Psychology
Undergraduate study 2016
www.nottingham.ac.uk/psychology
Welcome to the School of Psychology

Psychology is the scientific study of mental processes. It is one of the most stimulating, diverse and fast-paced fields of study there is. It is concerned with a wide range of mental processes, such as perception, thought and feeling, at individual, group or society level. Its methods range from laboratory experiments to field surveys and its topics from ‘pure’ studies of brain structure and function to ‘applied’ analyses of conflicts, accidents and mental disorders.

The University of Nottingham’s School of Psychology is one of the best in the country. We had the highest possible score in the most recent national assessment of teaching quality, and our scores in the latest national Research Assessment Exercise found 95% of our research to be of an international standard, with the majority rated as internationally excellent or world-leading.

The people who teach you will be practising researchers – in many cases, international experts in their field. In other words, you will be learning about the latest discoveries from people who are involved in making them.

As the course progresses, you will find out more about the discovery process, and take an increasingly significant part in it yourself, especially through your final-year research project.

Some of you, we hope, will go on to choose psychology as a career – as researchers or teachers, or as practitioners in clinical, educational, occupational or forensic psychology. Our course is designed to provide a broad and thorough grounding in the subject and its methods. It will give you a platform from which to launch a career in any of the areas mentioned, or in a number of other occupations besides. You can find more information about career options on page 16.

In the first two years, you will master the basic ‘core’ areas of the subject before choosing from a more varied selection in the final year according to your interests and career plans.

Good luck with your decision-making and I hope to welcome you to the University soon.

Professor Paul McGraw
Head of the School of Psychology
About the subject
Psychology is the scientific study of brain and behaviour, and is one of the most exciting, relevant and rapidly changing fields of study. It encompasses the perceptions, thoughts, feelings and actions of people from infancy to old age, as well as comparable phenomena in groups, organisations and societies, animals and computers.

Indeed psychology may be studied at a variety of levels. These include the biological level, which encompasses the structure and function of the nervous system; the cognitive level, which is concerned with such functions as memory, language and perception; and the social level, which focuses on how people interact with each other in groups and organisations. Some psychologists are interested in understanding the behaviour of adults; some study developmental processes which occur as human intelligence and personality change over the lifespan; others examine how human abilities and health may be affected — for example, by brain damage or by stress; yet others study the behaviour of animals in order to learn about the nature and evaluation of human abilities.

Psychology as a discipline is both empirical and theoretical, making use of a wide variety of techniques such as systematic observation, field studies, brain imaging, controlled experiments and computer simulations. Despite the diversity of method and approach, psychologists are united by their common aim to further the understanding of behaviour in all its many manifestations and contexts.

The work of psychologists contributes not only to an understanding of ourselves, but also to the design of safe and healthy environments, in education, work or leisure, for example, and to the development of ways to help people who are challenged, or otherwise unhealthy or unhappy.

About the school
The School of Psychology at Nottingham is one of the largest and strongest in the country. We received the highest score, 24/24, in the most recent national assessments of teaching quality, and were ranked in the top 10 of all psychology departments in the UK in the latest national Research Assessment Exercise, with 95% of our research found to be of an international standard.

Research and teaching work hand-in-hand and the majority of the school’s teaching staff are research active – in many cases international leaders in their fields. A member of our teaching staff will be your personal tutor throughout the course, overseeing your academic and personal development.

In addition, the school offers access to excellent computing and experimental equipment, such as eye-trackers and brain imaging apparatus, and the exciting opportunity to study abroad for a semester or a full year at one of our international partner institutions, or at the University’s campus in Malaysia.
Degree courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Psychology</th>
<th>UCAS code</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>A levels</th>
<th>IB</th>
<th>Places</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single honours</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSc Psychology</td>
<td>C800</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>AAA-AAB</td>
<td>36-34*</td>
<td>202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSc Psychology and Cognitive Neuroscience</td>
<td>C850</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>AAA-AAB</td>
<td>36-34*</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSci Psychology</td>
<td>C803</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>A*AA</td>
<td>38*</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joint honours</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSc Psychology and Philosophy</td>
<td>CV85</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>AAB</td>
<td>34*</td>
<td>10</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* With at least 6, 6, 5 at Higher Level.

Professional accreditation

The BSc Psychology and the BSc Psychology and Cognitive Neuroscience degrees are accredited by the British Psychological Society (BPS), which means that the curriculum taught on these courses is determined by the Quality Assurance Agency's benchmark statements for psychology. Postgraduate courses leading to 'chartered' status with the BPS all require a course to be BPS accredited. Our single honours undergraduate courses also confer eligibility for the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (GBC), which is required to become a Graduate Member of the BPS and for many postgraduate professional training courses in psychology.

