

Attention
Deficit
Hyperactivity
Disorder

UNIVERSITY of
STIRLING



REDEFINE

WITH A
MASTERS

MSc PSYCHOLOGY

REDEFINE AT STIRLING

WHY STUDY AN MSc PSYCHOLOGY?

Psychology at Stirling is committed to internationally recognised and excellent scientific research, coupled with innovative and reflective research-led teaching and learning.

We aim to grow basic research in the science of mind and behaviour, linked to applied research with direct impacts for society. This linkage provides us with a unique identity and allows our students at all levels to experience the joint challenges of doing basic research and the rigorous application of this research.

Psychology students at Stirling aim to understand mind and behaviour in rich, complex, real-world physical and social environments. Our teaching is research-led, and we have key societal impact in areas such as improving face recognition, welfare of captive animals, and human health and wellbeing.

Our taught postgraduate courses combine generic research methods training with more specialised advanced modules and practical placements in order to meet your personal development goals.

Our staff have a diverse range of research interests, from the neuropsychology of perception and action, to influences of facial attractiveness on mate choice. Our collaborative networks extend both nationally and internationally, with many of our academic staff and students conducting interdisciplinary research and working closely with the public service and industry.

Our teaching was rated as “Excellent” in the last national teaching assessment, and has received commendations from the British Psychology Society and independent external assessors.





WHY STUDY AT STIRLING

1 Purpose-built laboratory space created to support human electrophysiology research (EEG/ERPs), health research (including GSR and heart rate monitoring), face research (including eye-tracking) and vision research (including stereoscopic displays).

2 You'll carry out a placement and research project to gain direct experience tailored to your individual career goals.

3 You'll be part of our lively research community, meeting up for weekly research seminars and informal specialist discussion groups.

4 Our teaching was rated as "Excellent" in the last national teaching assessment.

5 Beautiful campus environment.



MSc PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH METHODS

The Psychological Research Methods (General) course provides broad training in the fundamentals of psychological science – the modern approach to studying mind and behaviour. This course combines training in psychological theory with practical skills development, and provides a thorough introduction to quantitative and qualitative research, the analysis and interpretation of data, and a critical, sceptical approach to psychological science. The unique feature of the General pathway is flexibility – you will be free to investigate a wide array of topics across the discipline.

This aims to encourage an understanding of different methods and perspectives within the field of Psychology.

CORE MODULES

- Psychological Research Methods (General)
- Psychological Research Methods I and II
- Analysis Methods in Psychological Research
- Key Skills for Psychology Researchers

PATHWAYS

The following specialist pathways are also available:

- Autism research
- Bilingualism research
- Child development
- Cognition and neuropsychology
- Evolutionary psychology
- Perception and action
- Psychology of faces

For more information about this course, including optional modules, visit: [stir.ac.uk/1s](https://www.stir.ac.uk/1s)

MSc PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH METHODS (AUTISM RESEARCH)

Autism is a developmental disorder diagnosed on the basis of social-communication impairments, fixated interests and repetitive behaviours. Research in autism spectrum disorders is important, not just to understand the causes and symptoms of autism, but to make sure that individuals with autism receive the best possible support. This MSc in Autism Research is a unique course designed to provide you with an in-depth understanding of the autism spectrum.

While studying on the course, you will learn about key areas of theory and research in autism, from classification and diagnosis, to socio-cognitive and developmental theories and interventions. Our innovative approach combines training and teaching in psychological research methods with hands-on experience during a practical placement in an autism-relevant context, and the opportunity to engage in an autism-based research project.

CORE MODULES

- Autism Research
- Psychological Research Methods I and II
- Key Skills for Psychology Researchers
- Analysis Methods in Psychological Research
- Research Placement (four weeks)
- Dissertation

For more information about this course, including optional modules, visit: stir.ac.uk/c2

MSc PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH METHODS (BILINGUALISM RESEARCH)

Designed for students who already have an honours degree in psychology, linguistics or a closely related subject, the Bilingualism Research pathway provides solid research training for students interested in pursuing a PhD in cognitive neuroscience.

The course will provide you with a thorough theoretical background in bilingualism and bring students up to date with the latest bilingualism research. It also aims to give you the confidence to verbalise arguments for and against opinions and experimental findings, and to design an experiment to address a relevant research question on bilingualism.

You will be based in a dedicated MSc office, or within an appropriate research group, and allocated a peer mentor. Our aim is to encourage you to make the transition to become a fully independent research scientist.

CORE MODULES

- Current Issues in Bilingualism
- Psychological Research Methods I and II
- Analysis Methods in Psychological Research
- Key Skills for Psychology Researchers
- Research Placement (four weeks)
- Dissertation

For more information about this course, including optional modules, visit: stir.ac.uk/1de

MSc PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH METHODS (CHILD DEVELOPMENT)

This MSc is taught by our expert team of psychologists specialising in early childhood development. The course covers a range of topics from social and cognitive development, to autism and other atypical developmental issues, to the health psychology of child development.

