

**City College Norwich  
Higher Education: Programme Summary Specification**

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

<b>Course Title</b>	Psychology with Sociology
<b>Awarding Body</b>	University of East Anglia
<b>Level of Award</b>	BA (Hons)
<b>Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition</b>	n/a
<b>Credit Structure</b>	360 credits (120 and each of Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6)
<b>Mode of Attendance</b>	Full Time
<b>Standard Length of Course</b>	3 years
<b>Intended Award</b>	BA (Hons) Psychology with Sociology
<b>Fall-back Awards</b>	Certificate of Higher Education 120 credits Level 4 Diploma of Higher Education 240 credits Level 5
<b>Entry Requirements</b>	80 UCAS points / 30 credits @ Merit on Access Students with non-traditional qualifications will be interviewed and assessed on their merits. The interview will include a written task and discussion of the work.
<b>Delivering Institution(s)</b>	City College Norwich
<b>UCAS Code</b>	C8L3

## Course Summary

This programme provides a grounding in the social sciences of Psychology and Sociology. It is suited to a range of careers where employers are looking for graduates with a wide range of skills and knowledge such as handling data and statistics, critical thinking and synthesising ideas. A Bachelor's degree might lead directly into many careers, including marketing, advertising and childcare. It is also a vital part of training for work in counselling and psychology related professions.

The Psychology modules explore a wide range of approaches and questions: behaviourism, humanism, psychodynamic approaches, cognitive and biological psychology. How do inner psychological processes lead to the development of language, for example, or to our likelihood of committing crime? Critical thinking is encouraged so students can recognise the strengths and weaknesses of applying the approaches in a range of contexts. Organically complementing these modules' focus on the inner workings of the human mind, the companion Sociology modules move outside us into the wider world, in order to explore how society itself functions and changes – and how it may or may not shape us. How, for example, do social trends relating to class, race and gender impact our life-courses? Or how do sociological developments like the rise of the city or the mass media impact our actions and our interactions with each other? On the other hand, to what extent are larger social trends the product of our actions, rather than forces shaping them from above? We will study a range of classic and modern sociological perspectives, applying and analysing their usefulness to understanding contemporary social issues such as crime, poverty and racism.

The particular combination of Psychology and Sociology you study at City College Norwich will facilitate you to reach as complete as possible an understanding of the situation of the individual amidst the unique challenges of the twenty-first century.

## Course Aims

Our degree programme has been designed with due regard to nationally recognised standards, such as the QAA Code of Practice and QAA Benchmarks, as well as our own institutional guidelines such as the Norfolk Regulatory Framework and CCN Quality Assurance Processes.

In Psychology, by the end of the programme you will be able to:

- 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 methods
- 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

In Sociology, on successful completion of the programme you will have shown:

- 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
- 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 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

This course comprises modules at levels 4, 5 and 6.

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

Each year of the programme contains a core module, focusing on skills development, as well as a range of subject specific modules. These are designed to explore both the history, as well as the application of both Psychology and Sociology, as well as the theoretical approaches required for successful study of the two disciplines.

## Modules

Year 1 – Level 4 Modules		
Module Title	Credit Value	Module Summary (including associated assessments)
<b>Higher Learning Skills</b>	20	<p>This module is designed to enable participants to identify and develop skills for successful higher education study and transferable employability skills. Delivery and assessment is designed to develop study skills through personal reflection and the identification of personal goals and communication skills.</p> <p>The skills are core to any undergraduate programmes.</p> <p>Assessment: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group Presentation</li> <li>• Journal</li> </ul>
<b>Introduction to Sociology</b>	20	<p>Sociology as a discipline focuses on the relations that connect individuals, groups and institutions within societies. This module introduces students to key principles and theories of sociology and explores the specific contribution of sociology to understanding the past, present and possible future of modern societies.</p> <p>The module begins by introducing students to the foundational theories of Karl Marx, Emile Durkheim and Max Weber. Students will examine how these thinkers analyse work, power and politics, as well as how they each seek to explain and remedy the social and psychological burdens placed on individuals by living in modern societies. Students will then explore and critique contemporary sociological theories, exploring in detail specific examples of sociological theory and research relating to key social developments from the mid nineteenth-century all the way to the 2020s, including the rise of the city, the rise of the mass media and our increasing proclivity for living life digitally.</p> <p>Assessment: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essay 1</li> <li>• Essay 2</li> </ul>
<b>Introduction to Psychology</b>	20	<p>The aim of this module is to provide students with an understanding of the key theoretical psychological approaches. Students will be introduced to behaviourism, psychodynamic theory, humanism and cognitive psychology. They will be supported to identify the strengths and limitations of the methods of enquiry used by these approaches.</p>

