

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	BSc (Hons) Psychology and Youth Studies
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 6
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	British Psychological Society (BPS)
Credit Structure ²	360 Credits Level 4: 120 Credits Level 5: 120 Credits Level 6: 120 Credits
Mode of Attendance	Full-time and Part-time
Standard Length of Course ³	3 years full-time
Intended Award	BSc (Hons) Psychology and Youth Studies
Named Exit Awards	DipHE Psychology and Youth Studies
Entry Requirements ⁴	Typical Offer: 110 UCAS tariff points (or equivalent) GCSE grade C or above in English and Mathematics (or equivalent)
Delivering Institution(s)	University of Suffolk
UCAS Code	CL85

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the BSc (Hons) Psychology and Youth Studies course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2017-18 academic year⁵.

Course Summary

Psychology

Originating from Biological and Philosophical disciplines contemporary psychology is an empirical science that seeks to comprehend how and why humans and non-humans experience and behave the way that they do. Students at UCS have the opportunity to attain a holistic approach to psychology as they are provided with a foundation of the main psychology approaches identified by the BPS as being ‘core’, as well as the importance of understanding the complex interaction between these approaches. The emphasis is on theoretical underpinnings with progression to practical applications, as students’ development through the course sees them engage with the different theories at work in everyday life whilst critically evaluating the contributions made by these multiple perspective

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

² All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

³ Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information about mode of study and maximum registration periods can be found in the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#).

⁴ Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#)

⁵ The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the [Admissions Policy](#).

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

approaches. This focus on applied knowledge is reflected in our emphasis on students developing as empirical researchers through their course, as they come to understand the relationship between theory and empirical data. Our modules not only provide an underpinning in research methods and data analysis, but also provide students invaluable practical application by designing, conducting, analysing and reporting data, and eventually becoming independent researchers in their own right. Through studying psychology students will not only acquire a scientific understanding of the mind, brain, behaviour and experience, but will attain knowledge allowing them to recognise and critically evaluate theory, research and the implications of a scientific study.

Youth Studies

At UCS, Youth Studies is informed by critical and social constructionist paradigms. However, we extend this by encouraging students to examine how theory might illuminate experiences and understandings of youth, but also how empirical experience and understanding might contribute to conceptual knowledge. Youth Studies is interdisciplinary encompassing aspects of criminology, cultural studies, political science, psychology, sociology and social policy. Youth Studies at UCS has a temporal dimension examining the emergence of youth and its academic coverage and a spatial dimension being concerned with Suffolk, the UK and the wider world both in overdeveloped and underdeveloped contexts. The modules develop both conceptual and applied understandings of youth covering, but not limited to, comparative international perspectives, culture and identity, welfare and social policy, working with young people and the historical development of both youth and our conceptualisation of it. Indicative themes explored include youth and education, family, the labour market, politics and health, youth identity, consumption and subculture, and youth and development and underdevelopment.

Course Aims

- To develop students' knowledge, critical understanding and skills in Psychology and Youth Studies
- To cultivate a questioning and critical approach to the understanding of human behaviour and society
- To encourage cognitive development and autonomous learning
- To develop subject specific, cognitive and key transferable skills of value in employment, further study and personal development
- To provide opportunities that facilitate widening participation by local/non-standard entrants to study Psychology and Youth Studies

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the BSc (Hons) Psychology and Youth Studies course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 4/5/6 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)⁶.

⁶ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Level 6

Knowledge and understanding

1. Demonstrate a depth of knowledge and critical understanding of range of approaches, theories, concepts, research findings and applications in the relevant field of study
2. Understand the scientific underpinnings of psychology as a discipline
3. Recognise the inherent variability and diversity of psychological functioning
4. Demonstrate a good knowledge and critical understanding of a range of influences on psychological functioning, and how they are conceptualised across biological, cognitive, developmental, and social psychology and individual differences
5. Demonstrate knowledge of a range of research paradigms, research methods and measurement techniques, including statistical analysis
6. Identify and evaluate appropriate concepts and theoretical approaches to the construction of youth and young people
7. Evaluate the political and social systems that shape participation, citizenship, marginalisation and resistance
8. Analyse, with reference to aspects of critical theory, the contested ideologies and intellectual currents shaping youth and social policy

Intellectual skills

9. Show good critical thinking skills and a notable ability to critically evaluate and interpret a range of information, theories and evidence
10. Demonstrate an appreciation of the uncertainty, ambiguity and limits of knowledge
11. Reason scientifically and demonstrate the relationship between theory and evidence
12. Adopt multiple perspectives
13. Detect meaningful patterns in behaviour and experience
14. Pose and operationalise research questions
15. Demonstrate awareness of varying social constructions of youth and young adulthood across time and space
16. Critically evaluate key philosophical and political concepts such as rights, justice, freedom and ethics that shape discourses and practices related to young people
17. Differentiate and evaluate competing disciplinary traditions and schools of thought through their respective approaches to young populations and cultures, and appreciate the relevance of historical context.