Teaching is grounded in practice with input from social psychologists, health psychologists, neuropsychologists and primatologists.

As well as a month-long placement, you will also benefit from hands-on learning through our in-house playgroup, which is integral to teaching and research on the degree.

CORE MODULES

- Child Development
- Psychological Research Methods I and II
- Analysis Methods in Psychological Research
- Key Skills for Psychology Researchers
- Research Placement (four weeks)
- Dissertation

For more information about this course, including optional modules, visit: stir.ac.uk/c0

MSc PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH METHODS (COGNITION AND NEUROPSYCHOLOGY)

The Psychological Research Methods (Cognition and Neuropsychology) course provides broad training in the fundamentals of psychological science.

The course combines training in psychological theory with practical skills development, alongside a thorough introduction to quantitative and qualitative research, the analysis and interpretation of data, and a critical, sceptical approach to psychological science.

Opportunities for practical hands-on skills development are built in, ranging from low-tech observational assessment to high-tech eye-tracking, and including training on giving oral presentations.

CORE MODULES

- Key Skills for Psychology Researchers
- Cognition and Neuropsychology
- Analysis Methods in Psychological Research
- Psychological Research Methods I and II
- Research Placement (four weeks)
- Dissertation

For more information about this course, including optional modules, visit: stir.ac.uk/1dp

MSc PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH METHODS (EVOLUTIONARY PSYCHOLOGY)

Our Evolutionary Psychology pathway is the ideal preparation for a research career, enabling you to progress to a PhD in the areas of evolutionary psychology, comparative cognition or animal behaviour. If you are already working in this field, this Masters can also be valuable for continuing your professional development. You will benefit from the expertise of our leading researchers in evolutionary psychology, who have particular interests in cultural evolution and language, social learning and mate choice. Students will also be able to take advantage of our on-site and overseas labs, field sites and close industry links. For example, the University works closely with the Living Links to Human Evolution Research Centre at Edinburgh Zoo.

CORE MODULES

- Evolutionary Psychology
- Psychological Research Methods I and II
- Analysis Methods in Psychological Research
- Key Skills for Psychology Researchers
- Research Placement (four weeks)
- Dissertation

For more information about this course, including optional modules, visit: stir.ac.uk/1u

MSc PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH METHODS (PERCEPTION AND ACTION)

We are continually making decisions and performing actions that are driven by our sense organs. Our perception of the world is not just sensory information, but instead an interpretation based on what our brain expects – as well as what it is being told by sense organs. These perceptual processes interact in complex ways to support our behaviours and enable our actions.

This Masters provides broad training in psychological methods and will equip you with an understanding of perceptual experience, and the basic framework for measuring perceptually guided actions in a bias-free manner. You will also acquire practical experience in making measurements of perception and action through a research project and the opportunity to conduct a placement in a laboratory context.

CORE MODULES

- Advances in Perception and Action
- Psychological Research Methods I and II
- Analysis Methods in Psychological Research
- Key Skills for Psychology Researchers
- Research Placement (four weeks)
- Dissertation

For more information about this course, including optional modules, visit: stir.ac.uk/1w

MSc PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH METHODS (PSYCHOLOGY OF FACES)

The University of Stirling has a long history of expertise in face research. Our internationally renowned team of experts study almost all aspects of face perception, including low-level visual processing, adaptation, gaze perception, social perception such as mate preference and attractiveness, mechanisms of recognition, and forensic aspects such as unfamiliar face matching and eye-witness recovery of memories for faces. This research has led to EvoFIT, a unique system for constructing facial composites of offenders by witnesses and victims of crime, which has a suspect identification rate ten times higher than traditional methods used by police. You will become part of this vibrant research community as you study the key research methods related to face research and will put your learning into practice during a month-long placement.

CORE MODULES

- Psychology of Faces
- Psychological Research Methods I and II
- Analysis Methods in Psychological Research
- Key Skills for Psychology Researchers
- Research Placement (four weeks)
- Dissertation

For more information about this course, including optional modules, visit: stir.ac.uk/7z

MSc PSYCHOLOGICAL THERAPY IN PRIMARY CARE

Our Masters course provides expert training in delivering evidence-based psychological therapies to adults in primary care. Delivered jointly by the University of Stirling and the University of Dundee, it is designed by NHS professionals and clinical academics to give graduates the clinical and professional skills you need to work as a clinical associate in Applied Psychology within the NHS.

The course will develop your knowledge of the prevalence, diagnostic criteria, presentation and treatment of common mental health disorders within a cognitive behavioural framework. You will develop the abilities to meet a range of performance targets safely, while responding constructively to clinical supervision and in line with professional and ethical guidelines.

The course is accredited by the British Psychological Society.