		<p>Assessment: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essay</li> </ul>
<b>Cognitive and Biological Psychology</b>	20	<p>An individual's experience of the world is an interpretation based on many cognitive processes being carried out by the brain. This module enables students to appreciate the history and breadth of Cognitive Psychology and to achieve a broad understanding of cognition and how we process information about the world by introducing major issues underpinning Cognitive Psychology. The module will emphasise the core role of empirical research in developing cognitive theory.</p> <p>Students will be given the opportunity to prepare materials for research in three areas of Cognitive Psychology (for example, Attention, Perception, Memory).</p> <p>The Biological theme introduces and consolidates knowledge concerning the anatomy, physiology and functions of the central and peripheral nervous systems in humans including the brain. It highlights established and emergent findings from the sphere of neuroscience which offer ways of comprehending the relationship between brain, behaviour, and psychological processes.</p> <p>Assessment: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Portfolio</li> <li>• Exam</li> </ul>
<b>Social Psychology</b>	20	<p>This module provides an introduction to Social Psychology. It seeks to make students aware of psychological explanations of human behaviour in a social context. The module will enable students to understand how certain behaviours can be shaped by different social contexts and events.</p> <p>Assessment: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essay</li> </ul>
<b>Childhood Psychology</b>	20	<p>This module will provide an introduction to Developmental Psychology via examining psychological approaches surrounding childhood.</p> <p>This module will make students aware of the multiple natures of psychological explanations regarding human development.</p> <p>The module will enable students to understand how development can be shaped by different social contexts and psychological events (the family, peers, society, biology, cognitions) and the impact of these on cognitive and emotional development.</p> <p>Assessment: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essay</li> <li>• Presentation</li> </ul>

**Year 2 – Level 5 Modules**

<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credit Value</b>	<b>Module Summary (including associated assessments)</b>
<b>Research Skills</b>	20	<p>This module is designed to enable students to further develop the learning and development skills introduced in the Higher Learning Skills module in Year 1. It provides the opportunity for students to focus on practice-based research and evaluation skills.</p> <p>The module will develop an appreciation of methodological approaches and critical thinking skills appropriate to the subject area. This will provide a foundation for research at level 6.</p> <p>Assessment: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essay</li> <li>• Research Proposal</li> </ul>
<b>Data Analysis</b>	20	<p>This module will prepare students with the knowledge and practical skills to analyse qualitative and quantitative data in preparation for future work and independent study. Students will apply knowledge gained through analysis and interpretation of data using appropriate techniques, including software such as SPSS.</p> <p>Assessment: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essay</li> <li>• Exam</li> </ul>
<b>Media, Crime and Deviance</b>	20	<p>This module will use sociological theory in order to explore key arguments regarding what constitutes deviant and criminal behaviour, as well as how the media influences our perception of deviant and criminal behaviour.</p> <p>The module begins by providing a broad overview of sociological theories relating to the media, crime, deviance and the relationships between these, before proceeding through a series of focussed case-studies exploring the media's treatment of specific sorts of crime and/or deviance, such as gendered crimes, cyber-crime, civil disobedience, etc, all the time looking to critically evaluate key arguments about the role of the media in society and the influence the media may or may not hold through the way in which it presents stories of crime and deviance to the wider public.</p> <p>Assessment: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essay</li> <li>• Presentation</li> </ul>
<b>Social Divisions and Inequalities</b>	20	<p>This module considers the dynamics of inequality and difference in the contemporary world, focusing on the interplay of divisions of class, gender, ethnicity and age. The module develops three key themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuity and change in patterns of social inequality</li> </ul>

		<p>and identity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The developing economic, political and cultural context in which social divisions exist</li> <li>• The relationship between material inequalities and social and political identities</li> </ul> <p>After a broad conceptual introduction, the module will be structured around a series of case studies of contemporary social division, following on from exploring classic social divisions relating to Class, Gender and Race/Ethnicity before moving onto more recent subjects of sociological focus, such as Health and Disability and LGBT+.</p> <p>Assessment: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essay</li> <li>• Presentation</li> </ul>
<b>Mental Health and Wellbeing</b>	20	<p>This module spans a wide range of applied psychological research, theory, and practice regarding the promotion of physical and mental health and the treatment of illness. The core themes include health psychology, behavioural medicine, and mental illness.</p> <p>In addition to mental and physical health, the module covers key concepts concerning the origin, presentation, and treatment of relatively common and prevalent mental illnesses such as anxiety, depression, and addiction. Learners will gain a broad-based introduction to the social and cultural issues surrounding the treatment of mental illness such as stigma and diagnosis.</p> <p>With reference to behavioural approaches, this module aims to provide students with an understanding and critical evaluation of the science of experimental behaviour analysis and interventions to treat problem behaviours of social significance. Throughout lectures, the continuity between research and applied intervention will be emphasised and examples examined of modern advances in these areas.</p> <p>Assessment: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation</li> <li>• Essay</li> </ul>
<b>Human Lifespan, Development and Personality</b>	20	<p>This module provides students with an understanding of differing yet integrated explanations of human development and changing identity and personality across the lifespan.</p> <p>The following psychological explanations of human development and changing identity will be explored: psychodynamic; behaviourist; social; biological, and cognitive.</p> <p>In addition, the impact of broader socio-cultural issues that</p>

