.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

Teaching on the MA adopts a workshop format designed to encourage debate and discussion between students and tutors, and amongst students, which then continues through assessment and feedback and in one-on-one project tutorials. Throughout the programme, emphasis is on knowledge as ‘situated’ – as produced through confronting and relating together a diversity of viewpoints through dialogue. Students and teachers are co-producers of knowledge, and learning is understood as an active, constructive process, in which teachers are learners, and learners are teachers.

The MA seeks to develop students’ ability to ‘adopt multiple perspectives and systematically analyse the relationships between them’ – a core subject-specific skill in the psychology subject benchmark statement. The focus is on eliciting a diversity of perspectives, drawn from a range of past experiences, and on encouraging students to adopt new and unfamiliar viewpoints. Learning and teaching activities on the MA include; tutor-led discussion, focussed groupwork around set readings, activities and case-studies, tutor guided reflection on learning, practical experiential sessions and a ‘Socratic Circle’ activity.

Teaching will be delivered via blended learning; the majority of lectures will be delivered asynchronously online, with some in person lectures and workshops. Seminars will take place in person. Additional learning resources will also be provided online via our Virtual Learning Environment. Formal teaching will be complemented by one-on-one tutorials and supervision sessions for student Independent Projects. On Campus Teaching will be organised to fit on one nominated day of the week, where possible. Some teaching – including one-on-one tutorials and/ or group teaching - may be offered online. You will be given advance notice of teaching arrangements.

The diversity of teaching approaches and formats is designed to support a diversity of student learning styles and to accommodate students with a diverse range of prior educational, professional and life experiences. Learning and teaching is designed to progressively build student autonomy and originality in the application of knowledge. Tutor-led presentation of topics in workshops is intended to spark student discussion. Students are gradually supported towards self-directed learning, culminating in the 60-credit *Independent Project*. The MA is built around planned intellectual progression, culminating in a synoptic research activity. The Independent Project draws together skills in critical thinking, reflection on learning, planning, and evaluating and applying research methodologies, developed through the programme.

Students are encouraged to keep a learning journal throughout their studies on the MA. Reflection on learning allows students to connect theories and concepts encountered at diverse points in their learning journey, to reflect on their development as autonomous and critical thinkers, and to consider how their learning relates to their present – or future – professional practice and to prior experiential learning. Students are given guidance on reflective writing in workshop sessions and are encouraged to use tutorials with their project supervisor as a space for shared reflection, and as an opportunity to gain feedback on their reflective writing.

Your Modules

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable.

Course Structure: 2024/25 for FT students			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Central Problems in Psychology (20 credits, L7)	Y	Critical Methodologies (20 credits, L7)	Y
Foundations of Psychoanalysis (20 credits, L7)	Y	Transpersonal Psychology (20 credits L7)	Y
Mindfulness-Based Approaches (20 credits, L7)	Y	Contemporary Psychoanalytic Approaches (20 credits, L7)	Y
Independent Project (60 credits, L7)	Y	Independent Project (60 credits, L7 cont.)	Y

Course Structure: 2024/25 and 2025/26 for standard PT students			
Year 1 –Semester 1	Core (Y)	Year 1 – Semester 2	Core(Y)
Central Problems in Psychology (20 credits, L7)	Y	Critical Methodologies (20 credits, L7)	Y
Foundations of Psychoanalysis (20 credits, L7)	Y	Transpersonal Psychology (20 credits L7)	Y
Year 2 –Semester 1	Core (Y)	Year 2 – Semester 2	Core(Y)

Mindfulness-Based Approaches (20 credits, L7)	Y	Contemporary Psychoanalytic Approaches (20 credits, L7)	Y
Independent Project (60 credits, L7)	Y	Independent Project (60 credits, L7 cont.)	Y

Assessment Balance and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director.

A standard module equates to 200 notional learning hours, which may be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, any embedded placement activities and independent study. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

Assessment

On this course students will be assessed mainly through coursework with an element of oral presentation. Because of the nature of this MA programme there is room for some assessments to be negotiated with the exception of 'Mindfulness-Based Approaches'. At the end of the course students will produce an Independent Project.

Workload

The following information provides an indication of the time required for different activities on your course. The total numbers of hours are calculated on the basis of 10 hours study – including teaching and independent study - per credit point, corresponding to the national standard of 10 notional hours of learning for each UK HE credit point.

Overall Workload	
Teaching, Learning and Assessment	175 hours
Independent Study	1625 hours
Placement	N/A

Learning Support

If you have a question or a problem relating to your course, your Course Administrator is there to help you. Course Administrators work closely with academic staff and can make referrals to teaching staff or to specialist professional services as appropriate. They can give you a confirmation of attendance letter, and a transcript. You may also like to contact your Course Rep or the Students' Union Advice team for additional support with course-related questions.

Student Services

If you have any questions about life at University, call into our Student Services Centre at either campus or contact Student Advice directly. This team, consisting of trained officers and advisers are available to support you throughout your time here. They will make sure you have access to and are aware of the support, specialist services, and opportunities our University provides. They also work on a wide range of projects throughout the year all designed to enhance your student experience and ensure you make the most of your time with us. Student Advice are located in the Student Services Centre in the Leslie Silver Building at City Campus and on the ground floor of the Priestley Building at Headingley Campus. The team can also be contacted via email at studentadvice@leedsbeckett.ac.uk, telephone on 0113 812 3000, or by accessing our online chat link, available on the student homepage.

Support and opportunities

Within MyBeckett you will see two tabs (Support and Opportunities) where you can find online information and resources for yourselves. The Support tab gives you access to details of services available to give you academic and personal support. These include Library Services, the Students' Union, Money advice, Disability advice and support, Wellbeing, International Student Services and Accommodation. There is also an A-Z of Support Services, and access to online appointments/registration.

The Opportunities tab is the place to explore the options you have for jobs, work placements, volunteering, and a wide range of other opportunities. For example, you can find out here how to get help with your CV, prepare for an interview, get a part-time job or voluntary role, take part in an international project, or join societies closer to home.