

BSc (Hons) Educational Psychology

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Awarding institution	Bath Spa University
Teaching institution	Bath Spa University
School	Sciences
Department	Psychology
Main campus	Newton Park
Other sites of delivery	N/A
Other Schools involved in delivery	Education
Name of award(s)	Educational Psychology
Qualification (final award)	BSc (Hons)
Intermediate awards available	CertHE, DipHE
Routes available	Single
Sandwich year	Optional

Duration of award	3 years full-time, 4 years with Professional Placement Year 6 years part time
Modes of delivery offered	Campus-based
Regulatory Scheme[1]	Undergraduate Academic Framework
Exemptions from regulations/framework[2]	Yes
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body accreditation	British Psychological Society (BPS)
Date of most recent PSRB approval (month and year)	September 2021
Renewal of PSRB approval due (month and year)	April 2022
UCAS code	Course: DP10, or DP11 with PPY
Route code (SITS)	
Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements (including date of publication)	Psychology (2019)
Date of most recent approval	December 2020
Date specification last updated	January 2025

[1] This should also be read in conjunction with the University's Qualifications Framework

[2] See section on 'Exemptions'

Exemptions

The following exemptions are in place:

Programme/Pathway	Regulations/Framework	Brief description of variance	Approving body and date
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BSc (Hons) Educational Psychology	Undergraduate Academic Framework	Exemption to depart from Framework, paragraph 1.8	Curriculum Committee - 16 December, 2020

Programme Overview

Our multidisciplinary Educational Psychology degree looks at learning within the wider world, across diversity in both context and individuals. Nurturing an interest in education and a deep concern for social justice, this course uses the lens of psychology to explore the psychological, social, cultural, and economic contexts of education including local, national and international policy and practice. As part of the core psychology accredited programme, you will have the opportunity to learn about behaviour from a range of perspectives (e.g., biological, cognitive, social, and developmental) and to develop skills in psychological methodologies, culminating in a final year dissertation project. This core programme is supported by modules addressing core ideas, methods, and issues in the field of education as well as modules specific to the field of Educational Psychology.

Informed by our Centre for Research in Early Childhood, the Psychology Centre for Health and Cognition, and building upon our scholarship in psychology and education, within this course you will have the opportunity to discover the science of learning as it relates to both groups and individuals and gain the research skills to investigate and generate new knowledge in the field.

This programme has professionalism and applied psychology at its core. Throughout the curriculum, and particularly within the embedded placement opportunity, the course will help students identify their professional aspirations and actively nurture them with independent learning and opportunities for reflection. The programme provides eligibility for the Graduate Basis for Chartership with the British Psychological Society, provided the student achieves a 2.2 overall and passes the final year dissertation. Graduates will have the knowledge and skills for further studies or employment within the education psychology sector and beyond.

Programme Aims

1. To engage learners in an exploration of the psychological, social, cultural, historical, political and economic contexts of education.
2. To access multiple psychological perspectives in a way that fosters critical evaluation and reflection, particularly of education.
3. To equip students with scientific understanding of the mind, brain, behaviour and experience, and how they interact with the complex environments in which they exist.
4. To arm students with a range of research skills and methods for investigating experience and behaviour, culminating in an ability to conduct psychological and education research independently.
5. To engage students with 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.
6. Develop knowledge of psychology, leading to an appreciation of theory and research findings, including relevant ethical and socio-cultural issues, and their application to education.
7. To equip learners with an understanding of real life applications of psychological theory to the full range of human experience and behaviour.
8. Develop the knowledge & skills that enable progression to a range of employment or postgraduate study in related applied psychological and educational contexts.

Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

A Subject-Specific Skills and Knowledge

Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)	On Achieving Level 5	On Achieving Level 4
On Achieving Level 6		

A1	A systematic understanding and application of multiple contexts and perspectives of education and psychological issues, utilising approaches chosen from a range of research methods, theories, evidence and applications to relevant issues.	Knowledge and critical understanding and relevant application of multiple context and perspectives to education and psychological issues, recognising that Psychology involves a range of research methods, theories, evidence and applications to relevant issues.	Knowledge of the underlying context, concepts and principles across the multiple perspectives associated with education and psychological issues, recognising that Psychology involves a range of research methods, theories, evidence and applications.
A2	An ability to deploy coherent integration of ideas and findings from across the multiple perspectives and distinctive psychological approaches and educational practices.	Ability to apply underlying psychological concepts and principles outside the context in which they were studied, and demonstrate critical understanding of how educational practices relate to learners in a range of contexts.	Knowledge of psychological approaches to relevant issues and education practices.
A3	Conceptual understanding to identify and evaluate patterns in behaviour, psychological functioning and experience to devise and sustain arguments within the context of Educational Psychology.	Identify and evaluate patterns in behaviour, psychological functioning and experience to devise and sustain arguments within the context of Educational Psychology.	Knowledge of patterns in behaviour, psychological functioning and experience within the context of Educational Psychology.
A4	The ability to generate and explore and test hypotheses and research questions drawing on relevant psychological theory and research to critically evaluate particular aspects of current research within the context of Educational Psychology.	Knowledge of the main methods of enquiry in psychology, including the generation and exploration of hypotheses and research questions, drawing on relevant psychological theory and research to describe and comment upon the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems within the context of Educational Psychology	Knowledge of the main methods of enquiry in psychology, including the ability to explore different approaches to research questions drawing on relevant psychological theory and research within the context of Educational Psychology

A5	The ability to evaluate established techniques of analysis and enquiry to analyse, present and evaluate quantitative and qualitative data leading to sound judgements in accordance with theories and concepts of the study of psychology and education.	An ability to present, deploy and interpret qualitative and quantitative data and evaluate research findings to develop lines of argument and make sound judgements in accordance with theories and concepts of the study of psychology and education.	Ability to present and interpret qualitative and quantitative data and evaluate research findings to develop lines of argument in accordance with theories and concepts of the study of psychology and education.
A6	Systematically employ evidence-based reasoning and examine practical, theoretical and ethical issues associated with the range of methodologies used in psychological research within the context of Educational Psychology	Critically examine practical, theoretical and ethical issues associated with the range of methodologies used in psychological research within the context of Educational Psychology.	Employ evidence-based reasoning and examine practical, theoretical and ethical issues within the context of Educational Psychology.
A7	The ability to use a variety of psychological tools, including specialist software, laboratory equipment and psychometric instruments, applying psychological knowledge ethically and safely to real world problems with an appreciation of the and limits of knowledge.	Ability to use a variety of psychological tools, including specialist software, laboratory equipment and psychometric instruments, applying psychological knowledge ethically and safely.	Use a variety of psychological tools, including specialist software, laboratory equipment and psychometric instruments.
A8	The ability to systematically and critically evaluate education and psychological theory and research within the context of Educational Psychology.	Understanding of the limits of own knowledge of education and psychological theory and research, and how this influences evaluations, analyses and interpretations based on that knowledge within the context of Educational Psychology.	Ability to evaluate education and psychological theory and research within the context of Educational Psychology.

B Cognitive and Intellectual Skills

	Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) On Achieving Level 6	On Achieving Level 5	On Achieving Level 4
B1	The ability to manage your own learning, and to make use of scholarly reviews and primary sources and to carry out an extensive piece of empirical research that requires you individually to demonstrate a range of research skills including planning.	The ability to critically apply information from primary resources.	Ability to retrieve information for a variety of sources (e.g. books, journals etc), within the context of Educational Psychology.
B2	The ability to manage their own development and training to acquire new statistical skills to a professional standard.	The ability to critically apply statistical and analytical software packages within the study of Educational Psychology.	Demonstrate numerical reasoning skills and have knowledge of statistical and analytical software packages and their use within Educational Psychology.
B3	Ability to identify and evaluate trustworthy sources to extend knowledge and understanding, applying the concept to your own research	Ability to identify and evaluate trustworthy sources to extend knowledge and understanding.	Ability to understand why some sources may be more trustworthy than others.
B4	Ability to create coherent and persuasive academic arguments that are grounded in recognisable paradigms and present these accurately and reliably, with structured and coherent arguments to specialist and non-specialist audiences.	Ability to create coherent and persuasive academic arguments. Effectively communicate information, arguments and analysis in a variety of forms to specialist and non-specialist audiences and deploy key techniques of the discipline.	Ability to present structured academic arguments using principles associated with the discipline of Educational Psychology.