Please be aware that students on the joint honours Psychology and Philosophy course will not be eligible for GBC. Similarly, the course, being only half psychology, does not meet the requirements for BPS accreditation. For the latest information, please visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/psychology

“'I like the wide selection of modules to choose from in the third year, meaning you can specialise in either the more scientific or social side of psychology, according to your preference.'

Lucy Heath
BSc Psychology

A psychology student experiences the MIRAGE finger stretching illusion.
Psychology can be studied as a single subject leading to a BSc or MSci in Psychology, to a BSc in Psychology and Cognitive Neuroscience, or as part of a joint honours course in BSc Psychology and Philosophy.

We use a variety of teaching methods ranging from lectures covering the fundamentals of psychology to practical classes and methods workshops, in which you will conduct hands-on psychological research. At the start of your course you will be assigned a personal tutor who you will meet regularly in a small group. This is an opportunity for you to develop transferable skills such as essay writing, critical thinking and presentation skills.

**BSc Psychology**

**First year**  
You will be introduced to the core areas of biological, cognitive, developmental and social psychology. The modules cover the applied aspects of these subjects – for example in education, engineering and clinical settings, as well as theoretical principles. Lectures and tutorials on these core areas are complemented by a module in statistical methods of analysis and a practical methods module, which will teach you how to carry out psychological experiments. In addition, you will be able to choose a number of modules from departments across the University, such as business, languages, law and philosophy.

**Second year**  
Psychology modules follow on from the first year, tackling topics in greater depth. You will take four compulsory lecture modules and continue training in research methods. Greater independence in undertaking research is expected as practical sessions run in a series of five-week group projects, which are accompanied by further statistics courses.

**Third year**  
You will be able to choose from a wide range of modules, which will allow you to tailor the course to your personal interests. These options include branches of applied psychology such as clinical psychology, forensic and mental health, neuroscience or human-computer interaction, as well as advanced options dealing with topics of current importance in research. Many of these modules will allow you to undertake a dissertation for further credit.

You may also, with the permission of the Head of School, take modules worth 20 credits outside of psychology. You will also complete a large-scale, independent research project, where you can take the initiative in designing and carrying out the research yourself with help and guidance from your project supervisor.

**MSc Psychology**  
The first three years are identical to the BSc Psychology. In the fourth year, you will select a number of MSc level modules, such as advanced research methods, functional imaging methods, or professional skills, and you will undertake a year-long extended dissertation.

**Typical modules for C800/C850**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year one</th>
<th>Year two</th>
<th>Year three</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Compulsory modules:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Compulsory modules:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Compulsory module:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Biological Psychology</td>
<td>• Conceptual Psychology 2</td>
<td>• Research Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Cognitive Psychology 1</td>
<td>• Conceptual and Historical Issues in Psychology</td>
<td>Optional modules include:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Developmental Psychology</td>
<td>• Neuroscience and Behaviour</td>
<td>• Applied Psychology: Road User Behaviour</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Practical Methods and Seminars in Psychology</td>
<td>• Personality and Individual Differences</td>
<td>• Applied Visual Perception</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Social Psychology</td>
<td>• Practical and Statistical Methods 2</td>
<td>• Clinical Psychology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Statistical Methods 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Cognition in the Real World</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Optional modules:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Any subsidiary modules from other schools and departments, for example:</strong></td>
<td>• Cognitive Development and Autism</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Addiction and the Brain</td>
<td>• Applied Ethics</td>
<td>• Developmental Dyslexia: Psychological and Educational Perspectives</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Introduction to Global Psychology and Communications</td>
<td>• Calculus and its Applications</td>
<td>• Educational Psychology</td>
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<td>• Forensic and Mental Health</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>• Mechanisms of Learning and Psychopathology</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Neuropsychology and Applied Neuroimaging</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Neuropsychology Dissertation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Neuropsychology of action: The body in the brain</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Patterns of Action – Dissertation</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• The Visual Brain: Evolution, Development, Learning and Adaptation</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Understanding Developmental Disorders</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>• Understanding Patterns of Action</td>
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</table>

For more detailed module information please visit the individual course listings at www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy
Joint honours

BSc Psychology and Philosophy
In the joint honours course with philosophy, you will study appropriate parts of both subjects. The aim of this course is to provide you with a well-rounded education in the principles of psychology and philosophy. The teaching programme provides a solid understanding of psychological and philosophical theories, as well as the knowledge, analytical tools and skills needed to assess and conduct empirical research. There is a certain amount of flexibility in the choice of psychology modules, particularly in the third year.

