

SUMMARY PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Course Title	BA (Hons) Psychology with Sociology
Awarding Body	University of East Anglia (UEA)
Level of Award	Undergraduate
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	N/A
Credit Structure	360 Credits Level 4: 120 Credits Level 5: 120 Credits Level 6: 120 Credits
Mode of Attendance	Full time
Standard Length of Course	3 years
Intended Award	BA (Hons)
Fall-back Awards	Unclassified Degree (BA) – 300 credits Diploma of Higher Education (Dip HE) – 240 credits Certificate of Higher Education (Cert HE) – 120 credits
Entry Requirements	80 UCAS points 36 Access credits at Merit or above Applicants will be advised to complete GCSE English and Maths alongside the degree programme If mature candidates do not have conventional level 3 qualifications (e.g. A levels or Access) in appropriate subjects, they will be invited for interview during which they will complete a piece of written work.
Delivering Institution(s)	City College Norwich
UCAS Code	C8L3

This Summary Programme Specification sets out the essential features and characteristics of the BA (Hons) Psychology and Sociology course.

Course Summary

The purpose of the course is to prepare students for careers in social work, social care, health care, education, human resources or management, psychology, or youth work.

Course Aims

The course aims to provide learners with a deep and current understanding of the social issues and experiences driving contemporary society, connecting them with research across the human social sciences which will increase their effectiveness in a variety of careers that involve social interaction. Students will develop a suite of career-focussed skills in a dedicated learning environment that offers smaller class sizes and closer pastoral support and personalised, active learning strategies than a large University campus is able to consistently offer. The team are all dedicated, qualified teaching professionals.

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Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from this 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)¹.

Psychology

- Recognise novel developments in psychology, including those that do not command consensus
- Understand relations between psychology and cognate disciplines
- Demonstrate facility and familiarity with empirical methodology through completion of an independent extended project
- Gain knowledge of conceptual and historical perspectives in psychology
- Apply multiple perspectives to psychological issues
- Integrate ideas and findings across the multiple perspectives in psychology and recognise distinctive psychological approaches to relevant issues
- Identify and evaluate general patterns of behaviour, psychological functioning and experience
- Understand and investigate the role of brain function in all human behaviour and experience
- Generate and explore hypotheses and research questions
- Carry out empirical studies involving a variety of methods of data collection, including experiments, observation, psychometric tests, questionnaires, interviews and field studies
- Analyse data using both quantitative and qualitative method
- Present and evaluate research findings
- Employ evidence-based reasoning and examine practical, theoretical and ethical issues associated with the use of different methodologies, paradigms and methods of analysis in psychology
- Use a variety of psychometric tools
- Carry out an extensive piece of independent empirical research

Sociology

- Knowledge of key concepts and theoretical approaches within sociology
- Awareness of social context, the nature of social processes and of social diversity and inequality
- Understanding of the value of comparative analysis
- Understanding of the relationship between individuals, groups and social institutions
- Understanding of the role of culture in social life
- Understanding of the social processes underpinning social change
- Understanding of a range of qualitative and quantitative research strategies and methods
- Understanding of the relationship between sociological arguments and evidence

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- Awareness of the distinctive character of sociology in relation to other forms of understanding
- The ability to formulate and investigate sociologically informed questions
- Competence in using major theoretical perspectives and concepts in sociology and their application
- The capacity to analyse, assess and communicate empirical sociological information
- The ability to identify a range of qualitative and quantitative research strategies and methods and comment on their relative advantages and disadvantages
- The ability to conduct sociological research in a preliminary way
- The ability to undertake and present scholarly work
- The ability to understand the ethical implications of sociological enquiry
- The ability to recognise the relevance of sociological knowledge to social, public and civil policy

Course Design

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

QAA Benchmark

Psychology

The course will:

- aim to produce a scientific understanding of the mind, brain, behaviour and experience, and of the complex interactions between these
- present multiple perspectives in a way that fosters critical evaluation
- lead to an understanding of real life applications of theory to the full range of experience and behaviour
- develop an understanding of the role of empirical evidence in the creation and constraint of theory, and also in how theory guides the collection and interpretation of empirical data
- include the acquisition and knowledge of a range of research skills and methods for investigating experience and behaviour, culminating in an ability to conduct research independently
- I develop knowledge, leading to an ability to appreciate and critically evaluate theory, research findings, and applications.