B5	The ability to apply analytic and problem solving skills to provide solutions to contemporary issues within Educational Psychology and to adapt solutions to changing circumstances.	The ability to critically evaluate contemporary issues within Educational psychology and propose solutions to problem.	Knowledge of contemporary issues and the ability to evaluate different approaches to problem solving within Educational Psychology
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C Skills for Life and Work

	On achieving Level 6 you will be able to:	On achieving Level 5 you will be able to:	On achieving Level 4 you will be able to:
C1	Work Independently Exercise initiative, independence and personal responsibility to manage your own learning and time.	Work Independently Exercise independence and personal responsibility to manage your own learning and time.	Work Independently Manage your own learning and time.
C2	Work with Others Work collaboratively with others to achieve individual and common goals, solve problems creatively and build interpersonal relationships to flourish in a global workplace.	Work with Others Work collaboratively with others to achieve individual and common goals, solve problems creatively.	Work with Others Work collaboratively with others.
C3	Communicate with Impact Communicate clearly, effectively and impactfully with specialist and non-specialist audiences.	Communicate with Impact Communicate clearly and effectively with others.	Communicate with Impact Communicate accurately and reliably with others.

	Demonstrate Digital Fluency	Demonstrate Digital Fluency	Demonstrate Digital Fluency
C4	Use digital skills productively, critically and ethically to enhance creativity and communication.	Use digital skills productively, critically and ethically.	Use digital skills productively.

Programme content

This programme comprises the following modules

Key:

Core = C

Required = R

Required* = R*

Optional = O

Not available for this status = N/A

If a particular status is greyed out, it is not offered for this programme.

Subject offered as single award

[Name of subject]				Status	
Level	Code	Title	Credits	Single	Joint
4	PSY4010-20	Introduction to Psychology (BPS)	20	C	
4	PSY4011-20	Research Methods in Psychology1 (BPS)	20	C	

4	PSY4012-20	Individual differences - personality and intelligence (BPS)	20	C	
4	EDU4000-20	Education for Change	20	C	
4	EDU4101-20	Controversial Issues in Special and Inclusive Education	20	C	
4	EDP4001-20	Introduction to Educational Psychology	20	C	
5	PSY5104-20	Research Methods in Psychology 2 (BPS)	20	C	
5	PSY5105-20	Cognitive and Developmental Psychology (BPS)	20	C	
5	PSY5106-20	Biological and Social Psychology (BPS)	20	C	
5	EDU5101-20	Supporting Learners with Additional Needs	20	C	
5	EDU5003-20	Professional Practice in Schools	20	C	
5	EDU5103-20	Environment and Education	20	R*	
5	EDU5105-20	Youth in Society - Power, Politics and Participation	20	R*	
5	EDU5114-20	Education, Social Inequalities, & Social Justice	20	R*	
5	PPY5100-120	Professional Placement Year	120	O	
6	PSY6013-40	Dissertation (BPS)	40	C	
6	PSY6010-20	Contemporary Application of Psychological Science (BPS)	20	C	
6	EDU6105-20	Health, Education and Wellbeing	20	R*	
6	EDU6107-20	Professional Practice: Supporting the Dyslexic Learner	20	R*	
6	EDP6001-20	Advanced Educational Psychology	20	C	
6	EDU6113-20	Social and Educational Inclusion	20	C	

Assessment methods

A range of summative assessment tasks will be used to test the Intended Learning Outcomes in each module. These are indicated in the attached assessment map which shows which tasks are used in which modules.