For more information about the philosophy element of this course, please see www.nottingham.ac.uk/philosophy

Typical modules for CV85

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year one</th>
<th>Year two</th>
<th>Year three</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Compulsory modules:</td>
<td>Compulsory modules:</td>
<td>Compulsory module:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Statistical Methods 1</td>
<td>• Practical and Statistical Methods 2 for Joint Honours</td>
<td>• Mini Research Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Elementary Logic</td>
<td>• The Nature of Meaning</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Locke: Appearance and Reality</td>
<td>Selection from psychology modules:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Practical Methods and Seminars in Psychology</td>
<td>• Cognitive Psychology 2</td>
<td>• Mechanisms of Learning and Psychopathology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Reasoning and Argument: An Introduction to Philosophical Method</td>
<td>• Conceptual and Historical Issues in Psychology</td>
<td>• Neuropsychology and Applied Neuroimaging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Self, Mind and Body</td>
<td>• Neuroscience and Behaviour</td>
<td>• Neuropsychology Dissertation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional modules:</td>
<td>• Personality and Individual Differences</td>
<td>• Neuropsychology of action: The body in the brain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Biological Psychology</td>
<td>• Social and Developmental Psychology</td>
<td>• Psychology of Digital Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Cognitive Psychology 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Social Neuroscience Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Developmental Psychology</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Understanding Patterns of Action</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Social Psychology</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Selection from philosophy modules:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Being, Becoming and Reality</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Freedom and Obligation</td>
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<tr>
<td>• History of Philosophy</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Knowledge and Justification</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Mind and Consciousness</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Normative Ethics</td>
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</table>

Selection from philosophy modules:
• Advanced Logic
• Dissertation
• Environmental Ethics
• Free Will and Action
• Independent Project
• Issues of Indeterminism
• Marx
• Naming and Necessity
• Philosophy of Art

For more detailed module information please visit the individual course listings at www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy

“Developmental Psychology is one of my favourite modules. I’ve always been interested in how people develop psychologically from babies to adults and I find the lectures captivating.”

Rachel Marshall
BSc Psychology and Cognitive Neuroscience
How will I study?

The School of Psychology offers a variety of stimulating courses aimed at providing students with a well-rounded education in the principles of psychology. They are intellectually challenging and coherent, and benefit from the strong research ethos of the school. The teaching programme provides a solid understanding of psychological theories and concepts, and the knowledge, analytical tools and skills needed to assess and conduct empirical research.

We offer a diverse and inspiring environment for the scientific study of the mind and brain, with access to state-of-the-art teaching and research facilities. Our courses also provide opportunities for you to study at a partner university overseas or at the University’s Malaysia Campus.

Our annual undergraduate intake is around 230 students. This number allows us to maintain an important balance: the small-group teaching sizes are small enough for us to know all of our students as individuals and the total class size is large enough to allow us to offer a wide range of modules, meaning that you will be able to tailor your degree to your specific interests.

Details of the accreditation of our courses by the British Psychological Society can be found on page 6 and at www.nottingham.ac.uk/psychology/study-with-us/undergraduate/course-information

Tutorials
Your academic and personal development will be overseen by a personal tutor with whom you will meet on a regular basis (at least one or two times a month in the first and second year) in a small group of five to seven students. Tutorials are the opportunity to focus on transferable skills such as essay writing, written and oral communication and presentation skills, and critical thinking. They are also an occasion for a group of students to work collaboratively to test and develop their understanding. Your tutor will be there to welcome you on your first week in the school and will be your first point of contact on academic matters throughout your degree. As a result of these interactions, tutors are very well placed to support you in your application for career and postgraduate study, for instance by providing letters of recommendation.

In addition to tutorials, you will also take part in interactive small-group teaching throughout the whole course, including practical classes, seminars and workshops, which support your learning by revisiting the lecture content of the associated module.

Research projects
The single most significant module that you will carry out on the BSc Psychology and BSc Psychology and Cognitive Neuroscience courses is the final-year research project. This year-long module requires you to collect, interpret and write an assessed report on an area of psychological importance.

Projects are often computer-based experiments run with other students as experimental participants. However your work can include specialised apparatus (for example eye-tracking hardware, electroencephalography (EEG), driving simulators) and different participant populations (such as children and patient populations). Modules in years one and two will provide you with the necessary skills for the research project, including computer programming, statistical presentation and analysis, and report writing.

Most students implement project suggestions from their supervisors but more ambitious students provide their own suggestions. Although work is quite independent, you will have regular supervision meetings to check on progress and help with any problems.

The excellent quality of our students’ research reports is regularly commented on by academics from other universities and sometimes leads to scientific publications in international journals.

Key Information Sets
Key Information Sets (KIS) are comparable sets of information about full- or part-time undergraduate courses that are designed to meet the information needs of prospective students. All KIS data are published on the Unistats website: www.unistats.co.uk

For Nottingham’s KIS data, please see individual course entries at: www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy

Library and computing services
At Nottingham, you will benefit from access to an extensive collection of printed and online library resources.