Sociology

The course will cover:

- the relationship between individuals and groups
- social action and social structure
- biography and history
- social institutions and culture
- the underpinnings of social order
- social inequality and conflict
- diverse cultural practices, and the causes and consequences of social change.

Professional Standards

Psychology

On graduating with an honours degree in psychology, students should be able to:

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- communicate effectively. Effective communication involves developing a cogent argument supported by relevant evidence and being sensitive to the needs and expectations of an audience. This is accomplished through specific demands to write both essays and scientific-style reports, and through experience in making oral presentations to groups. The standard of written language should be at an acceptable standard with respect to grammar, punctuation and spelling
- comprehend and use data effectively. This is accomplished through the significant core of research training in a psychology degree that acquaints graduates with understanding, analysing and presenting complex data sets
- be computer literate. Psychology students are introduced to, and become familiar with, computers early in their training and will display, at the very least, skill in the use of word processing, databases and statistical software packages
- retrieve and organise information effectively. Psychology graduates will be familiar with collecting and organising stored information found in library book and journal collections, and in computer and internet sources
- handle primary source material critically
- engage in effective teamwork
- problem-solve and reason scientifically. The research process, which is at the centre of studying psychology, enables graduates to identify and pose research questions, to consider alternative approaches to their solutions and to evaluate outcomes
- make critical judgements and evaluations. The need to take different perspectives on issues and problems, and to evaluate them in a critical and sceptical manner to arrive at supported conclusions, is emphasised and taught throughout a psychology degree. The importance of looking for similarities and general principles to increase the power of the analysis is also stressed
- be sensitive to contextual and interpersonal factors. The complexity of the factors that shape behaviour and social interaction will be familiar to psychology graduates and will make them more aware of the basis of problems and interpersonal conflict. They should also be more sensitive to the importance of enhancing cooperation to maximise the effectiveness of individual skills as shown in group work and team-building
- use effectively personal planning and project management skills, becoming more independent and pragmatic as learners. Taking responsibility for one's own learning and skill development is increasingly expected throughout a psychology degree, where an emphasis on learning to learn is stressed. In particular, psychology degrees normally culminate in the completion of an independent, empirical inquiry where a pragmatic approach to a time-limited project is required.

Sociology

Sociology students will develop transferable skills in the following areas:

- learning and study skills
- written and oral communication skills in a variety of contexts and modes
- statistical and other quantitative techniques
- information retrieval skills in relation to primary and secondary sources of information
- communication and information technology skills
- skills of time planning and management
- group work skills

Course Structure

This course comprises modules at levels 4, 5 and 6. Each year entails a blend of core modules (that all HE students take; keep in mind these are focussed primarily on psychology and sociology content), humanities modules (that all humanities students follow), psychology, and

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sociology modules. A revalidation of the course is anticipated in 2018-2019 which may mean there are changes to these advertised modules at Levels 5 & 6 (for students commencing study in September 2018).

Module Specifications for each of these modules will be made available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

The below modules are subject to revalidation in 1819.

	Core Modules	Credits	Module Type
Level 4			
	Higher Learning Skills This module provides an introduction to the skills required for successful study at degree level.	20	
Level 5			
	Preparation for Work and Research The first part of this module is devoted to researching future employment, preparing CVs and interview practice. The second part of the module develops your research skills so that you can identify a suitable topic for your dissertation	20	
Level 6			
	Dissertation In many ways, this will be the culmination of your degree course. You will research and write a dissertation on a subject of your own choice, with support from a supervisor.	40	

	Humanities Modules		
Level 4			
	The Evolution of Western Society: from Plato to Freud This module will provide a broad introduction to historical periods and major turning points in Western society.	20	
	The Mind in Society This wide-ranging module will introduce the intellectual movements and thinkers who have shaped ideas of individual consciousness and social systems.	20	