Students will be supported in their development towards summative assessment by appropriate formative exercises.

Please note: if you choose an optional module from outside this programme, you may be required to undertake a summative assessment task that does not appear in the assessment grid here in order to pass that module.

Work experience and placement opportunities

All students have the option of a 'sandwich year' placement (PPY5100-120) in your second year of study, but we also have formal, embedded opportunities as well:

At level 5, the following work experience and placement opportunities are available to Educational Psychology students:

- On the core module, EDU5101 *Professional Practice in Education*, you must complete a compulsory placement in an education setting. You must have DBS clearance for this placement.

At level 6, the following work experience and placement opportunities are available to Educational Psychology students:

- On the optional module, EDU6107 *Professional Practice: Supporting the Dyslexic Learner*, you can complete a placement in working towards the Accredited Learning Support Assistant qualification

Additional Costs Table

Module Code & Title	Type of Cost	Cost
EDU6107-20	DBS certificate & Update Service (if required)	£30-40 + £13 per year
EDU5103-20 Environment and Education	Professional and regulatory fees	For the optional additional accredited course: DBS certificate and Update Service subscription required (£30-40 + £13 per year); transport costs to attend placements; payment of accredited course fees, indicative amount approx. £200.

Graduate Attributes

Graduate Attribute	While at Bath Spa, I will develop my ability to:	This programme will help me to do this through:
Confidently Self-Aware	Reflect on and recognise my unique skills, strengths, and values and be able to apply and articulate them in a range of different contexts.	Teaching you how to critically reflect on your skills development throughout your degree journey and beyond. You will have an opportunity to learn to work with and listen to others and reflect on the unique skills and values that you contribute to individual and team projects. You will learn how to identify, reflect upon, and describe your knowledge and skills in verbal and written communications.

Emotionally Attuned	Be mindful of how my actions and emotions impact those around me so I can better navigate difficult situations and build effective interpersonal relationships.	Giving you the opportunity to learn to work with your peers in group projects, learning how to navigate relationships in a professional context. You will learn how to address and solve problems, reflecting on your emotions and behaviours, and how you can work with others to achieve goals.
Inclusive Collaborator	Contribute independently to collaborative projects while working effectively with others, valuing diversity and respecting individual differences.	Giving you the opportunity to learn to work with your peers in group projects, learning how to navigate relationships in a professional context. You will learn how to address and solve problems, reflecting on your emotions and behaviours, and how you can work with others to achieve goals.
Adaptable Innovator	Embrace challenges, taking risks where needed and applying individual and collective problem solving.	Giving students opportunities to think creatively and imaginatively in their interpretation and application of psychological knowledge. You will have the opportunity to engage in novel and challenging problem-solving activities, applying psychological knowledge and skills to address real world issues and problems, both individually and as part of a team.
Critical Thinker	Keep an open mind, ask curious questions and think creatively to gain a deeper and broader understanding of global perspectives and the world around me.	Teaching you to think critically, and to assess the validity, reliability, and veracity of the scientific literature that you read. You will learn how to write scientifically and accurately through a variety of assessment types including reports, essays, workbooks and presentations. You will be introduced to a variety of diverse perspectives in psychology and education and be encouraged to think critically and creatively about the contributions made by these disciplines to understanding global and contemporary issues.