In addition, you will have both on- and off-campus access to a very wide range of databases, ejournals and ebooks, relevant both to your subject and any modules in other subjects.

Students working on a group project in the Portland Building on University Park Campus.
How will I be assessed?

The teaching year
The teaching year is divided into two semesters. The first semester lasts for 14 weeks, with 12 weeks for teaching and revision and two weeks for assessment. The second semester follows the same pattern, but there is an additional two weeks at the end to complete the assessment process. While the teaching year is divided into two semesters for organisational purposes, it fits into the traditional pattern of three terms: one before Christmas, one between Christmas and Easter, and one after Easter.

Assessment
Our courses are assessed in a variety of ways, including written exams, coursework assignments, dissertations, essays, oral presentations, posters and laboratory reports. The degree classification is based on marks gained from all but the first year of study.
Career and employment prospects

The University of Nottingham is consistently named as one of the most targeted universities by Britain’s leading graduate employers*. As a Nottingham psychology graduate, you will be well prepared for a wide range of employment and postgraduate study opportunities.

The analytical, methodological and communication skills you will develop provide an excellent basis for many careers, including management, social work, teaching, and marketing and advertising. The BSc also provides an excellent grounding for a research career or professional postgraduate training in areas of applied psychology, and approximately half of our students continue in the discipline after graduation.

Graduate career destinations
You will have the option to pursue a career in areas such as:
- clinical psychology
- counselling psychology
- educational psychology
- forensic psychology
- health psychology
- neuropsychology
- occupational psychology
- sport and exercise psychology
- teaching and research in psychology

Average starting salary
In 2013, 96.4% of first-degree graduates in the school/department who were available for employment had secured work or further study within six months of graduation. The average starting salary was £16,766 with the highest being £30,000.*

Recent graduates
Recent graduates: Naomi Fletcher – working in retail management, House of Fraser; Kevin Jones – Clinical Psychologist, National Spinal Injuries Centre; Lucy Ryan – studying for a doctorate in forensic psychology, The University of Nottingham.

The University’s Careers and Employability Service
Our Careers and Employability Service, which is based on University Park Campus, offers an extensive range of careers-oriented services, including CV-writing sessions, interview advice, presentations by major employers and general career advice. As a University of Nottingham graduate, you will receive lifelong support from the service. This means that you can ask a careers adviser to look over your job application by email or Skype, or in person, and you can also access a database of graduate vacancies. For more information see www.nottingham.ac.uk/careers

Career-focused events
The School of Psychology organises a variety of careers events throughout the year to inform you about career opportunities and help improve your employability. In particular, you will be able to attend symposiums on clinical, health and forensic psychology, meet with recent alumni and attend workshops on postgraduate opportunities. We hold weekly drop-in sessions with a professional careers adviser, who will be able to answer all your careers questions, discuss your career plans and review your CV, application forms or personal statements. Your tutor will often be able to offer specialised information and support for careers in psychology.

Gaining practical experience
Throughout your course, you will have many opportunities to participate in mentoring schemes and scientific and public engagement activities.

You will be able to volunteer for the student-run psychology mentoring scheme (assisting first-year psychology students) and for the University-run Inspire mentoring scheme (assisting local school pupils). The University’s Students’ Union runs a dynamic Student Volunteer Centre with strong links to national charities and associations (such as Headway, for brain injury) and hundreds of projects on offer.

As a second-year undergraduate, you will be able to apply for a paid summer internship within the school, allowing you to gain academic and practical research experience – and occasionally your name on a published scientific article.

You can also participate in a variety of public engagement events such as the University’s open days, the Big Bang Fair (the largest celebration of science and technology for young people in the UK) and our Summer Scientist Week event.

The Nottingham Advantage Award
The University’s Advantage Award is a programme of activities developed to recognise and reward extracurricular responsibilities. It allows you to gain recognition for participating in a wide range of activities accredited by the University and delivered by top graduate employers, professional services and members of staff of the University. It also shows employers that you have gone above and beyond your degree and gained valuable transferable skills. For further information, please visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/advantageaward

* The Graduate Market in 2013, 2014 and 2015 – High Fliers Research
**Known destinations of full-time home and EU first-degree graduates, 2012/13.
**Student profile**

"I chose to come to The University of Nottingham for numerous reasons: its prestigious reputation; the beautiful campus; and of course the great nightlife. When first applying I considered both the straight psychology course and the psychology and cognitive neuroscience course. Looking back, I definitely made the right decision choosing psychology and cognitive neuroscience, as although identical lecture-wise in the first two years, the techniques covered in second-year lab classes complemented my interests in neuroscience.

During the first year, we were given the opportunity to choose subsidiary modules from a wide range of courses across the university, which gave me the opportunity to take modules I was interested in and complemented my interest in biology.

