Psychology & Neuroscience

MSc (One Year)
Coursework & 15,000-word Dissertation
Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs*
Evolutionary and Comparative Psychology: The Origins of Mind
Conversion Course Psychology
Health Psychology (administered by the School of Medicine)
* See separate leaflet

MRes (One Year)
Coursework & 15,000-word Dissertation
Psychology

MPhil (Two Years)
Coursework & 40,000-word Thesis
Postgraduate Certificate (One year)
Adult support, Protection and Safeguarding

Additional Application documents required
Students are required to apply using the University’s application form. In addition to the completed application form, the School requires:
- A research proposal.
- A personal statement
- An up-to-date curriculum vitae including research interests.
- A recent example of your written work (for example, an essay of approximately 2,000 words).
- Two referees’ reports.
- Official transcript(s).

Contact
E: pgsecp psych@st-andrews.ac.uk
T: +44 (0) 1334 462157

Features

* The School of Psychology & Neuroscience has 33 full-time academic staff, 8 technical staff, 60 postgraduates and 20 postdoctoral researchers and 21 taught postgraduate students.
* The School has an international reputation for the quality of its teaching and research and has some of the best psychological laboratory facilities in the UK. The School of Psychology & Neuroscience has consistently been ranked one of the best research departments in the UK. For instance, the School was ranked seventh out of 76 UK psychology departments in the last Research Assessment Exercise (RAE 2008), and 100% of our outputs were rated at ‘international’ level.
* The breadth and variety of psychology and neuroscience taught in the School are particular strengths with significant opportunities to collaborate and benefit from a range of techniques applied to understanding the behaviour of humans and other animals.
* An emphasis on ‘doing’ not just listening: we equip you to ask and answer psychological questions.
* In the Teaching Quality Assessment in 2011 the School has been graded as ‘Excellent’.

Postgraduate community
Studying at St. Andrews is a truly unique experience. The mediaeval costal setting is calm and picturesque, while the University’s reputation and research are truly world class. The School’s low student to staff ration allows you to feel like one of the family, and develop close relationships with supervisors and staff. There is a strong student community, and work life balances well with social life. My Psychology degree has enabled me to experience a range of different subject areas, whilst allowing me to hone my specific interests. I have grown not only as an academic but also as a person, and feel confident and well equipped to undertake new challenges.

Richard (Spalding, Lincolnshire, England)
MSc Conversion Course Psychology

The School’s size promotes a friendly atmosphere with a cross-flow of ideas while providing the depth and breadth necessary to pursue major scientific programmes at an international level. We have active links with other Schools and Departments within the University, with other Scottish universities and with research institutions outside the UK.

We have a large and thriving community of research staff and postgraduate students. We believe that good teaching and good research go hand-in-hand and we take pride in our research-based culture of teaching.

Facilities

We are equipped with modern technology to perform virtually all aspects of psychological research. Facilities include laboratories in neurophysiology, psychopharmacology, psychophysics, animal learning and cognition, cognitive psychology, developmental psychology and social psychology. We have extensive computing facilities for both online control of experiments and offline analysis of data.

Class sizes

Seminars of up to 20 students.

Careers

We see postgraduate study as part of your long-term career development. Alongside the University’s Careers Centre (see page 28), we offer advice and support in planning your career. The School provides opportunities to gain experience of working in an academic context, by being involved in tutorials, laboratory classes and other aspects of academic work. The vast majority of our postgraduates have gained postdoctoral and lecturing positions in universities across the world while others have jobs in healthcare (as researchers and clinicians), wildlife conservation, information technology and management services.

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Richard (Spalding, Lincolnshire, England)
MSc Conversion Course Psychology
Psychology & Neuroscience
(continued)

MRes in Psychology
- This programme is designed as training if you are accepted into a higher research degree in Psychology, in order both to equip you with the specific skills necessary for the completion of your research and to provide you with the general skills necessary for undertaking a career as a research psychologist.
- Appropriate for students who wish to pursue research in psychology that is related to the social sciences.
- The programme is recognised by the UK Economic and Social Research Council.