Forward Thinker	Set goals, plan ahead and utilise resources to support my personal ambitions and achieve my own version of success.	Teaching you how to plan your time and workload to meet assignment deadlines. You will learn how to identify and work towards personal and professional goals, including career planning using specialist resources. You will have the opportunity to work towards professional accreditation by the British Psychological Society and learn about the variety of professional pathways available in Psychology and Education to enable effective career planning during your degree and beyond.
Ethical Leader	Act with empathy, making decisions grounded in ethical principles while advocating for sustainability and positive social change.	Teaching you about the ethical principles that underlie research and professional practice in Psychology and Education, for example, teaching you about how The British Psychological Society has a code of professional ethics that shapes our experimental and clinical practice. You will have an opportunity to learn how to design and report on investigations ethically and responsibly. You will learn how to apply psychological and pedagogical knowledge, skills and principles to contemporary social issues including how to address UN Sustainable Development Goals for positive social change.
Responsible Self-Starter	Be accountable for my actions and decisions while demonstrating creativity, proactivity, and a focus on solutions.	Teaching you to effectively use feedback to improve your work, proactively and flexibly planning to work towards future goals.
Compassionately Resilient	Respond to setbacks with a reflective and positive attitude, flexibility and a self-caring approach.	Giving you the opportunity to work with an academic advisor over the course of your degree to reflect on your strengths and how to improve personally and professionally, identifying setbacks and solutions.

Digitally Resourceful	Utilise and responsibly leverage existing and emerging technologies to solve problems and communicate.	Teaching you to use subject-specific software such as statistical packages, psychological databases, experimental suites and psychometric tests, to conduct research and communicate scientific findings to a range of audiences.
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Modifications

Module-level modifications

Code	Title	Nature of modification	Date(s) of approval and approving bodies	Date modification comes into effect
EDU5103-20	Environment and Education	New Module	Chair's Action May 2022	2022/2023
EDU5105-20	Youth in Society - Power, Politics and Participation	New Module	Chair's Action May 2022	2022/2023
EDU6100-20	Building Bridges: The Team Around the Child	Module Deletion	Chair's Action May 2022	2022/2023
EDU5104-20	Sociology of Education	Module Deletion	Chair's Action May 2022	2022/2023
EDU5106-20	Values, Philosophy, & Education	Module Deletion	Chair's Action May 2022	2022/2023
EDU6113-20	Social and Educational Inclusion	New Module	Sciences SQMC November 2022	2023/2024

PSY4011-20	Research Methods in Psychology 1 (BPS)	Changes to assessments and weightings.	Sciences SQMC March 2024	2024/2025
PSY4012-20	Individual Differences - Personality and Intelligence (BPS)	Assessment change	Sciences SQMC March 2024	2024/2025
PSY5106-20	Biological and Social Psychology (BPS)	Changes to ILOs and assessment	Sciences SQMC March 2024	2024/2025
PSY6107-20	Advanced Topics in Psychology	Assessment change	Sciences SQMC March 2024	2024/2025

Programme-level modifications

Nature of modification	Date(s) of approval and approving bodies	Date modification comes into effect
PSY6011-20 Dissertation 1 - Design and pre-registration (BPS) deleted	Curriculum Approval Panel December 2024	2025/26
PSY6012-20 Dissertation 2 - Research Report (BPS) deleted	Curriculum Approval Panel December 2024	2025/26
PSY6013-40 Dissertation (BPS) added as Core	Curriculum Approval Panel December 2024	2025/26

Attached as appendices:

1. Programme structure diagram
2. Map of module outcomes to level/programme outcomes
3. Assessment map
4. Module descriptors

Appendix 1: Programme Structure Diagram - BSc (Hons) Educational Psychology (Single Honours)

Single Honours	
Level 4	
Semester 1	Semester 2
Core Modules	
PSY4010-20 Introduction to Psychology (BPS) PSY4011-20 Research Methods in Psychology 1 (BPS) EDU4000-20 Education for Change	PSY4012-20 Individual differences - personality and intelligence (BPS) EDU4101-20 Controversial Issues in Special and Inclusive Education EDP4001-20 Introduction to Educational Psychology
Rule Notes: N/A	
Level 5	
Core Modules	
PSY5104-20 Research Methods in Psychology 2 (BPS) PSY5105-20 Cognitive and Developmental Psychology (BPS) EDU5101-20 Supporting Learners with Additional Needs	PSY5106-20 Biological and Social Psychology (BPS) EDU5003-20 Professional Practice in Schools
Required* Modules	
N/A	EDU5103-20 Environment and Education EDU5105-20 Youth in Society - Power, Politics and Participation EDU5114-20 Education, Social Inequalities, & Social Justice