While studying at Nottingham I have been given numerous opportunities. The university frequently holds career talks, which I have found useful in terms of inspiring me to widen my experience in psychology. I gained work experience in schools and an autism base between the first and second year, and I am currently volunteering for a mental health charity.

I also have an intern role within the school, helping PhD students to conduct research. This means I am gaining invaluable hands-on experience with techniques such as Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) and functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI).

The lecturers and my tutor have been very supportive throughout my studies. They are very approachable and helpful, and are always happy to answer any questions. They appear to be very passionate about their subjects and research.

Studying at Nottingham has been fantastic, and during my third year I have been able to choose a selection of modules to complement my interests and future career path.

Following my degree I would like to stay at the University to study for a doctorate in clinical psychology, become a clinical psychologist, and later complete a qualification in clinical neuropsychology."

**Rebecca Hirst**
BSc Psychology and Cognitive Neuroscience (graduated 2013)

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**Graduate profile**

"Having completed my undergraduate degree at Nottingham I knew there was no other university that I wanted to complete my Doctorate in Applied Educational Psychology at more. I decided a psychology department with highly skilled, supportive and inspiring staff set in a beautiful spacious campus, yet a short distance from a large, vibrant city centre was the perfect place to continue my studies.

As a University of Nottingham undergraduate student I was very fortunate in having the opportunity to undertake an Educational Psychology module in my third year. I think the wide selection of modules available in applied areas of psychology is a real strength of the University's curriculum. The Educational Psychology module was led by professionals employed in the field and the passion they shared during this module inspired me to pursue this area of psychology as a postgraduate.

Throughout my time at Nottingham I have felt supported and valued, and although I was part of a large undergraduate cohort I felt that the staff made every effort to get to know us all as individuals.

The School of Psychology also encouraged us to take responsibility for our learning and pursue our areas of interest through opportunities such as summer internships. At the end of my second year, I undertook a summer internship researching stereotyping abilities of individuals with autism which I developed further as my third-year thesis. This enabled me to apply the research skills that the Nottingham course works hard to develop in students throughout their undergraduate degree.

I’ve now been in Nottingham for seven years since moving here for my undergraduate degree at 18. I love the University and the city and hope to gain employment in the area so I can stay here for the foreseeable future.

My advice to new students would be to try and get to know people in the years above you as they can have excellent tips on studying for exams or about modules they particularly enjoyed."

**Gemma Slack**
BSc Psychology (graduated 2007)
Doctorate in Applied Educational Psychology
World-class research

Research in the school covers a wide range of topics and is divided into four core areas. It is of a consistently high standard, attracting funding from a variety of sources and appearing in prestigious international journals. Our links with other schools and institutes, within and beyond the University, open up opportunities for exciting and innovative projects.

In the latest Research Exercise Assessment (REF), an independent assessment of the quality of research taking place in higher education institutions across the country, 95% of our research was found to be of an international standard, placing the school within the UK’s top 10 for psychology research.

The four core areas of research are:

**Behavioural Neuroscience**
The Behavioural Neuroscience Group looks at fundamental learning and memory processes. The understanding of learning is also applied to the clinical study of various conditions, such as schizophrenia, in which associative processes are disordered.

**Cognition and Cognitive Neuroscience**
This research group aims to understand how complex mental functions such as perception, memory, language and emotions are implemented within the brain. Technological advances allow scientists to study the relationship between brain activity and cognitive mechanisms in conscious, behaving humans.

**Human Development and Learning**
The Human Development and Learning Group studies the processes underlying learning and cognitive development. Areas of research include typically developing children, and children and adults with autism and Asperger’s syndrome.

**Personality, Social Psychology and Health**
The Personality, Social Psychology and Health Group examines the role of emotions, cognitions, context and individual differences on human behaviours and decision-making, particularly in relation to health behaviours, pro- and anti-social actions and risk-taking.

How will world-leading research affect me?
As an undergraduate student, you might wonder how research will affect your studying experience. Here’s how:

Cutting-edge research makes the University an attractive place to work for lecturers who are experts in their field. Students in the School of Psychology benefit from the teaching staff’s passion for and commitment to what they do. Plus, when it comes to your own research projects, you’ll be surrounded by experts who can advise and inspire you.

It’s also worth knowing that good RAE results attract more funding. In the latest RAE, the University as a whole was ranked seventh in terms of ‘research power’, with more than 90% of research found to be of an international standard. As a result, Nottingham attracted £9.7m more funding from the Higher Education Funding Council for England than in the previous year. It was the biggest rise for any university.

For more information about the school’s research, visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/psychology/research

“...teaching and research should go hand in hand. All our faculty are expected to teach and the strong research pedigree of staff ensures that this activity is informed by the very latest scientific developments.”