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	Psychology Modules	Credits	Module Type
Level 4			
	Cognitive and Biological Psychology: This module introduces students to the two dominant sub-disciplines in modern psychology. The cognitive component focusses on processes such as memory and attention whereas the biological section clarifies brain anatomy and function.	20	
	Self, Psychology and Society This module constitutes an introduction to fundamental social psychology processes such as social influence, social perception and cognition, and the self.	20	
Level 5			
	Lifespan Psychology The change in psychological processes and functioning throughout all stages of the lifespan.	20	
	Mental Health and Positive Psychology This module serves as an introduction to the study of mental illness and treatment, and the positive psychology movement which aims to optimise human functioning in all people (rather than treat mental illness).	20	
	Statistical Analysis Provides students with essential skills in carrying out research and identifying the research design principles present in the psychology and sociology literatures.	20	
Level 6			
	Risk and Decision Making Takes a cognitive psychology approach in exploring human decision making and engagement with risk in different applied settings (e.g., health, at work etc.)	20	
	Language and Communication This module approaches the subject from a cognitive and biological perspective, addressing the way the	20	

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	developing person acquires language and its constituent elements.		
	Clinical Psychology Building on the Mental Health module (Level 5), the focus is on less prevalent and more complex disorders such as personality disorders and schizophrenia- and the treatment thereof.	20	

	Sociology Modules	Credits	Module Type
Level 4			
	The Sociological Imagination Introduces students to the building blocks of social theory (founding fathers, macro, and micro-theories) along with the fundamental perspectives and attitudes towards research that go along with this.	20	
Level 5			
	The Individual and Society Considers the mutually influencing relationship between personal lives and wider social processes, with a particular focus on the development of identity.	20	
	Social Divisions and Inequalities Entails a study of the unequal divisions of resources and capital in human life and how this impacts social experience across different cultural and applied (e.g., education) settings.	20	
Level 6			
	Race, Racism and Cultural Identity The focus here is on social constructions around race and ethnicity, and how these are shaping the contemporary social world. A case study approach is incorporated into the module.	20	

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a BA (Hons) Psychology with Sociology. Although the structure of the course may alter following revalidation in July 2019, the current model is that students complete 20 credits of core modules, 40 of humanities modules, 40 of psychology modules, and 20 of sociology modules in Level 4, with a breakdown of 20 core / 60 psychology / 40 sociology at Level 5, and 40 core / 60 psychology / 20 sociology at Level 6.

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Course Delivery

Delivery will be across three terms of ten weeks each. For a 20-credit module, there will be thirty sessions of 90 minutes each, which may be delivered across one, two or three terms. Each class contains a mixture of formal lecturing, class discussions, small group work and other activity-based learning.

In addition to the classroom time, students on a 20-credit module are expected to devote around 150 hours to private study, spread across the teaching weeks, plus the assignment preparation and submission period. This will involve reading primary and secondary material for seminars, devising formative class papers as an individual or in a group, locating appropriate secondary sources and eventually working on assessment by exams, essays, reports, presentations etc.

Course Assessment

Essays, exams, portfolios, presentations, professional conversations, reports with data, case study work, posters, videos, magazine articles, and Dissertation.

Course Team

The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute.

Course Costs

The tuition fees that new students pay will be fixed for the duration of the course and will not be subject to any further increases.

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Course Fees & Eligibility Statement and Rules and Regulations.

Students are likely to incur other costs for books, printing and other learning materials they may choose to buy and the cost incurred for printing two copies of their final year dissertation as well as a small charge for printing an academic poster in the second year (under £10). The annual cost for books, printing and other study resources is unlikely to exceed one hundred pounds. The cost of travel for some extra-curricular offerings (trips) may be requested from students, for example students were asked this year to contribute £10 towards the cost of a coach trip to London.

Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Norfolk Regulatory Framework and other academic policies and procedures of the College as published on Blackboard and in course handbooks.