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<tr>
<th>Whole Year</th>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Generic Research and Professional Skills in Psychology</td>
<td>Methods of Data Analysis in Psychology</td>
<td>Qualitative Methods in Social Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quantitative Research in Social Science</td>
<td>Qualitative Methods in Social Research</td>
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<td>and one of the following in each semester:</td>
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<td>Methodologies for Psychology and Neuroscience</td>
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<td>Being a Social Scientist: Skills, Processes and Outcomes</td>
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<td>Philosophy and Methodology of the Social Sciences</td>
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<td>Computer-Aided Research</td>
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<td>Summer</td>
<td>Research Project (15,000-word Dissertation)</td>
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MSc in Evolutionary and Comparative Psychology: The Origins of Mind
- Advanced research training in a range of intellectual and practical skills associated with evolutionary and comparative approaches to the study of mind.
- Gain a detailed knowledge of the evolutionary and comparative literature and principal theoretical and methodological issues in this field.
- Gain the statistical and methodological skills necessary to undertake research in evolutionary psychology.
- This distinctive programme tackles fundamental issues associated with the origins of human cognition via a wide range of theoretical and methodological approaches.
- For further information: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/psychology/prospective/pg/opportunities

Compulsory modules
- Principal Approaches to the Origins of Mind
- Empirical Approaches to the Evolution of Communication
- The Origins of Human Cognition
- Methods of Data Analysis in Psychology

Optional modules
- Evolution and Development of Social and Technical Intelligence
- Origins and Evolution of Mind Reading (Theory of Mind)
- Generic Research and Professional Skills in Psychology
- Methodologies for Psychology and Neuroscience

Summer
Research Project (Dissertation)
MSc Conversion Course Psychology

- A conversion route into Psychology for students who hold an Honours degree in a subject other than Psychology.
- Equips students with the necessary skills to facilitate research at MPhil or PhD level in the area of psychology or go on to a professional training programme.
- Facilitates conversion to psychology from business and economic backgrounds to improve employability for a wider range of job opportunities.
- Provides the statistical and methodological skills necessary to undertake research in psychology.
- Gain a detailed knowledge of the core areas of psychology and principal theoretical and methodological issues in the field.
- For further information: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/psychology/admissions/mscconversion

Compulsory modules

- Quantitative Research Methods in Social Science
- Methods of Data Analysis in Psychology
- Review
- Conceptual Issues and Theoretical Perspectives
- Assessment in Clinical Psychology
- Developmental Psychology
- Social Psychology
- Cognitive and Behavioural Neuroscience OR Evolutionary and Comparative Psychology
- Perception OR Cognition

Summer
Research Project

MSc in Health Psychology

- The opportunity for placements in clinical settings.
- Taught jointly with the School of Psychology & Neuroscience, in collaboration with NHS Fife.
- The award of the MSc provides the recognised Stage 1 training for British Psychological Society (BPS), Health Psychology Chartership; however, applicants must have, or be eligible for, Graduate Basis of Registration with the BPS.
- The course covers all topics required in the recommended curriculum, utilising a variety of novel methods of teaching and assessment. Placements in health service settings (including NHS) available.
- For further information: http://medicine.st-andrews.ac.uk/healthpsychology

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<td><strong>Theories of Health Psychology and Behaviour</strong></td>
<td><strong>Biological Systems and Change Developments</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Quality of Life, Communication and Chronic Illness</strong></td>
<td><strong>Health Information and Decision Making</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Methods of Data Analysis in Psychology</strong></td>
<td><strong>Whole Year</strong></td>
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Generic Research and Professional Skills in Psychology Research Project in Health Psychology (Dissertation)

The main aim of this accredited programme is to provide Stage 1 Professional Training for Chartered Health Psychologist status (see www.health-psychology.org.uk) with the British Psychological Society (www.bps.org.uk). This is achieved through the provision of a detailed theoretical understanding of the health psychology literature and issues within the field associated with the attainment and maintenance of health, including a detailed focus on health behaviour.

The programme also provides you with the statistical and methodological skills necessary to undertake research in health psychology. Upon successful completion, you will be equipped with the necessary skills to embark on your Stage 2 training or to facilitate research at MPhil or PhD level.

Other programmes

We also offer a taught Postgraduate Diploma and an MSc in Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs, and a Postgraduate Certificate in Adult Support, Protection and Safeguarding. Further details about these programmes are available on request. (Contact Martin Campbell – mc1@st-andrews.ac.uk)

“I decided to stay for postgraduate study after completing my undergraduate degree in Psychology because of the excellent teaching, and research opportunities. As a small and friendly, but very research-active School, Psychology students are both able to get to know their lecturers well and also engage with ongoing research and new ideas in a dynamic environment. This Masters course has honed my technical and academic skills, while giving me the opportunity to conduct my own research on differences in visual perception for migraine sufferers.”

Becky (Providence, Rhode Island)
Current MRes Psychology