Timothy Ledgeway
Director of Research in the School of Psychology

Positioning a participant for a functional magnetic resonance study (fMRI).
Your student experience

You’ve read lots about the degree programme you’re interested in, now it’s time to explore life outside the lecture theatre. There’s so much for you to get involved in and explore at the University and around the city. We are proud to be one of the leading universities for student experience in the UK*, which will ensure that you have a university experience you’ll never forget.

Your University of Nottingham – at home and around the world
We are proud of our stunning campuses and are continually investing in our grounds, buildings and amenities to ensure that you only have the best surroundings in which to live and study. Our main UK campuses have a mix of state-of-the-art facilities, including sports centres, places to eat and excellent learning facilities on every campus. We’ve made getting from campus to campus as easy as possible and students can benefit from our free inter-campus Hopper Bus, so you’re never far away from the striking architecture and innovative technology of Jubilee Campus, the rolling parkland and period buildings at University Park, or the cutting-edge features of Sutton Bonington. The University of Nottingham is Britain’s global university with campuses in the UK, China and Malaysia. We also have links with more than 300 universities in over 40 countries, adding a truly global flavour to your degree and giving you the chance to explore the world. Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/about/
campuses

Your new home from home
At Nottingham we offer a range of different accommodation options, rooms are available as single or shared, en suite or shared bathroom, all the way through to studio flats, and vary from self-catered to fully catered (19 meals per week). We also offer a guarantee of University accommodation for one year to all new full-time undergraduate students, subject to the following conditions: you firmly accept your course place at Nottingham, accept your offer of accommodation by the deadline given in your offer letter, and have an unconditional status no later than 31 August in the year you intend to begin your studies. If you are a new, full-time undergraduate student who is classified as international for fee purposes, this guarantee applies for three years**. For more information, including a breakdown of pricing, see www.nottingham.ac.uk/accommodation

Your opportunity to study abroad
As a University of Nottingham student, you will be able to apply for a variety of study abroad options. Whether studying at a partner institution or undertaking a work experience placement, spending time abroad is a fantastic opportunity to broaden your horizons, experience different cultures, meet new people and develop skills that will prove invaluable in the future and look good on your CV. If you do decide to apply to study abroad, the University will offer support from the application stage right through to your return to the UK, with advice on everything from immigration to possible sources of financial support. Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/studyabroad

Your support network
Throughout your university journey there will be numerous people on hand to support you, including tutors and dedicated staff who will be able to advise you on various aspects of life as a student. We have Student Services Centres on all three of our UK campuses, which provide a range of support, information and specialist services to enhance your student experience. This support includes:

- **Academic Support** – can provide practical advice on areas of academic study; the service also provides specialist academic support for students with dyslexia, dyspraxia and other specific learning difficulties.
- **Disability Support** – coordinates support and access arrangements for students with a disability or long-term medical condition.
- **Financial Support** – provides information on the sources of finance available from government agencies and the University itself, and gives advice about financial matters.
- **Student Services** – also advise on issues ranging from childcare, counselling and health to international student support, chaplaincy and faith support, as well as offering advice on paying your tuition and accommodation fees.

Whatever you may need support with, they will either be able to help or point you in the direction of someone who can. Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/studentservices

** Providing you submit your returns’ application in line with the requirements of the accommodation providers.
Nottingham city centre is always buzzing with people and interesting sights.

Getting involved in your Students’ Union
As soon as you start at The University of Nottingham, you are automatically enrolled as a member of our Students’ Union, which is considered to be one of the best in the country. There are hundreds of activities that you could be part of, providing you with the perfect opportunity to take up a new hobby or pursue existing interests. Choose from over 200 student-run societies, covering all interests and abilities, as well as local and national volunteering projects, to which you can commit as much or as little time as you wish.

Our Students’ Union is home to a number of award-winning student-run media groups, which give you the chance to gain practical work experience both behind the scenes or centre stage as a presenter, actor or journalist. The Nottingham New Theatre, Impact magazine, Nottingham Student Television (NSTV) and University Radio Nottingham (URN) have all been recognised as the best in their field, winning a clutch of awards for outstanding achievements.

However you decide to become involved in the Union, you can be sure you will make new friends and learn new skills, all while having a lot of fun! Find out more: www.su.nottingham.ac.uk

Sports
We offer sport at all levels and an excellent all-inclusive student membership offer, so whether you enjoy sport as a hobby or are an elite athlete we will have just what you need. We have over 70 sports clubs, which means we have the 2nd highest number of sports clubs of any UK university. If you’re not interested in joining a team but want to stay fit, we have sports centres on all of our main UK campuses. Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/sport

Exploring your new city
With Nottingham city centre just a 10-minute bus ride away from University Park Campus, our students are always close to the action. Buses run through campus regularly and many run late-night services too, which is handy if you’re a night owl.