CORE MODULES

- Assessment, Diagnosis and Formulation
- Professional and Ethical Issues
- Research Project
- Principles and Methods of Psychological Therapy
- Problem-specific CBT for Common Mental Health Disorders
- Research, Evaluation and Outcome

For more information about this course, including optional modules, visit: stir.ac.uk/1x

MSc HUMAN ANIMAL INTERACTION

This course will introduce you to interdisciplinary approaches and a diverse range of methods used to research our relationships with other species. It introduces you to a broad range of topics, and looks at human–animal interactions across a wide range of contexts – from pet-owning to animal-assisted interventions, zoos, farms and conservation.

You will undertake a placement and produce a research project to gain direct experience tailored to your individual career goals.

You will learn from our noted experts in the human–animal interaction field, with specialisms including conservation, animal-assisted therapy, and the study of animal behaviour and animal welfare.

CORE MODULES

- Human Animal Interactions
- Analysis Methods in Psychological Research
- Key Skills for Psychology Researchers
- Research Methods in Psychology 1 and 2
- Research Placement (four weeks)
- Dissertation

For more information about this course, including optional modules, visit: stir.ac.uk/sb



MSc PSYCHOLOGY (CONVERSION)

This is an intensive Masters course covering the basics of psychology, designed for students who already have a degree in another subject but want to 'convert' to Psychology. You will learn the key concepts and core knowledge of psychology, and also develop your research skills with the specifically designed research methods modules. The course includes a one month placement to broaden your practical experience in psychology. You will carry out a three-month independent empirical research project supervised one-to-one by a leading academic specialist. After completing the course, you will be able to apply for Chartered Membership of the British Psychological Society on a graduate basis. This is the first step towards becoming a Chartered Psychologist.

The course is accredited by the British Psychological Society.

MSc HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY

If you are looking to become a Health Psychologist, this course is for you. Our Masters degree is the first, largest and longest running MSc in Health Psychology in Scotland, and meets the British Psychological Society's requirements for Stage 1 training in Health Psychology, giving you the skills you need for professional training (Stage 2) to become a registered Health Psychologist.

You will learn to use your knowledge of psychology to promote general wellbeing and understand physical illness. This course is also designed to equip you with the skills to research and better understand the psychological determinants and consequences of health and illness, as well as supporting people who are chronically ill. As a Health Psychologist you will promote healthier lifestyles and try to find ways to encourage people to improve their health, and also improve the healthcare system as a whole – for example, helping people to lose weight or stop smoking, or advising doctors on better ways to communicate with their patients.

The course is accredited by the British Psychological Society.

CORE MODULES

- Core Psychology 1
- Analysis Methods in Psychological Research
- Practical Placement (four weeks)
- Core Psychology 2
- Psychology (Conversion) Dissertation
- Research Placement (four weeks)

For more information about this course, including optional modules, visit: stir.ac.uk/wo

CORE MODULES

- Perspectives in Health Psychology
- Applications of Health Psychology: Communication, Systems and Context
- Analysis Methods in Psychological Research
- Individual, Social and Cultural Differences
- Approaches to Illness, Disability and Coping
- Research Project

For more information about this course, including optional modules, visit: stir.ac.uk/u

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A degree in Psychology leads to a wide range of careers including the specialised subjects of clinical, educational, health and forensic psychology.

Studying psychology provides training in a range of key employability skills, including interpersonal and communications skills, numeracy and computer literacy, presentation and time management. Our graduates have found employment as:

- Clinical Psychologist
- Educational Psychologist
- Forensic Psychologist
- Further Education Teacher
- Health Psychologist
- Occupational Psychologist
- Primary Care Graduate Mental Health Worker
- Psychological Wellbeing Practitioner
- Sport and Exercise Psychologist
- Advertising
- Advice Worker
- Careers Adviser
- Counsellor
- Human Resources Officer
- Market Researcher
- Play Therapist





ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of a second class Honours degree (2:1 preferred) or equivalent. If you don't have these formal qualifications but have significant relevant work and life experience we still encourage you to apply.

ENGLISH REQUIREMENTS

If English is not your first language you must have the following qualification as evidence of your English language skills:

IELTS: 6.0 (5.5 minimum in all bands).

If you don't meet the required score you may be able to register for one of our pre-sessional English courses.

FOR MSc HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY

A minimum of a 2.1 Honours degree in Psychology or related subject. A qualification recognised by British Psychological Society giving Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership is preferred.

Students accepted without a BPS-recognised qualification and intending to progress to BPS Stage Two training towards practitioner health psychologist status will be required to undertake an accredited Psychology conversion course following this programme.

ENGLISH REQUIREMENTS

If English is not your first language, you must provide evidence of your proficiency such as a minimum IELTS score of 6.5 (6.0 minimum in all bands).

CONTACT INFORMATION

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stir.ac.uk/1hg



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Photography: For a list of photographers who have contributed to the University of Stirling photo library, contact: marketingtools@stir.ac.uk

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