



LEEDS  
BECKETT  
UNIVERSITY

# Course Specification

## MSc Health Psychology LCS

Course Code: MHPSY

2026/27

[leedsbeckett.ac.uk](https://leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

# ***MSc Health Psychology (On-Site)***

## **Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2026/27 Postgraduate Entrants**

**Confirmed October 2025**

### **General Information**

<b>Award</b>	Master of Science Health Psychology
<b>Contained Awards</b>	Postgraduate Certificate Health Psychology Postgraduate Diploma Health Psychology
<b>Awarding Body</b>	Leeds Beckett University
<b>Level of Qualification and Credits</b>	Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 180 credit points at Level 7 of the Higher Education Credit Framework for England.
<b>Course Lengths and Standard Timescales</b>	Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 12 months (full-time, campus based)</li><li>• 24 months (part-time, campus based)</li></ul>
<b>Part Time Study</b>	<p>Part-time delivery is usually at half the intensity of the full-time 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.</p> <p>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.</p>
<b>Location(s) of Delivery</b>	The majority of teaching will be at City Campus but on occasion may be at Headingley Campus.
<b>Entry Requirements</b>	Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: <a href="https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning/">https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning/</a>

Admissions enquiries may be directed to:  
[AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk).

## Course Fees

Course fees are confirmed in your offer letter. A breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course.

Fees enquiries may be directed to [Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk).

## Policies, Standards and Regulations

<https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations/>

Standard regulations apply to this course.

The course has been designed in alignment with the standards of the British Psychological Society's for a Stage 1 Health psychology programme. The [British Psychological Society](#) (BPS) has granted accreditation to this course.

## Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

### Professional Body

The [British Psychological Society](#) (BPS) has granted accreditation to this course..

### 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). The [British Psychological Society](#) (BPS) has granted accreditation to this course.

With this accreditation, 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.

## Timetable

Timetables for Semester One 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.

## Key Contacts

<b>Your Course Director</b>	Dr Lydia Windisch
<b>Your Course Manager</b>	Dr Siobhán McHugh
<b>Your Course Administrator</b>	The name of your Course Administrator/s will be confirmed during induction, their contact details are: <a href="mailto:psychologyadmin@leedsbeckett.ac.uk">psychologyadmin@leedsbeckett.ac.uk</a> .

## 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 One accreditation by the British Psychological Society (BPS).

As stipulated by the BPS, the Stage One modules will encourage the development of critical thinking skills and will cover: Research Processes for Health Psychology; Socioeconomic Determinants of Health; Psychology of Disease and Illness; 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 One training, will then enable students to progress onto Stage Two of their Health Psychology training which confers eligibility for registration as a Practitioner Health Psychologist with the Health and Care Professions Council. The Stage Two 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 Two 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.

### **Your modules**

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Option modules listed are indicative of a typical year. There may be some variance in the availability of option modules. 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.

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.

### Level 7 full-time

#### *Compulsory modules*

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Socioeconomic Determinants of Health	20	1
Research Processes for Health Psychology	30	1
Applied Research in Health Psychology	20	1
Application of Professional Skills in Health Psychology	10	1
Client Groups across the Life Span	20	2
Psychology of Disease and Illness	20	2
Dissertation	60	2 + summer
Number of credits of compulsory modules	180	

### Level 7 part-time

#### *Year 1 compulsory modules*

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Socioeconomic Determinants of Health	20	1
Research Processes for Health Psychology	30	1
Application of Professional Skills in Health Psychology	10	2
Psychology of Disease and Illness	20	2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	80	

#### *Year 2 compulsory modules*

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Applied Research in Health Psychology	20	1
Client Groups across the Life Span	20	2
Dissertation	60	2 + summer
Number of credits of compulsory modules	100	

### Assessment and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules and typical option module choices undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director, but applicants should note that the specific option choices students make may influence both assessment and workload balance.

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**

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

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.

### **Workload**

<b>Overall Workload for the Course</b>	
Teaching, Learning and Assessment	240 hours
Independent Study	1560 hours
Placement	0 hours