Single Honours	
Rule Notes: Students must choose one Required* module in Semester 2	
Optional Professional Placement Year 120 credits	
Level 6	
Core Modules	
PSY6013-4 Dissertation (BPS)	
PSY6010-20 Contemporary Application of Psychological Science (BPS)	EDP6001-20 Advanced Educational Psychology EDU6113-20 Social and Educational Inclusion
Required* Modules	
EDU6105-20 Health, Education and Wellbeing EDU6107-20 Professional Practice: Supporting the Dyslexic Learner	
Rule Notes: Students must choose one Required* module in Semester 1	

Appendix 2: Map of Intended Learning Outcomes

[illegible]

5	PSY5104-20	Research Methods in Psychology 2 (BPS)	C	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
5	PSY5105-20	Cognitive and Developmental Psychology (BPS)	C	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	x		x		x		x	
5	PSY5106-20	Biological and Social Psychology (BPS)	C	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x		x		x	x	x	x
5	EDU5103-20	Environment and Education	R*			x									x			x		
5	EDU5105-20	Youth in Society - Power, Politics and Participation	R*	x								x							x	
5	EDU5114-20	Education, Social Inequalities, & Social Justice	R*	x		x	x	x	x		x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x
5	PPY5100-120	Professional Placement Year	O		x							x		x	x		x	x	x	x
5	EDU5003-20	Professional Practice in Schools	C		x						x			x	x			x	x	x
5	EDU5101-20	Supporting Learners with Additional Needs	C		x										x					

6	PSY6013-40	Dissertation (BPS)	C	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
6	PSY6010-20	Contemporary Application of Psychological Science (BPS)	C	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
6	EDP6001-20	Advanced Educational Psychology	C	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x
6	EDU6105-20	Health, Education and Wellbeing	R*		x									x					x	
6	EDU6107-20	Professional Practice: Supporting the Dyslexic Learner in the Classroom	R*		x			x									x			
6	EDU6113-20	Social and Educational Inclusion	C	x	x										x		x			

[4] C = Core; R = Required; R* = Required*; O = Optional

4	PSY4 012- 20	Individual differences - personality and intelligences (BPS)	C							1x					1x				
4	EDP4 001- 20	Introduction to Educational Psychology	C				1 x					1x							
4	EDU 4000- 20	Education for Change	C				1 x								1x				
4	EDU 4101- 20	Controversial Issues in Special and Inclusive Education	C				1x								1x				

5	PSY5 104- 20	Research Methods in Psychology 2 (BPS)	C							2x								
5	PSY5 105- 20	Cognitive and Developmental Psychology (BPS)	C			1x										1x		
5	PSY5 106- 20	Biological and Social Psychology (BPS)	C							2x								
5	EDU 5003- 20	Professional Practice in Schools	C							1x								

5	EDU 5101- 20	Support ing Learner s with Additio nal Needs	C			1 x						1x						
5	EDU 5103- 20	Environ ment and Educati on	R*					1x						1x				
5	EDU 5105- 20	Youth in Society - Power, Politics and Particip ation	R*									1x		1x				
5	EDU 5114- 20	Educati on, Social Inequali ties, & Social Justice	R*			1x								1x				

5	PPY5 100- 120	Professi onal Placeme nt Year	O					1x	1x									
6	PSY6 013- 40	Disserta tion (BPS)	C		1x										1x			
6	PSY6 010- 20	Contem porary Applica tion of Psychol ogical Science (BPS)	C						1x			1x						
6	EDU 6105- 20	Health, Wellbei ng, and Educati on	R*							1x					1x			
6	EDU 6107- 20	Professi onal Practice : Support ing the Dyslexi c Learner	R*				1x								1x			

6	EDU 6113- 20	Social and Educational Inclusion	C			1x								1x				
6	EDP6 001- 20	Advanced Educational Psychology	C							2x								

[5] C = Core; R = Required; R* = Required*; O = Optional