		<p>potentially impact on human development and changing identity will be considered.</p> <p>Assessment: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essay 1</li> <li>• Essay 2</li> </ul>
<b>Year 3 – Level 6 Modules</b>		
<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credit Value</b>	<b>Module Summary (including associated assessments)</b>
<b>Dissertation (Psychology and Sociology)</b>	40	<p>This module allows students to work on an academic research project or essay of their own choosing, using appropriate research tools. Each student will be allocated a supervisor who will advise on choice of topic and on the progress of the work. Students will be encouraged to use the research project or essay as a summative exercise through which to evaluate their own academic progress during the degree programme.</p> <p>The dissertation may take the form of either a discursive and evaluative essay or a data-based project. Learners completing a project will be given an opportunity to envisage, design and implement a piece of research that will entail collecting, analysing and interpreting original data in the light of extant knowledge. This process will connect the learner to the applied nature of psychology and sociology study and the occupational experience of researchers. It will also provide them with practical skills in participant recruitment, research ethics and design, project management, data analysis and communication that will galvanise their employability profile.</p> <p>Assessment: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extended Essay / Investigative Report</li> <li>• Presentation of Proposal</li> </ul>
<b>Psychology and Crime</b>	20	<p>This module aims to provide students with core knowledge and understanding of approaches to explaining criminal behaviour and its impact upon individuals and society. Moreover, it will give an account of psychological factors that help explain crime at both a general level and in terms of specific offences. It looks at how crime commission, crime detection and crime reduction are influenced by psychological factors.</p> <p>The possible relationships between psychology and crime have generated a significant amount of public interest in recent years (which is manifested in examples such as the proliferation of films, TV programmes and books on issues such as serial murder). This module will explore some of the ways in which psychological perspectives contribute to the day-to-day operation of Criminal Justice and our engagements with both perpetrators and victims of crime.</p>



		<p>Assessment: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exam</li> </ul>
<b>Clinical and Abnormal Psychology</b>	20	<p>This module considers the definition, assessment, diagnosis and treatment of a range of abnormal psychological conditions, including those that may result in criminal behaviour.</p> <p>Particular categories of severe disorders such as psychosis, personality disorder, psychopathy and multiple personality presentation will be studied in order to critically evaluate their precipitating causes, diagnosis and prognosis.</p> <p>This module will be of value to a range of students including those working on dissertations in the area of 'abnormal psychology' or who wish to go on to do a taught or research degree in this area; aspiring Mental Health Nurses or Specialist Assistant Therapeutic Practitioners. It will also be of value to those seeking employment in the Criminal Justice Sector.</p> <p>Assessment: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exam</li> </ul>
<b>Language and Communication</b>	20	<p>Language is often presented as the pinnacle of human thinking. This course looks at the study of human language from the recognition and representation of words to the structure and meaning of utterances and the processing of discourse. We consider what, if anything, makes language unique both as a cognitive process and as a species-specific ability. The module will cover the psycholinguistic study of language and the theoretical underpinnings provided by theories of linguistics and the representation of meaning at the level of the word, sentence and discourse. With regard to other forms of thinking students will examine human problem solving, reasoning and decision making, looking at the different approaches that have been taken to understanding and modelling these processes. Students also consider reasoning in the laboratory and the real world and ask how human reasoning differs from idealized accounts provided by theories of logic and probability. Having introduced the basic concepts involved in the study of language and thought we consider the relationship between the two.</p> <p>Assessment: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essay</li> <li>• Exam</li> </ul>

<b>'Race', Racism and Cultural Identity</b>	20	<p>This module provides an in-depth exploration of the sociology of 'race', racism and cultural identity. It considers three related themes: the social origins and significance of racial and ethnic divisions; the (varied) causes, contexts and consequences of racism and antiracism; and the cultural consequences of migration. Each theme will be developed using a combination of theory, research findings and case study material. Although the primary substantive focus of the module will be on race relations in contemporary Britain, insights will be drawn from historical and international comparisons. The module explores sociologically current questions of 'race' politics and policy to include the collection and use of racialised data in the criminal justice system (the significance of 'race' categories); debates about the usefulness of the concept of institutional racism (sociology of racism); and globalised Islam (migration and identity).</p> <p>Assessment: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essay</li> </ul>
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## Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a BA (Hons) Psychology with Sociology degree

## Course Delivery

The full BA programme will run over 3 years with students attending in person two days per week. Each 20-credit module will contain 45 hours of lectures/tutorials with students expected to undertake around 152 hours of private study. Students also receive 3 hours of personal tutoring per year. Students will complete 120 credits per academic year and therefore the programme will be full time.

The course is mainly delivered at School of Higher Education, City College Norwich, Norfolk House, Exchange Street, Norwich.

## Course Assessment

All modules are assessed at the end of the term and some modules have additional mid-term assignments. We use various assessment methods, including examinations, essays, reports, presentations, portfolios, dissertations and projects.

## 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. This should amount to a total of not more than £300 per year.