



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification

MSc Health Psychology LCS

Course Code: MHPSY

2024/25

leedsbeckett.ac.uk

MSc Health Psychology (On-Site)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2024/25 Postgraduate Entrants

Confirmed at DEC/2023

General Information

Award	Master of Science Health Psychology
Contained Awards	Postgraduate Certificate Health Psychology Postgraduate Diploma Health 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 year (full time, campus based)• 2 years (part-time, campus based)
Part Time Study	PT students will be supported by the course team to determine an appropriate selection of modules from the level for each year of 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/>)

The MSc Health Psychology meets the requirements of the Academic Regulations of Leeds Beckett University. There are no additional or non-standard regulations which relate to your course. The course has been designed in alignment with the standards of the British Psychological Society's for a Stage 1 Health psychology programme (accreditation will be sought but is not yet confirmed).

Key Contacts

Your Course Director	Dr Lydia Windisch
Your Course Manager	Dr Kirsty Budds
Your Academic Advisor	Will be allocated on arrival
Your Course Administrator	The name of your Course Administrator/s will be confirmed during induction, their contact details are: psychologyadmin@leedsbeckett.ac.uk .

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

Professional Body

The British Psychological Society (accreditation will be sought but is not yet confirmed).

Accreditation/ Recognition Summary

The MSc in Health Psychology has been designed to meet the criteria for Stage 1 professional accreditation by the British Psychological Society (BPS) (accreditation will be sought but is not yet confirmed). Once BPS accreditation is confirmed, successful completion of this MSc programme will enable students to progress onto Stage 2 of their Health Psychology training which confers eligibility for registration as a Practitioner Health Psychologist with the Health and Care Professions Council in the future if desired. To be eligible, students have passed all modules (180 credits) with a minimum 50% grade in each module.

Course Overview

Aims

The aims of the programme are to provide an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the psychological methods and theories that are used to advance understanding about the possible causes, progressions and consequences of health and illness. The content of the curriculum has been developed to meet the requirements for Stage 1 accreditation by the British Psychological Society (BPS).

As stipulated by the BPS, the Stage 1 modules will encourage the development of critical thinking skills and will cover: Research and Research Methods; Contexts and perspectives in health psychology; Physiological and psychosomatic disease processes; Client groups and other stakeholders; Health-related behaviour and cognitions; Social dimensions of health; Interventions; Applications of health psychology; Healthcare and professional settings; Measurement and Professional issues.

Successful completion of these modules as part of the Stage 1 training, will then enable students to progress onto Stage 2 of their Health Psychology training which confers eligibility for registration as a Practitioner Health Psychologist with the Health and Care Professions Council. The Stage 2 training is not delivered as part of this MSc course and is something that students will undertake in the future if desired.

Course Learning Outcomes

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

1. Demonstrate an in-depth knowledge and understanding of health psychology informed by current scholarship and research, including a critical awareness of current issues, theories and developments in the discipline;
2. Critically evaluate and apply, with due regard to ethical considerations, a range of methodological techniques applicable to research in health psychology
3. Show competency in the use of a range of techniques and research methods (both qualitative and quantitative) including employment of digital literacy skills in accessing, processing and evaluating information applicable to health psychology;
4. Demonstrate that you can communicate and collaborate effectively with colleagues, research supervisors, and a wider audience in academic settings;
5. Demonstrate knowledge and a critical understanding of health psychology which is relevant to progression to Stage 2 training.
6. Demonstrate appropriate and relevant application of ethical, legal and professional practice frameworks (e.g. BPS, HCPC);
7. Demonstrate originality and creativity in the application of knowledge and an understanding of how new knowledge is created and synthesised across the core areas of health psychology and in an extensive piece of independent empirical research
8. Disseminate your work appropriately in a range of appropriate written and oral formats.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

The students' experience of the delivery of this course is through a range of teaching methods and learning activities. While the lecturers and tutors are there to disseminate knowledge and facilitate learning, there is an emphasis on students' collaboration in the learning experience.

Students receive an on-line course handbook, which details the course structure and what is expected of students (it also provides other information about the University, course team, regulations and policies etc.). In addition, students receive an on-line module handbook for each module, providing details about the module, how the module will be delivered in terms of types of teaching elements and the main topic for each unit, how it will be assessed, a reading list and other material relevant to the module. In order to deliver core knowledge, facilitate understanding of theories and concepts and develop practical and applied skills, we employ a range of teaching methods depending on the delivery mode. These may include (as appropriate): lectures, seminars, group work, practical/laboratory classes, presentations, problem-based projects/briefs, tutorials, and on-line activities on the university's VLE. Lectures and seminars will be delivered in person. Additional learning resources will also be provided online via our Virtual Learning Environment.

The range of learning activities not only provides an opportunity for students to develop communication skills via different media, but also encompasses different learning styles amongst students.

All members of staff are aware of the need for all teaching and learning contexts to be (i) non-discriminatory and tailored for each student with a reasonable adjustment plan; (ii) respectful and valuing the perspectives and experiences each individual can offer; (iii) promoting the values and practices associated with inclusive attitudes and behaviours in others.

Use of the Virtual Learning Environment

The course makes extensive use of the VLE in terms of the use of the course site and module sites on MyBeckett. It is used to keep all students properly informed of information about their studies and changes to practice, changes to the timing of the return of coursework etc.

Students are able to access their individual, cohort and course timetables from MyBeckett as appropriate.

On the course site, the course handbook and a wealth of information about the course itself is put up for students and regularly updated.

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. Part time students will be supported by the course team to determine

an appropriate selection of modules from the level for each year of study. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable.

Level 7 – Full Time			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Contexts and Perspectives in Health Psychology (20 credits)	Y	Client Groups across the Life Span (20 credits)	Y
Advanced Research Methods for Health Psychology (30 credits)	Y	Physiological and Psychosomatic Disease Processes (20 credits)	Y
Health Psychology in Action (20 credits)	Y	Personal Development (10 credits)	Y
		Dissertation (60 credits) (Sem 2 + Summer)	Y

Level 7 - Part Time Year 1			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Contexts and Perspectives in Health Psychology (20 credits)	Y	Personal Development (10 credits)	Y
Advanced Research Methods for Health Psychology (30 credits)	Y	Physiological and Psychosomatic Disease Processes (20 credits)	Y

Level 7 - Part Time Year 2			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Health Psychology in Action (20 credits)	Y	Dissertation (60 credits) (Sem 2 + Summer)	Y
		Client Groups Across the Life Span (20 credits)	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, there will be a varied diet of assessments across the modules, designed appropriately in order to assess the full range of learning outcomes and provide a discriminator across the grade classifications.

This Level 7 course is assessed predominantly by coursework, with some examinations and practical assessments.

Workload

Overall Workload for the Course	
Teaching, Learning and Assessment	234 hours
Independent Study	1566 hours
Placement	0 hours

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.