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Practical skills

18. Manage their own learning effectively, and recognise, find and make good use of academic literature
19. Undertake and critically evaluate a research project
20. Demonstrate competence in research skills through practical activities
21. Initiate, design, conduct and report an empirically-based research project under appropriate supervision
22. Exhibit awareness of ethical principles and approval procedures and demonstrate these
23. Demonstrate the ability to summarise and evaluate arguments using critical judgement and to develop reasoned argument synthesising appropriate information
24. Apply established theories and critical perspectives, principally from sociology and political and critical theory or other social sciences to analyse youth and youth policy in national, international and comparative contexts

Key skills

25. Communicate relevant subject knowledge and evidence accurately and reliably with structured and coherent arguments
26. Show development of key transferable skills
27. Clearly communicate ideas and research findings by written, oral and visual means
28. Interpret and use numerical, statistical and other forms of data

Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following QAA Benchmarks and Professional Standards:

- British Psychological Society Graduate Basis for Chartered membership of the Society (GBC)
- Youth & Community Work (2009)
- Social Policy (2016)
- Sociology (2007)

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Structure

The BSc (Hons) Psychology and Youth Studies comprises modules at levels 4, 5 and 6.

Module Specifications for each of these modules are included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

	Module	Credits	Module Type ⁷
Level 4			
	Social Science Research Skills	20	M
	Introduction to Youth Studies	20	M
	Foundations of Biological and Cognitive Psychology	20	M
	Foundations of Social and Developmental Psychology	20	M
	Young People & Social Policy	20	R
	Understanding Social Change	20	O
	Migration and Ethnicity	20	O
	Introduction to Sociology	20	O
Level 5			
	Questionnaire Design and Analysis	10	M
	Qualitative Research Design and Analysis	10	M
	Experimental Design and Analysis	10	M
	Advanced Qualitative Research Design and Analysis	10	M
	Biological and Cognitive Psychology	20	M
	Social and Developmental Psychology	20	M
	Youth Culture and Identity	20	O
	Working with Young People	20	O
	Youth Crime and Justice	20	O
	Youth Subcultures and Social Movements*	20	O
Level 6			
	Level 6 Psychology Project	40	M
	Abnormal Psychology	20	M
	Individual Difference	20	M
	Comparative Youth Studies	20	M
	Youth and Film*	20	O
	Youth and Sexuality*	20	O
	Youth and Development*	20	O

*these modules will be offered subject to availability of specialist staff

⁷ Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#)

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a BSc (Hons) Psychology and Youth Studies. Students who leave the course early may be eligible for a DipHE Psychology and Youth Studies on successful completion of 240 credits including all mandatory modules at levels 4 and 5.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at Ipswich. Students studying full-time on the BSc (Hons) Psychology and Youth Studies are likely to have approximately 12 hours per week (288 hours per year) contact hours for level 4, 12 hours per week (288 hours per year) contact hours for level 5 and 8.5 hours per week (204 hours per year) contact hours for level 6. The contact hours will be a mix of lectures, seminars, practical activities, tutorials and workshops. Students will normally be expected to undertake 38 hours of independent study in an average week, but should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module's intended learning outcomes. Assessment on the course overall will be mostly coursework (including essays, reports, presentations, group work, reflective learning journals, online tests and research projects) and up to 5 examinations.

Course Team

The BSc (Hons) Psychology and Youth Studies course is offered within the Department of Psychology, Sociology and Social Work in the Faculty of Arts, Business and Applied Social Science. Profiles of the academic staff who deliver the course are available online: <http://www.ucs.ac.uk/About/Structure/UCSStaffProfiles/Department-of-Psychology-Sociology-and-Social-Work/Staff-PSSW.aspx>

Course Costs

Students undertaking BSc Psychology and Youth Studies will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK/EU	£9,250 per year
Part-time UK/EU	£1,454 per 20 credit module
Full-time International	£10,080 per year
Part-time International	£1,680 per 20 credit module

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

Students are likely to incur other costs for essential reading materials amounting to approximately £240 per year.

Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the [website](#).