For music lovers, you can take your pick from the world-famous Rock City, Capital FM Arena or one of the smaller gig venues for a more intimate live show. Nottingham is rich in performance venues, with comedy clubs and theatres catering for lovers of drama, musicals, ballet and panto. We are very proud of our sporting heritage, and with football clubs Nottingham Forest and Notts County in the city, as well as Trent Bridge cricket ground and the National Ice Centre on your doorstep, you might just become a sports fan if you’re not one already.

History and culture can be found in all corners of the city, with Nottingham Castle, Nottingham Contemporary arts centre, the Galleries of Justice Museum, Nottingham Lakeside Arts – the University’s public arts centre located on our University Park Campus, art house cinemas and three of the world’s oldest pubs all providing points of interest. If you enjoy shopping, Nottingham is perfect for you; independent boutiques and vintage shops in the bohemian area of Hockley mix with high street names in our large shopping centres to make Nottingham a veritable shopping haven.

Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/nottinghamlife

Download our city guide: www.nottingham.ac.uk/go/cityguide
Applying for a place

We are looking for students who have the ability and motivation to benefit from our courses, and who will make a valued contribution to the department and the University. Candidates for full-time admission are considered on the basis of their Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) form. For more information on how to make your application stand out, have a look at our online prospectus: www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugapplicants

Application process
All applications for an undergraduate place to study at The University of Nottingham (including applications by overseas students) must be made through UCAS. Applications should be made online at www.ucas.com. Candidates will be notified of decisions through UCAS Track at track.ucas.com

Your personal statement
This is the section of your UCAS form that tells us most about you, and you should make the best use of it. Be as specific and detailed as you can – we would like to see that you are a student who can work hard, be self-motivating and make the best possible use of the opportunities this course might have to offer you.

Entry requirements
For the BSc Psychology and the BSc Psychology and Cognitive Neuroscience, candidates with at least one A level in a science (which includes A level Psychology) will be asked to attain AAB or equivalent. Candidates without a science A level may be asked to achieve AAA. The BSc Psychology and Philosophy has the single entry tariff of AAB (or equivalent) for all students. For all courses, you will need at least a B in GCSE maths and English.

Flexible admissions policy
In recognition of our applicants’ varied experience and educational pathways, we employ a flexible admissions policy. If we judge that your situation has adversely affected your achievement, then we will consider this when assessing your academic potential. If you wish to mention information about your experiences in your personal statement, then you should ask the teacher or tutor writing your reference to confirm what you have written. We may ask for further evidence and may consider a range of factors. For more information, please see www.nottingham.ac.uk/go/admissionspolicies

Mature applicants
We encourage applications from mature students (which means all those aged 21 or over when the course begins). You should apply in the normal way through UCAS (unless you want to study part-time, in which case you should apply directly to the department). While we accept a range of qualifications, you should check our specific requirements on UCAS course entry profiles. If in doubt, please contact the admissions tutor, who will be happy to answer any specific queries you have about applying as a mature student.

Alternative qualifications
In this brochure you will find our A level entry requirements but we accept a much broader range of qualifications. These include:

- Access to HE Diploma
- Advanced Diploma
- BTEC HND/HNC
- BTEC Extended Diploma
- Cambridge Pre-U
- International Baccalaureate
- Irish Leaving Certificate
- Scottish Advanced Highers
- Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced Diploma

This list is not exhaustive; we will consider applicants with other qualifications on an individual basis. The entry requirements for alternative qualifications can be quite specific; for example you may need to take certain modules and achieve a specified grade in those modules. Please contact us to discuss the transferability of your qualification.

For tips and advice at every step of your application journey, visit our undergraduate applicants’ area: www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugapplicants

English language requirements
IELTS 6.5 (no less than 6.0 in any element)
For more information and a list of the alternative English language requirements we accept, please see www.nottingham.ac.uk/go/alternativerequirements

Preparing to study in English – academic English preparation and support
The University of Nottingham Centre for English Language Education (CELE) offers high quality academic English and study skills (presessional) programmes to prepare you to study your degree in English. Our programmes are designed to give international students excellent preparation for their academic studies and are taught by experienced, professional tutors. CELE provides a range of programmes throughout the year, including five-week subject-specific courses (in some subjects) and a four-week course in September for students with unconditional offers, which focuses on academic study skills.

You can continue to benefit from academic English support with free classes and one-to-one consultations throughout your study (in sessional programmes).

For more information about CELE, please visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/cele

Deferred entry
Applicants who wish to defer their entry by a year will not be at a disadvantage. Please tell us something about your plans for your gap year in your UCAS personal statement.

Equal opportunities policy
The University aims to create the conditions whereby students and staff are treated solely on the basis of their merits, abilities and potential, regardless of gender, race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, age, socio-economic background, disability, religious or political beliefs, trade union membership, family circumstances, sexual orientation or other irrelevant distinction.
Frequently asked questions

Which A levels do you prefer?
Students are accepted onto the single honours psychology course with A levels in science or humanities subjects or a combination of both. Applicants should note that psychology at Nottingham is an academic subject and academic qualifications are usually preferred. That said, if we make you an offer, we have every confidence that your particular A level combination will equip you for a degree in psychology. Please note that general studies and critical thinking cannot count towards the grade tariff.

Although science A levels are not a requirement, applicants should bear in mind that it is a BSc (Bachelor of Science) course with an emphasis on an experimental understanding of psychology. A level psychology is not required however.

How much are the fees?
Like many universities in England, Nottingham charges full-time UK and EU students an annual tuition fee of £9,000. However, you will not have to pay your fees while studying – the government will lend eligible students the money, which you will start to pay back once you have left university and are earning at least £21,000. For more information, please see www.nottingham.ac.uk/fees.

Fees for students from outside the EU vary from subject to subject. For more information, please see the ‘New international students’ section on www.nottingham.ac.uk/fees

Do I need a maths qualification?
Candidates are required to have GCSE maths at grade B or an equivalent qualification. This is to ensure you have sufficient experience to cope with the demands of the course.

What bursaries are available?
Although bursary figures for 2016/17 are yet to be finalised, the University will continue to offer a generous package of bursary support to students from lower income households. These are in addition to any support you may receive from the government. For more information please see www.nottingham.ac.uk/financialsupport or take a look at the funding tab on the relevant course entry in our online prospectus: www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy

What support is available for students with children?
There are a range of services provided to support students with children, including a University day nursery, a playscheme and playcentre day care. There is also a scheme to help students fund childcare. For more information, see www.nottingham.ac.uk/child-care

What support do you offer for students with a disability or dyslexia?
We are committed to promoting access for students who have a disability, dyslexia or a long-term medical condition. Services provided by the University aim to enable students to fulf ll the inherent requirements of the course as independently as possible. The University’s Disability Statement, which lists services, facilities and opportunities available throughout the University can be viewed at www.nottingham.ac.uk/disability

Visit our website for more frequently asked questions: www.nottingham.ac.uk/faqs
Visiting and contacting us

Open days
If you’re considering applying to The University of Nottingham we recommend that you try to attend one of the University-wide open days, which are held in June and September each year and attract around 30,000 visitors. Find out more www.nottingham.ac.uk/opendays

Mini open days
Mini open days are much smaller than the main open days but offer the same opportunities to attend various talks and tours as well as speak to current students and academics. Find out more www.nottingham.ac.uk/go/miniopendays or call +44 (0)115 951 5559.

Virtual open day
If you can’t attend one of our open days in person, or would like to explore our campuses before visiting, take a look at our virtual open day: www.nottingham.ac.uk/virtualnottingham

UCAS visit days
Once you’ve been offered a place at Nottingham, you may be invited to attend a UCAS visit day, which is an opportunity for you to visit the school and to find out more about your chosen course. You will also be given a short tour of the campus by current students.

Other visits
If you wish to make an informal visit to the University prior to applying here, you are welcome to do so, but you should contact us in advance if you wish to visit the school or speak to an admissions tutor, and we will do our best to oblige.

Contact us
For further information, please contact:
The Admissions Team
School of Psychology
The University of Nottingham
University Park
Nottingham
NG7 2RD
t: +44 (0)115 951 5361
t: +44 (0)115 951 5324
e: psychology-enquiries@nottingham.ac.uk
w: www.nottingham.ac.uk/psychology

For international student enquiries, please contact:
International Office
t: +44 (0)115 951 5247
t: +44 (0)115 951 5155
e: international-office@nottingham.ac.uk
w: www.nottingham.ac.uk/international

You can also connect with fellow applicants and current students on our applicants’ Facebook and Twitter pages:

UoNApplicants
@UoNApplicants

Your passion can be your success. Study what you love.

The world needs scientists and engineers. But not just any scientists or engineers. It needs people who will transform their love of the subject into life-changing inventions and discoveries. If you have the enthusiasm, we have the lecturers to fire it.

Find out more: www.nottingham.ac.uk/studywhatyoulove

This publication is available in alternative formats:
t: +44 (0)115 951 5559
The University of Nottingham has made every effort to ensure that the information in this brochure was accurate when published. Please note, however, that the nature of the content means that it is subject to change from time to time, and you should therefore consider the information to be guiding rather than definitive. You should check the University’s website for any updates before you decide to accept a place on a course.

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